

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**6th Central European Congress of Burns
40th Anniversary of Centre of Burns and Reconstructive
Surgery in Košice
17th Czech Burn Association Annual Meeting
26-27 May 2011
Košice, Slovakia**

Main topics:

- * Thermal injuries
- * Treatment in the acute period
- * Sepsis and its complications
- * Anaesthesia and intensive care
- * Reconstructive surgery
- * Various

Nurse section:

- * Nursing care
- * Pain management
- * Various

For further information contact:

Organizing Secretariat
MU Dr Darina Potocká - dpotocka@nemocnicasaca.sk
Klinika popálenín a rekonštrukčnej chirurgie
Nemocnica Košice-Šaca a. s. 1. súkromná nemocnica
Lúčna 57, 040 15 Košice-Šaca, Slovensko
Tel.: 00421 55 7234 620
Nurse section: Helena Kapturová

**16th Congress of the International
Confederation for Plastic,
Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (IPRAS)
IPRAS 2011 Worldview Vancouver
Looking to the Future
22-27 May 2011
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada**

MBC will be officially associated with this Congress.

Scientific Program tracks including:

- * Aesthetic Surgery
- * Reconstruction
- * Research
- * Education
- * Administration

Free Daily Master Classes, Invited lectures by established experts, Sessions highlighting young surgeons, Daily plenary sessions & panel discussion, Specialized subspecialty session, Session featuring Best National Society Meeting, Papers, Video sessions, E-posters

For further information contact:

Conference Secretariat
Advance Group Conference Management
101 - 1444 Alberni Street
Vancouver, BC V6G 2Z4 Canada
Tel.: 604 688 9655 ext. 2 – Fax: 604 685 3521
E-mail: ipras2011@advance-group.com
www.ipras2011vancouver.ca

**3rd Congress of the Armenian Association
of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons
28-30 June 2011
Yerevan State Medical University, Yerevan, Armenia**

For further information contact:

Congress Secretariat
Mrs Chrysa Kontololi
Zita Congress
Tel.: +30 211 1001783 – Fax: +30 210 6642116
E-mail: chrysa.kontololi@zita-congress.gr

**The 35th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian
and New Zealand Burns Association
4-7 October 2011, Brisbane, Australia**

Topics:

- * Prevention – New approaches for consumer education and legislative change designed to minimize burn injury; Innovative staffing models to recruit, develop and retain staff to prevent burn-out
- * Adjustment – Tapping in to the local community; strategies to improve quality of life for the burn survivor
- * Reintegration and rehabilitation – The challenges for the burn survivor; examples of evidence-based strategies and measurement of outcome
- * Transitioning – Transitioning through the continuum of care post-burn injury
- * Laboratory / Translational research – New or existing technology; challenges to inform and change practice; new approaches to ensure a sustainable organization
- * Pain and Itch – Examples of innovative strategies to improve patient care following burn injury
- * Reconstruction – New techniques for burn scar reconstruction; challenges for the future
- * Scarring – New approaches to understanding, preventing or treating scars

For further information contact:

Conference Design Pty Ltd
228 Liverpool Street
Hobart, Tasmania 7000
Australia
Tel.: 03 6231 2999 (International +61 3 6231 2999)
Tel.: 03 6231 1522 (International +61 3 6231 1522)
E-mail: info@cdesign.com.au
www.cdesign.com.au

**MBC Instructional Course
28-30 June, 2012 Ljubljana, Slovenia**

For further information contact:

Albin Stritar, MD PhD, head of burn unit
UKC Ljubljana, Department of plastic, reconstructive, aesthetic surgery and burns
Tel.: +386 41 735 639 – Fax.: +386 1 522 22 39
E-mail: albin.stritar@amis.net

AWARD OF THE G. WHITAKER INTERNATIONAL BURNS PRIZE FOR 2011

At a meeting held on 1 April 2011 at the seat of the G. Whitaker Foundation, Palermo, the Adjudicating Committee, on the grounds of the scientific achievements, national contributions, international involvement, social cooperation and humanitarian obligations presented by the various candidates and in consideration of their high level, awarded the 2011 G. Whitaker International Burns Prize to Dr A. Elizabeth van der Merwe, since 1991 Head of the Tygerberg Burn Unit, Tygerberg Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa.

