An International Congress of NeuPSIG
The Special Interest Group on Neuropathic Pain of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP®)

Program, Workshop summaries and Plenary Abstracts

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Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain

Athens, Greece
May 27 - 30, 2010

An International Congress of NeuPSIG
The Special Interest Group on Neuropathic Pain of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP®)

Program, Workshop Summaries and Plenary Abstracts

Congress Secretariat

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Contents

Greetings ................................................... III
Committees .................................................. V
Tributes ....................................................... VI
Acknowledgments ........................................ VII
General Information ...................................... VIII
Caring for the Environment .............................. XI
Information for Presenters .............................. XII
Exhibition Map ............................................. XIV
List of Exhibitors .......................................... XV
Scientific Program
  • Thursday, May 27 ................................. 1
  • Friday, May 28 ................................. 13
  • Saturday, May 29 .............................. 47
  • Sunday, May 30 ............................... 87
Plenary Abstracts .......................................... 93
Workshop Summaries ................................. 105
Author Index ............................................. 145
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Special Interest Group on neuropathic pain (NeuPSIG) of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) is proud and delighted to be hosting its 3rd international meeting in Athens, Greece. We will be focusing on many exciting new developments in science and patient care, and in particular we will be looking at stimulation of the central nervous system and the spinal cord, genetics and epidemiology, drugs and drug trials. We will be remembering the life and work of Peter Nathan, one of the first clinicians to describe and research neuropathic pain.

The study of neuropathic pain involves many facets. In the workshops we are looking at the structure and organization of the central nervous system, the mechanisms of pain, assessment, neuropathic pain syndromes and treatments, including interventions. There are 40 different workshops over the 4 days of the meeting.

The group brings an eclectic mixture of science and practical management, and this year we have also introduced some important psychological contributions, a feature perhaps sometimes overlooked in neuropathic pain - and yet this, like all other conditions, is a bio-psycho-social condition but just perhaps one in which we understand some of the biological mechanisms a little better.

It is especially exciting for me that we are going to visit the wonderful city of Athens in Greece; we remember Greece as the birthplace of many important milestones in civilization, including Hippocrates, the founder of modern medicine, Plato, a proponent of evidence-based protocols, and Aristotle.

We have over 300 poster presentations, which are widely varied. We hope that delegates will benefit from viewing these and discussing them with the authors. Whilst visiting Athens is an exciting experience, please remember that many of these posters are also exciting and worthwhile experiences! I hope you have time to cover both the conference and the city in detail.

My colleagues and I are delighted to welcome you to Athens, for what should be a most successful congress.

Christopher D. Wells
Chair, Scientific Program Committee
Dear friends and colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain in Athens 2010. Christopher Wells, Ralf Baron and their Scientific Programme Committee have put together an exciting series of plenary sessions and parallel workshops that promise to be at least as inspiring as those of the previous two congresses of this series in Madrid 2004 and Berlin 2007.

Neuropathic pain is a frequent clinical condition and is notorious for being difficult to treat. But in recent years there has been tremendous progress in improving the pharmacotherapy of neuropathic pain, with evidence-based guidelines that outline the rational use of existing treatments and with new medications being made available to patients every 1-2 years. This congress will cover cutting-edge news on both pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy for neuropathic pain.

This progress has only been possible due to extensive communication between basic and clinical research. Research into mechanisms of neuropathic pain is one of the most active areas in the neurosciences, from the molecular to the systems level. In the best tradition of IASP, of which NeuPSiG is a special interest group, this congress will again bring together neuroscientists, psychologists, epidemiologists, neurologists, anesthesiologists and other researchers and clinicians to exchange news and views.

Plenary speakers from around the world will provide up-to-date didactic lectures on mechanisms, assessment and treatment of neuropathic pain that will be of interest to clinicians and researchers alike. Six parallel tracks of workshops will allow participants to either follow progress close to their own line of work throughout the congress, or to switch between areas of interest for additional inspiration. The Megaron Athens International Conference Center provides ample space for poster sessions that will be highly interactive and will exhibit the latest news from laboratory and clinical research.

Last but not least, this international congress will be held in a city that showcases many monuments of its outstanding contributions to European history and culture. I hope you will enjoy both the science and the city.

