

European Headache Federation

EHF NEWS



“EHF/WHA Rome Declaration on Migraine”

Migraine “The Forgotten Epidemic” A *European Perspective* 10-11 June 2005, Rome, Italy
Consensus Statements

Migraine is a neurological disorder of the brain.

The World Health Organisation recognises that migraine is the 12th highest cause of disability in women and the 19th highest cause of disability amongst both sexes :

- it affects 50 million people in Europe;
- every day nearly 2 million Europeans have a migraine attack ;
- it costs the European economy well over 10 billion eu-

ros every year.

A range of effective treatments exist. Acute therapy reduces disability during the attack and preventive therapy can reduce the frequency and severity on a long term basis .

Failure of healthcare systems to provide these effective treatments to those who need them is the most important reason why this socio-economic burden persists .

We call upon the governments and health policy makers of Europe to:

- match our commitment to people affected by migraine;
- recognise the priority that

migraine deserves;

- provide the resources that these initiatives require.

We would like to emphasise that the cost of these resources will be offset by recovered work productivity.

Consensus Actions

Over the next 5 years these are the targets we wish to achieve in Europe:

- the percentage of migraine patients in the care of a physician should increase from the current level of 30% to 50%;
- the number of patients receiving effective therapy for acute migraine attacks should increase from the current level

The EHF web site:
www.ehf-org.org

EHF News is open to host contributions and proposals from the readers. E-mail your suggestion to:
neuronet@libero.it

Summary:

EHF/WHA Rome Declaration on Migraine 1

Master in headache medicine at “La Sapienza” University of Rome 1

The Belgian Headache Society web page 2

What'on... 3

Master in headache medicine at “La Sapienza” University of Rome

The Master in Headache Medicine is an academic one-year training course of permanent excellence in headache fields. Its aim is to promote and disseminate epidemiological, nosographic, genetic, pathophysiological, diagnostic, social health, clinical and therapeutic knowledge of the different forms of headache.

The Master’s educational programme is based on frontal lectures and clinical sessions, held by experts selected by the International Team

for Specialist Education. Didactic plans run within the Global Campaign (GC) to Reduce the Burden of Headache Worldwide, in order to provide the physicians with the skills for a correct background, management and treatment of these disorders.

The Master activity is now inserted in the GC, an initiative planned by the World Headache Alliance, the International Headache Society and the European Headache Federation jointly with World Health Organization. Teaching sessions will be organized in order to facilitate the lecture

regrouping in several blocks. The final examination and thesis discussion will complete the Master course. The application deadline for the Academic Year 2005-2006 is the 12 December 2005. Classes will start on the 16 January 2006.

For further details: Prof. Paolo Martelletti, II School of Medicine, La Sapienza University, Via Vitorchiano, 81, 00189 Rome.

Tel +390633274631
 Fax +390633274632

Email paolo.martelletti@uniroma1.it
 Web <http://w3.uniroma1.it/headache>

continued on page 2

The Belgian Headache Society web page

The Belgian Headache Society was founded in 1984 with the objectives to improve in the country the medical management of headache sufferers and to promote research activities in the headache field

The Belgian Headache Society was founded in 1984 with the objectives to improve in the country the medical management of headache sufferers and to promote research activities in the headache field. Since then, members have been relentlessly struggling to fulfil these objectives. Scientific meetings have been organized on an annual basis and the 8th International Headache Congress in 1997 was co-organized with our Dutch colleagues. The BHS also publishes several times per year its official newsletter "Migraine Contact" in which information are dispatched and critical analyses of publications in headache and migraine are pre-

sented. Last but not least the BHS was instrumental in catalyzing the foundation of a headache patients organization in Belgium. The BHS is a full member of the International Headache Society in which it has played a forefront role (and still does). It is worth mentioning that a member of BHS society has occupied for several years the functions of general secretary and of president of the IHS. The BHS is also member of the European Headache Federation of which it has organized the 2nd Interna-

tional Congress in 1995. For those who are not yet a member of the BHS, they can register so that the BHS can count on increased support in joining the efforts to change "headache" into a noble topic for medical research and to change the lives of headache sufferers into better ones. Dr. Marianne de Tourtchaninoff is the president of the BHS. BHS need your support for a better knowledge on socioeconomic aspects of migraine. It is a sad reality that Belgium is still the only European country where oral triptans are not reimbursed by the social security system!

