

Can technology improve the Management of medication overuse headache? The challenge of the “Comoestas project”.

The Neurological Institute C. Mondino took the challenge when deciding to coordinate the COMOESTAS project. The project has the ultimate ambitious aim to test whether an innovative tool for the diagnosis and follow-up of patients with Medication Overuse Headache (MOH) - a common condition and a major cause of disability in the frame of chronic neurological disorders - can improve the outcome of disease in several Countries across the world. The tool is an innovative ICT (Information and Communication Technology) system designed to provide MOH patients with continuous and personalized treatment, thereby making the patients themselves a key node of the entire process (*Patient-centric Health Care System*). The system is based on an *Interactive Electronic Patient Record* (IEPR), which incorporates 5 main features:

1) Minimum Data Set, which receives and elaborates the patient’s basic clinical data, producing a preliminary automated diagnosis, screening patients to be enlisted for the detoxification procedure and, subsequently, for the follow-up program.



2) Electronic Patient Record, which collects and stores the complete set of patient’s clinical data and relevant indicators.
The continuing activity of “COMOESTAS” project.

3) MOH Electronic Diary: the electronic version of the classic headache diary on paper currently used in the most advanced European Headache Centres. Filling in this diary allows physicians to continuously monitor patient’s follow-up and to receive alerts and warnings, should selected parameters exceed given thresholds.

4) Second opinion features, incorporating tools for booking, videoconferencing, chat, struc- *continue on page 4*

2009: a new prize for research on headache.

The first edition of the **Almirall European Headache Award (AEHA)** has been launched this month with the support of the European Headache Federation (EHF).

If you are a neurologists or trainee neurologists at Neurology Departments in Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain and want to participate in this

exiting and new educational Program on Migraine and Headache, you should have to submit a clinical case on a website platform, that your Almirall sales reps will provide you the link. The submission deadline is the 15th of June’09.

The Scientific Committee will base their criteria to *continue on page 2*

Short News:

- THE “COMOESTAS PROJECT” HAS THE ULTIMATE AMBITIOUS AIM TO TEST WHETHER AN INNOVATIVE TOOL FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND FOLLOW-UP OF PATIENTS WITH MEDICATION OVERUSE HEADACHE (MOH).
- THE FIRST EDITION OF THE ALMIRALL EUROPEAN HEADACHE AWARD HAS BEEN LAUNCHED IN MARCH.
- THE TEACHING ACTIVITY OF THE EUROPEAN HEADACHE FEDERATION DURING THE HEADACHE SCHOOL IN SPAIN.

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European Headache School 2009 course



The European Headache School 2009

The European Headache School, 2009 Course was held in Palma de Mallorca – Spain from the 12th to the 14th of March 2009. The School was organized by the Spanish Headache Group in conjunction with the European Headache Federation and was chaired by professors Miguel Láinez and Samuel Díaz, from the Hospital Clínico Universitario, Universidad de Valencia, and Hospital san Francisco de Borja, Gandía, respectively. The school brought together mainly young neurologists interested in headache for further training in diagnostics and treatment with lectures from international experts. Participants from Romania, Lebanon, Tunisia, Lithuania and Spain attended the Course. The speakers included MJA Láinez, S

Díaz, P Martelletti, FJ Molina, M Sanchez del Rio, F. Antonaci, D. Valade, J Pascual and J Pareja, among others distinguished headache experts. The well-balanced program covered a broad spectrum of issues, including not only migraine, tension-type headache and trigeminal autonomic cephalalgias, but also medication overuse headache, cervicogenic headache, cranial neuralgias, refractory headaches and children headaches. In addition, topics of pure clinical interest such as which examinations in headache and the headache in emergency department were also covered. The course did not only provide state of the art knowledge but also offered the opportunity for in-depth discussions.

The editorial office

“THE THREE WINNERS WILL RECEIVE IN THE RAMON Y CAJAL ROOM FROM THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION BUILDING IN MADRID THE THREE DIFFERENTS PRIZES”

2009: a new prize for research on headache.

choose the local finalist clinical cases, based on the scholar one criteria:

- a) Overall clinical case presentation under a clear manner and logical sequence.
- b) Clinical assessment.
- c) Educational impact on clinical case.

Almirall will announce the fifteen finalist (three by country), the 15th of September at least, and will be invited to defend by a power point presentation their clinical case in the AEHA Forum, that will be held in Madrid on 27th-28th of November.

The three winners will receive in the Ramon y Cajal room from the Medical Association building in Madrid, the three next prizes:

First award: A two-week scholarship for one person working closely with a headache specialist at a European university/headache centre, includ-

ing flights and accommodation within the university/centre. Potential countries: Holland, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and UK.

Second award: Attendance for one person at the EHF Summer School in 2010, including flights and accommodation.

Third award: Full registration for one person to attend EHMTIC 2010 including flights and accommodation.

If you want to participate in the program, please contact with your Almirall sales representative.