I look forward to seeing you in Athens

Rolf-Detlef Treede
Chair of NeuPSiG
May 27 - 30, 2010
Athens, Greece

Committees

Scientific Program Committee
Christopher D. Wells, UK - Chairperson
Ralf Baron, Germany - Co-Chairperson
Emmanouil Anastassiou, Greece
Nadine Attal, France
Alan Basbaum, USA
Fabrizio Benedetti, Italy
Sara Bistre, Mexico
Jose Castro-Lopes, Portugal
Giorgio Cruccu, Italy
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Troels Staehelin Jensen, Denmark
Stavros Livanios, Greece
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Roland Peyron, France
Srinivasa Raja, USA
Andrew S.C. Rice, UK
Joachim Scholz, USA
Dave Simpson, USA
Rolf-Detlef Treede, Germany
Athina Vadalouca, Greece

Grants Committee
Geoff Gourley, Australia - Chairperson

Poster Committee
Maija Haanpää, Finland - Chairperson

Honorary Committee
David Bowsher, UK
J. Edmond Charlton*, UK
Robert Dworkin, USA
Ron Melzack, Canada
Turo J. Nurmikko, UK
Horacio Vanegas, Venezuela

Local Organizing Committee
Vassiliki Chimonitsy-Kypriou - Local Chairperson
Andromachi Glinavou
Antonios Louizos
Irene Kouroukli

Executive Committee of NeuPSIG (2008 - 2010)
Rolf-Detlef Treede, Germany - Chairperson
Robert Dworkin, USA - Past Chairperson
Maija Haanpää, Finland - Vice Chairperson
Jonathan O. Dostrovsky, Canada - Treasurer
Andrew S.C. Rice, UK - Secretary

*Deceased
Tributes

The NeuPSIG Committees note with great sadness the death of Ed Charlton. Ed was the founding father of NeuPSIG and the size, scope and significance of this meeting would not have been possible without his extraordinary vision. His wit and wisdom, always appreciated, will be greatly missed.

Peter Nathan (1914-2002) was a distinguished British neurologist, whose numerous contributions to clinical and research aspects of pain and its management spanned 50 years. His work included a post at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queens Square, in London. His most enduring and unique achievement, carried out with his colleague Dr Marion Smith, was defining the intrinsic pathways of the human spinal cord, particularly those subserving pain.

He was interested in many aspects of treatment, applying his enquiring mind as to how and how well these worked. He learned the technique of intrathecal phenol from Maher in 1955, and soon used it for cancer pain and spasticity in his clinic. He then studied its histological and physiological effects. He studied the neurological and histological results of cordotomies. His open mind allowed him to introduce acupuncture for pain relief into the National Health Service in the ’70s. He first published on causalgia in 1947 and was a pioneer in the use of sympathetic blockade. He was a friend of, worked and argued with Pat Wall. His last paper, "The crossing of the spino-thalamic Tract", appeared in Brain in 2001, when he was 87, and one year before his death.

Geoff Schott will be giving a plenary talk about Peter Nathan – His Life and Work on Sunday, May 30 in the Plenary Session taking place from 11:00 – 12:30.
Acknowledgments

The Organizing Committee of the Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain would like to express its gratitude and acknowledge the following companies for their generous support of the Congress.

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![Grunenthal](image2)
![Pfizer](image3)

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![St. Jude Medical](image4)
General Information

Congress Venue
Megaron Athens International Conference Center - M.A.I.C.C.
Vass. Sofias Avenue & Kokkali Street
115-21 Athens
Greece
Tel: +30 210 728 2000
Fax: +30 210 729 0174
Website: www.megaron.gr

Headquarter Hotels
Hilton Hotel
46 Vassilissis Sofias Avenue
11528 Athens
Greece
Tel: +30 210 7281000
Fax: +30 210 7281111

Divani Caravel Hotel
2 Vas. Alexandrou Avenue
16121 Athens
Greece
Tel: +30 210 7207000
Fax: +30 210 7236683

Language
The official language of the Congress is English.

Registration
The Registration Desk will be open at the Megaron International Conference Center
at the following times:
Thursday, May 27  08:00 - 20:00
Friday, May 28  08:00 - 19:00
Saturday, May 29  07:30 - 17:00
Sunday, May 30  08:00 - 13:00

Congress Bag & Name Tag
Upon registering you received your Congress bag kindly sponsored by
containing the program and your Congress kit, containing your name badge and
invitation to the Welcome Reception. Please wear your name badge to all sessions
and events.
Photography
Please kindly note that photography is not allowed during presentations. Any cameras in use by participants will be confiscated. Thank you for your cooperation.