For further information: www.neuro.be/bhs



"EHF/WHA Rome Declaration on Migraine"

(continue from page 1)

of 40% to 70%;

- at least 50% of patients requiring migraine prevention therapy should be receiving this treatment.

By working together, the professional and patient organizations active in Europe will:

- set up awareness initiatives for the general public in order to create recognition of the need for treatment of migraine;

- set up educational programmes for health-care providers in order to improve their ability to diagnose and treat migraine;
- produce and disseminate diagnostic aids, management guidelines and instruments for outcome evaluation.

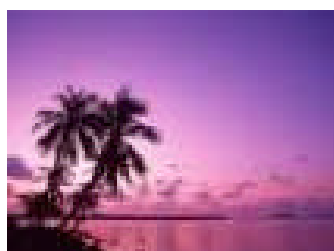
To achieve this, we will also:

- publish a literature review on current knowledge, per-

ception and attitude of physicians and patients as a first step in awareness and improving the treatment of migraine across Europe;

- develop active communication between patient organisations, healthcare providers and governments on migraine, its disabling effects, its public-health

continued on page 3



European Headache Federation

PRESIDENT

- M. Lainez (Valencia)

1st VICE-PRESIDENT

- H. Diener (Essen)

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT

- F. Antonaci (Pavia)

PAST PRESIDENT

- P. Saxena (Rotterdam)

GENERAL SECRETARY

- E. Couturier (Amsterdam)

TREASURER

- R. Agosti (Zurich)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

- J. Afra (Budapest)
- M. Färkkilä (Helsinki)
- D. Obelieniene (Kaunas)
- D. Valade (Paris)

European Headache Federation is incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee; registered charity no. 1084181

EHF NEWS

Editor: F. Antonaci (Pavia)

Co-editor: E. Couturier (Amsterdam)

Legal Director: S. Angeletti (Milan)

Registration n° 464/1996

Publisher: Tipografia Viscontea, Pavia, Italy

EHF Newsletter is published bimonthly by the European Headache Federation, whose business offices are located at the Department of Neurological Sciences "C. Mondino" Foundation, University of Pavia, Via Mondino 2, 27100, Pavia, Italy (neuronet@libero.it).

Purpose: EHF Newsletter, a European Headache Federation publication, is dedicated to increasing physicians' awareness by educating and informing them as to what is going on in the field of headache in Europe.

This newsletter seeks to provide timely and accurate information from the most knowledgeable sources. The newsletter is mailed to EHF members, national drug companies and medical journalists in line with information given by board members. The views expressed in the articles in EHF News are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the EHF and the Publisher.

**Questo periodico e' associato alla
Unione Stampa Periodica Italiana**



What's on...



7-20 September 2005,
Athens, Hellas

9th Congress of the European Federation of Neurological Societies

Information: www.efns.org/efns2005

29 September-2 October 2005,
Venice, Italy

XIX National Congress of the Italian Society for the Study of Headache

Information: info@nicocongressi.it

1-2 October 2005, Brugge, Belgium

5th International Symposium of the Belgian Stroke Council. Joint meeting with the Belgian Headache Society.

Information:

michel.vandenneede@chc.be

8-12 October 2005,

Cernobbio, Como, Italy

XXXVI Congress of the Italian Neurological Society

Information: convent@tin.it

9-12 October 2005, Kyoto, Japan

12th Congress of the International Headache Society

Information: lhc2005@convention.co.jp



“EHF/WHA Rome Declaration on Migraine” (continue from page 2)

importance and its management;

- promote use of tools that increase physicians' knowledge, support them and sustain their compliance with nationally-established guidelines;
- challenge Governments and health policy makers to promote programmes to diminish the social and economic burdens of migraine;
- urge physicians to encourage their patients to communicate freely their personal concerns and experiences in order to understand the true impact of the disorder;
- apply measures of outcome to optimise acute and preventive migraine therapy.

We will work with the WHO on their public-health report which will publish the trends and burden of migraine including:

- collation of national data on risk factors, incidence and prevalence;
- a clear definition of the burden of migraine (both direct and indirect costs) and a definitive report on the associated health economics;
- the need to screen for conditions co-morbid with migraine and to help patients' understand that migraine can lead to co-morbid states.

We will monitor the effects of these initiatives to demonstrate beneficial change.