Common strategies for the management of headaches: an European meeting in Pavia.

Migraine is one of the most frequent headache disorders. About 10% of the European population suffers from migraine. Most of patients have a primary headache that is not only a symptom but also a disease. Headache, with its enormous socio-economic burden, represents an important and global health problem in every European country and in Asian and African countries too. Since many years, the European Headache Federation (EHF) aims to improve the management of common headaches and the quality of life of migraine patients. Recently, EHF organized an International Forum in Pavia chaired by Prof F. Antonaci, to reach common and standard rules that should be targeted at the headache specialists. The forum was held in Pavia from 22nd to 23rd April 2009 and it was divided in two sessions, covering a broad spectrum of issues. During the first day, an updating on the state of art in the research field and in the management of headache in Europe and in other Mediterranean area, such as Africa and Eurasia, have been succeeded. Particularly attention was made to the e-learning activities in our country and to the new EHF guidelines for management of headache disorders in primary care, that will be published in Italian language in the next few months. The second day was the EHF committee meeting devoted to the illustration of EHF mission and the main activities of the delegates of different European committees. Since many years, EHF promotes education about headache in Europe through the European Headache School, that represents every year one of the most important event for all doctors involved in headache management. Nevertheless European Headache School needs to be update on the new e-learning methodologies (web learning, on line conference...), that will be useful for providing training material and guidelines to those confining countries, in which local finances are small.

The Annual Migraine Meeting in Barcelona

On the 16th of May the 9th edition of the Annual Migraine Meeting (AMM) was held in Barcelona chaired by Dr J Pascual entitled “Migraine management: time to put current knowledge into practice”, under the auspices of Laboratorios Almirall. The meeting covered relevant areas on migraine management including the issues of how medication overuse headache is challenging to manage and how improving our understanding will lead to improved treatment strategies (M Lantéri-Minet, Nice, France). Also were covered interesting discussions on existing myths regarding the pathophysiology of cluster headache and migraine (M.
The Italian Society for the Study of Headaches (SISC) announces the competition of the biennial Enrico Greppi Award 2010. The award will be granted to the best unpublished original paper dealing with epidemiological, genetic, pathophysiological or therapeutic aspects of headache. The prize amounts to € 10,000 and is open to researchers of all nationalities. The papers must be submitted in accordance with the editorial instructions of *The Journal of Headache and Pain*. The winning article will be published *ex officio* in *The Journal of Headache and Pain* within three months of the Award presentation. The remaining papers are considered as submitted to *The Journal of Headache and Pain* and may be published after undergoing the peer-reviewing process. The Award is endorsed by the European Headache Federation (EHF) and the winner is invited to present the paper at the European Headache and Migraine Trust International Congress 2010 (EHMTIC), to be held in Nice, France on 28-31 October 2010.

Manuscripts should be sent by e-mail to the President of SISC at sisc@sisc.it no later than 28 June 2010.

The Annual Migraine Meeting in Barcelona (continue from pag.1)

Ferrari, Leiden, The Netherlands). A complete review on the available guidelines at a local and international level was presented and the reasons why guidelines need to be kept up to date with the most recent clinical evidence, like the Act when Mild clinical trial (F Antonaci, Pavia, Italy).

The value and clinical efficacy of early intake was analysed using the new data on almotriptan (P Goadsby, San Francisco, USA).

After the plenary sessions, three parallel workshops were organised on different topics: first one being on challenging clinical cases in chronic headache (J Pascual, Santander and S Díaz-Insa, Gandia, Spain), second on the preventive treatment of migraine (A Donnet, Marseille, France) and the last one, chaired by F. Antonaci, analysed the means to find the optimum treatment for migraine (G Buzzi, Rome, Italy) and patient satisfaction from a cost-effectiveness perspective (F. Frediani, Bergamo, Italy).

This last edition of the Annual Migraine Meeting received 6 CME credits from the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) and will also be locally accredited by Italy and Spain.

For more information please contact your Almirall area sales responsible
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 informations, please contact:

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

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

10th-13th September 2009, Philadelphia, USA
14th International Headache Congress/ 51st Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Headache Society. Information:
E-mail: ahshq@tailey.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
Committee members agreed to achieve a team of headache specialists to allow a second opinion service on headache disorders among specialists and physician. The management of pediatric headaches requires an unequivocal clinical and pharmacological approach that is to be used and well-founded not only in high-income countries. During this meeting, the committee for the guidelines of headache disorders for children planned to prepare and circulate an official document within the end of this year.

Headache centers represent a central issue to optimize all the resources needed for the management of these disorders and to create a point of meeting between specialist working in the headache field and primary care physicians. An ad hoc committee is devising a plan to identify specific criteria that are to be used for referring patients to the tertiary headache centers, because this represents a priority before creating a guideline for headache centers. At least, but not the last, selected committee members will dedicated to encouraging headache research in young neurologists interested in headache disorders with the institution of a European grant. Its purpose will be to promote and finalize studies with an important impact on health-care, connecting research area with clinical practice.

During this International Headache Forum, organized and held in Pavia at the Mondino Foundation, that represented an important phase in headache research, the unanimous consensus was reached among the members that it is necessary to compare countries with different health-policies. The Italian Society for the Study of Headache (SISC, Prof V. Guidetti) and the Neurological Italian Association for the Headache Research (ANIRCEF, prof P. Montagna), coordinators of the meeting, agreed on the need for circulate and spread the forthcoming EHF guideline, that are being ready within next months.