The editorial office



The Almirall European Headache Awards I



Master in Headache Medicine

The **Master in Headache Medicine** is aimed at developing excellence among experts in this field of clinical medicine. Its purpose is to promote and disseminate epidemiological, nosographic, genetic, pathophysiological, diagnostic, social-health, clinical and therapeutic knowledge of headache, a disease that has a considerable impact on the general population. This high-level post-graduate course will provide successful applicants with the instruments necessary to make a modern evaluation of headaches that will allow the correct management of affected patients. Course participants will be able to acquire

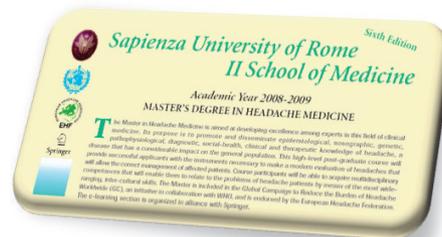
multidisciplinary competences that will enable them to relate to the problems of headache patients by means of the most wideranging, inter-cultural skills. The Master is included in the Global Campaign to Reduce the Burden of Headache Worldwide (GC), an initiative in collaboration with WHO, and is endorsed by the European Headache Federation. The e-learning section is organized in alliance with Springer. For further information, please contact:

Caterina Panetta Master in Headache Medicine Registrar's office 2nd School of Medicine and Surgery University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Via Vitorchiano 81

00189 Rome
E mail:

<http://w3.uniroma1.it/headache>

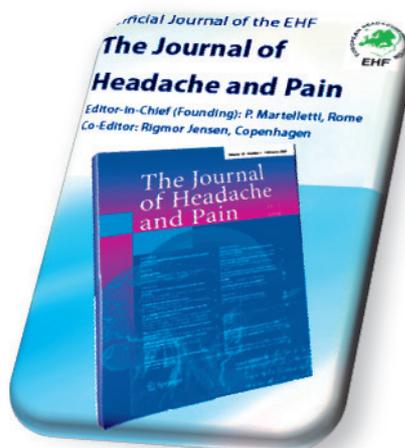
Master in Headache Medicine 2008-2009



A Read-Out on JHP's Rapid Expansion

The **Journal of Headache and Pain** held its Editorial Board in London, during the recent EHMTIC. The expansion observed in the last twelve months is expressed by a huge increase of downloaded papers and a further reduced publishing timeline JHP's inclusion into Science Citation Index Expanded has been reported and its forthcoming inclusion into Current Contents will occur after twenty-four months, according to the usual timeline of Thomson Reuters (formerly ISI). June 2011 will be the publishing date of JHP Impact Factor in Journal Citation Report. These results are astonishing if we consider the journal's young age (only nine years) and the keen competition in the Neurosciences area. Yet they rely on the trust of EHF members towards JHP, which they feel now as own journal, and a complete editorial independence. A new Editorial Board has been ap-

pointed and in the future the bond between the journal, its readership and EHF will be reinforced.

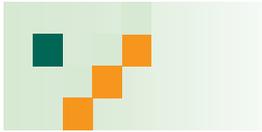


The Journal of Headache and Pain

What's on...



- ↳ **20th-24th June 2009, Milan, Italy**
19th Meeting of the European Neurological Society
Information: www.ensinfo.org
- ↳ **9th-12th September 2009, Lisbon, Portugal**
6th Congress of the European Federation of IASP Chapters (EFIC) Information: [E-mail: secretary@efic.org](mailto:secretary@efic.org)
- ↳ **10th-13th September 2009, Philadelphia, USA**
14th International Headache Congress/ 51st Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Headache Society.
Information: [E-mail: ahshq@talley.com](mailto:ahshq@talley.com)
- ↳ **12th-15th September 2009, Florence, Italy**
13th Congress of the European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS)
Information: www.kenes.com/efns2009
- ↳ **28th-31st October 2010, Nice, France**
European Headache and Migraine Trust International Congress.
Information: ehmtic@kenes.com



EHF News: e-bulletin of the European Headache Federation

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Editor: F. Antonaci (Pavia)

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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.



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The challenge of the "Comoestas project" (continue from page 1)

tured mail that allow physicians to ask for a second opinion to their colleagues within the Consortium and also to promote direct internet based contact between physicians and patients.

5)Business logic: the informatic engine that manages monitoring, alerts and supports physician's decisions, diagnosis and treatment, fostering interoperability between communication technologies and ICT systems.

The COMOESTAS team (see below) has less than 3 years to show that the proposed IEPR can be effective and efficacious. Besides developing the IEPR prototype, during the first 12 months the team has accomplished several activities, including:

- evaluation of the state of the art on MOH,

with the identification of the actual needs of physicians and patients in the EU and in Latin America and identification of MOH indicators;

- definition and activation of a controlled clinical protocol;

- design of the *technological infrastructure* necessary for the project implementation;

- preparation of a provisioning plan with the technical specifications of the durable equipment required for the project's purposes;

- training (conventional and e-based) for the personnel involved in the project;

- implementation of dissemination activities.

Many objectives have been achieved, but much work needs to be done, and the challenge continues....

Cristina Tassorelli (Pavia)



The "Comoestas Project" across the world.