Dr A.E. van der Merwe was born in 1947 in Edenburg, Orange Free State, South Africa. Her university career: MB, ChB (MD) 1972, M Hons in Physiology 1987, MSc Physiology 1994 at University of Stellenbosch. Her positions: Researcher and Medical Officer in Tygerberg Burn Unit 1983/1990, Lecturer and Consultant in the Department of General Surgery (Univ. Stellenbosch) 1990.

Her activity is rich in commitment on various aspects of burn disease.

- Collaboration with trauma surgeons: to provide better education for medical officers and medical students in the emergency room. In 2004 she initiated Oxford Southern University's first publication, "Handbook of Southern Africa", updated in 2010. This pocket handbook is prescribed for every medical student in South Africa.

- Collaboration with the Department of Accident and Emergency (A&E) at the University of Cape Town and with the University of Stellenbosch: to implement the education of burns and the rotation of registrars in Tygerberg Burn Unit in order to improve their knowledge of burns. Attending a course on "Emergency Management of Severe Burns" became compulsory for all candidates.

- Collaboration with PASASA (Paraffin Saving South Africa) and the National Government: to implement surveillance programmes to support changes in the legislation regarding the manufacture of certain household items. Legislation was passed in 2007 to control the manufacture of paraffin stoves according to strict standards. Studies at the Tygerberg Burn Unit showed that the incidence of burn injury from paraffin stoves was already decreasing.

- Collaboration with WHO on a study of the outcome of adult burns patients after injury with paraffin stoves, open fires, electrical appliances or assault.

- Collaboration with the National and Provincial Government: to decentralize burns management by establishing new Burn Units in peripheral hospitals and staff education; to modernize the tertiary hospital services; to attend (April 2005) National Parliament and participate in a discussion of Fire and Floods in Human Settlements, acting as specialist to enact legislation on township fires.

- Collaboration with the University of Western Cape, Stellenbosch, and the University of Cape Town to negotiate a post-graduate Burns Course for Nursing in South Africa.

Many workshops have been organized to this regard.

- Dr van der Merwe tackled the humanitarian aspect of the burns problem with strategic planning in the burn unit to organize social support for very poor victims. The "Tygerberg Burn Society", a non-profit organization was established, open to everyone who wants to support and uplift burn victims' social circumstances. The purpose of this financial planning is to provide social support and to rehabilitate victims, resolving their material needs and sending young people back to school or on educational courses.

- Collaboration with the Central and East African Surgical Society to evaluate the influence of traditional medicine in burn

management in Africa.

- Collaboration with pan-African burn workers to provide a profile of burn injury and burn care on the continent.

- Collaboration with the "Continuous Medical Educational" (CME) journal to develop a very broad campaign for non-specialists and general practitioners, educating them in burns management. This was once again a booster for burn care in South Africa.

- As Head of the Burn Unit, she realized in 1997 the intensive management of burn patients in intensive care. In 2008 extensive renovation of the Tygerberg Burn Unit was accomplished with a much better equipped facility. The holistic approach to burn care was never sacrificed with multidisciplinary involvement and auxiliary personnel. To be able to communicate with Burn Surgeons and Burn Societies in Africa the same model will be recommended. Although facilities in poor countries are insufficient, burn care will improve with hard work.

- Since 1983 she has been an active member and Secretary of the South African Burn Society.

- In 1998 she was appointed African Representative at the International Society for Burn Injuries (ISBI). This position she held for over 13 years, apart from being Vice-President from 2004-2008.

- In May 2004 she was the founder President of the Pan African Burn Society. She and co-founder Dr Ina Steenkamp hosted the First Pan African Burn Society Conference in Cape Town. She chaired two successful PABS meetings in Assiut (Egypt) and Lagos (Nigeria).

