

## MBC NEWS

### **REPORT WOUND CARE SEMINAR CHTAURA, LEBANON 10 OCTOBER 2009**

On October 10, 2009, a Wound Care Seminar: Protocols and Reimbursement was organized in Lebanon by the Lebanese Society of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery – LSPRAS – and the Mediterranean Council for Burns & Fire Disasters – MBC – and with the special endorsement of the Lebanese Order of Physicians who designated 7 CME credits for this event. The seminar took place in the beautiful resort town of Chtaura in the Bekaa Valley and was attended by about 150 participants.

Special guest speakers were

- LUC TEOT, MD, Burns and Plastic Surgery Unit, University Hospital Montpellier Hôpital Lapeyronie, FRANCE, Past President of World Union of Wound Healing Societies, WUWH, Editor, Journal of Wound Technology
- SYLVIE MEAUME, MD, Head, Geriatric Ward Charles Foix Hospital Assistance Publique, Hôpitaux de Paris, University of Paris 6, FRANCE, President of the French Society of Wound Healing and Co-founder of the French Journal of Wound Care “Journal des Plaies et Cicatrisations”.

Dr Raymond Khazaka was officially delegated by the Lebanese Minister of Health to represent him. He contributed enormously to the success of this event and participated in the round table discussion at the end of the seminar sensitizing the participants to the problems facing wound care in Lebanon and proposing some concrete



**From left: Atiyeh B., Khazaka R., Meaume S., Teot L., Hayek S.**

solutions that will be followed with the officials of the Ministry of Health.

This event was again an occasion to promote MBC and its activities in Lebanon. The feedback from this scientific gathering was enormously positive.

B. Atiyeh, MD, FACS  
MBC General Secretary

### **REPORT BELGRADE – 2009 MBC INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE 30-31 OCTOBER 2009**



**From left: Kozaeski J., Maljkovic I., Stella M., Masellis A., Costagliola M., Obradović-Tomašev M., Conte F., Janjić Z., Masellis M., Atiyeh B., Novaković M., Panišić M., Djordjević B.**

Invited by the Serbian Society for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery – SRBPRAS, the Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters – MBC organized a 2-day Instructional Course on October 30-31, 2009, under the auspices of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia, the Mayor of the city of Belgrade, and

the Secretary of Health of Belgrade. The venue of the course was the imposing Military Medical Academy. Gen. Prof. Dr M. Jevtić, Head of the Military Medical Academy personally welcomed the participants and was followed by the representatives of the Minister of Health and the Secretary of Health of the City of Belgrade. Prof. Dr

M. Novaković, SRBPRAS President, also extended his warm welcome to the participants.

MBC Faculty was composed of Profs. M. Masellis, MBC President, B. Atiyeh, MBC General Secretary, F. Conte, Head of Palermo Burn Unit, M. Costagliola, MBC Scientific Coordinator, as well as L. Rosenberg, M. Stella, and A. Masellis. MBC faculty was joined by distinguished local burn specialists and plastic surgeons. Lectures presented by MBC as well as local faculty covered all aspects of burn treatment including tissue engineering, nutritional support and rehabilitation and were characterized by state-of-the-art up-to-date scientific content, which was highly appreciated by the participants from Serbia, Romania, Slovenia and Iraq.

Special praise should be given to Prof. Dr J. Kozarski, MBC National Representative of Serbia, and to Prof. Dr M. Novaković, SRBPRAS President, who worked hard together with a highly efficient local scientific and organization team, to set an exceptional scientific and social program. The social program included a visit to Belgrade fortress and a night cruise on the Sava and Danube rivers. The Gala dinner which was held in a typical Serbian restaurant was animated by a folkloric dance group which added a much appreciated cultural dimension to the burn course. Special praise should also be given to the warm hospitality of all SBRPRAS members as well as to the staff of the Military Medical Academy.



From left: Atiyeh B., Kozarski J., Masellis M.

As always with similar MBC events, this instructional course was an occasion to make new friends and strengthen ties with old ones. It was also the occasion to promote the Burnet project as well as other MBC activities.

B. Atiyeh, MD, FACS  
MBC General Secretary

### SRI LANKAN SAFE LAMP PROJECT WINS PRESTIGIOUS WORLD CHALLENGE 09 COMPETITION

London, 5 December 2009. This Saturday, BBC World News broadcasts the final programme of the *World Challenge 09* series, announcing the *Safe Bottle Lamp Project* as the winner. The Sri Lankan initiative produces inexpensive lamps from recycled glass as a solution to burn risks in developing countries.

Burns caused by makeshift kerosene lamps are a common problem in parts of Sri Lanka, where a fifth of the population has no access to electricity. These accidents often cause severe pain, scarring and sometimes even death. To prevent these injuries a Sri Lankan surgeon, Dr Wijaya Godakumbura, has designed a simple lamp using recycled glass, which can be easily mass produced at a low cost.

Now in its fifth year, *World Challenge* remains extremely pop-

ular, with more than 127,000 people around the world voting online for their favourite finalist. The final programme airs on BBC World News this weekend, showcasing the presentation ceremony hosted by the BBC's award-winning presenter Zeinab Badawi. The *Safe Bottle Lamp Project* will receive a US\$20,000 prize grant from Shell. Details will also appear in Newsweek magazine.

*World Challenge* is a global competition rewarding grass roots projects that give something back to their communities. It is run by BBC World News and Newsweek, in association with Shell. Paul Gibbs, Head of Programmes, BBC World News says: "Over the last five years, the unique projects featured in *World Challenge* have continued to amaze and inspire BBC World News viewers".