- Dr van der Merwe has never stopping performing her research and quality improvement projects in Africa. Scientific production was conditioned because in the 1980s and '90s research in South Africa was wiped off the table, with no sponsorship provided until the much more friendly 2000s. In those years her publications dealt mostly with clinical work.

The prize is awarded with the following motivation:

"Over the years Dr van der Merwe has been successful in establishing an integrated approach between Accident Surgery and Therapy of Burns, to a level that a University teaching course on Emergency Burns Management has become compulsory in the academic curriculum in South Africa according to her system.

"In this respect Dr van der Merwe has succeeded in presenting the problem to the nation's Parliament, making burn prevention obligatory by law. This important work has been extended worldwide as a WHO programme, a worthy contribution indeed.

"Beside the burn surgical work that all specialists at high level must and do contribute, Dr A.E van der Merwe's work shines also at the humanitarian level. Her research on burn risks in the poorer settlements and her passionate presentations in parliament for legislation in favour of living conditions among the black population are of great social significance, as also her efforts for safer manufacturing of cooking implements and safer household tools, all of which have shown good results.

"It is noteworthy that when asked what she considered to be her most significant encounter, she said, without hesitation, her meeting with Nelson Mandela.

"Additionally, she will be only the second woman to have received this international prestigious Prize."

The official prize-giving will take place in Palermo at the G. Whitaker Foundation on 23 September 2011 in the presence of authorities and representatives of the academic, scientific and cultural world.

Special John Ioannovich Award

17th MBC MEETING, Palermo, Italy, May 24-26, 2012

The Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters (MBC) has instituted a **Special John Ioannovich Award** in memory of the late Prof. John Ioannovich to reward a young medical or surgical physician, intern or resident, in training.

The purpose of the award, in accordance with the statutes of the MBC, is to encourage young physicians in training to actively participate in research on prevention and treatment of burns and fire disasters and to present the results of their research in person at the biannual MBC Conference, promoting interchange and introducing young physicians to the MBC.

The value of the award is fixed at the sum of € 1,000.00 (one thousand euros).

All young physicians in training from countries that are members of the Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters are eligible to compete for the award.

Applications, written in English or French, must arrive, accompanied by the abstract of the presentation, 2 months prior to the set date of the conference (no account can be taken for any postal delay), addressed to: Segreteria, Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters "J. Ioannovich Award", c/o U.O. di Chirurgia Plastica e Terapia delle Ustioni, Ospedale Civico e Benfratelli, Via C. Lazzaro, 90125 Palermo, Italy. The Candidate's application must enclose:

1. Full name, date and place of birth, home address and contact numbers (telephone, fax, e-mail);
2. Name and address of the candidate's training institution;

3. Recent letter of introduction (original or authenticated copy) from the Chief of the Institution, Department, Director or Service, in which the candidate is training as an Intern or Resident.

The Adjudicating Committee is composed of:

1. The president of MBC;
2. The Secretary General of MBC;
3. Eastern Mediterranean Representative (Chosen by the President);
4. Western Mediterranean Representative (Chosen by the President);
5. Representative of the Hosting Country.

The presentation is judged on its content, the quality of audiovisual material, a confident attitude during presentation, and the adequacy and relevance of answers following questions from the audience. The Adjudicating Committee can consider for the award any Intern or Resident from an MBC member country or otherwise, who has not officially submitted an application, and whose presentation has been judged to be outstanding in comparison to candidates with formal applications.

The winner is announced during the closing ceremony and is handed a cheque for the value of the award.

The Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters undertakes to publish the award winner's name, together with the manuscript presented, in *Annals of Burns and Fire Disasters*.

Any person interested may request a copy of the official announcement of the JOHN IOANNOVICH AWARD from the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters.

This award is supported by JULPHAR, Gulf Pharmaceutical Industries, Ras Al Khaimah, UAE.