Certificate of Attendance
A Certificate of Attendance can be printed from the pre-paid, self-registration machines from Friday, May 28 from 13:30.

Cyber Center
A Cyber Center will be available for participants’ use in the Exhibition Hall during Exhibition opening hours.

WIFI
Wireless internet will be available throughout the Megaron Athens International Conference Center during the Congress.

CME Credits
The Congress Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain is accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) to provide the following CME activity for medical specialists. The EACCME is an institution of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS), www.uems.net
The Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain is designated for up to 17 hours of European external CME credits. Each medical specialist should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.
EACCME credits are recognised by the American Medical Association toward the Physician’s Recognition Award (PRA). To convert EACCME credit to AMA PRA category 1 credit, contact the AMA.

Abstracts
Abstracts are published as an online supplement and CD ROM of the European Journal of Pain, published by Elsevier. Please visit the booth of the Fourth International Congress of Neuropathic Pain (booth number 1) to exchange your voucher that you received in your registration kit, for an Abstract CD ROM.

Coffee and Lunch
Coffee, tea and a warm lunch buffet will be served to registered participants in the Exhibition Area during designated breaks on Thursday, May 27 - Sunday, May 30. Cooled water is available at all times.

Welcome Reception
Join us in the Exhibition Area on Thursday, May 27 from 19:00 to network, exchange ideas and socialize with fellow Congress attendees.
General Information (Cont.)

Exhibition Opening Times
Thursday, May 27  09:00 – 20:30
Friday, May 28   09:00 – 18:00
Saturday, May 29 09:00 – 17:00
Sunday, May 30 09:00 – 13:00

Mobile Phones
Participants are kindly requested to keep their mobile phones on silent in the session halls.

Safety and Security
Please do not leave any bags or suitcases unattended at any time, whether inside or outside the session halls.

Clothing
Clothing is informal for all occasions.

Smoking Policy
Participants are requested to refrain from smoking in all session rooms, poster and exhibition areas. Please use designated smoking areas in the Megaron Athens International Conference Center.

Liability and Insurance
The organizer is not able to take any responsibility whatsoever for injury or damage involving persons and property during the Congress.

Congress Secretariat

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Email: neuropathic@kenes.com
Website: www.kenes.com/neuropathic
Caring for the Environment

Green Meeting

The ‘Special Interest Group on Neuropathic Pain of the International Association for the Study of Pain’ and appointed congress organiser Kenes International are devoted to considering environmentally friendly practice at the Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain and in all of our operations. Our responsibility to our congress participants, staff, environment and society is paramount in all of our decisions, policies and practices. We continue to learn and strive to integrate new practices all the time. At present, here are a few of the practices we have undertaken for the Congress:

**Printing on environmentally friendly paper** - The Congress Program has been printed on environmentally friendly paper.

**Reducing print** – The abstracts have been published on a CD ROM. If you wish to print any of the abstracts while at the Congress, please look for the abstract viewing centre in the Exhibition Area where you can print your choice of abstracts.

**Recycling onsite** – The Megaron Athens International Conference Center recycles paper and plastic items.

Offset your Carbon Footprint – You can contribute to our ecological efforts by offsetting the Carbon Footprint of your travels to the Third International Congress on Neuropathic Pain. A Carbon Offset represents a reduction in emissions somewhere else – like a wind farm in Texas or a reforestation project in Nicaragua – to balance out the emissions you cannot reduce. You can learn more and offset you carbon foot print at: www.carbonfund.org
Information for Presenters

Please check the program and addendum in case of last minute scheduling changes.

Oral Presentations

A Speakers’ Ready Room, kindly sponsored by will be available for speakers on the first floor of the Megaron Athens International Conference Center and will operate every day throughout the Congress.

Data presentation:

If using a Powerpoint (or any other computer) presentation, please note you need to bring it on a CD, a DVD or on a “disk on key” Memory stick (using the USB port in the computer) and load it on one of the Congress computers in the Speakers’ Ready Room, at least 1 hour before the start of the session. You may supply your own laptop computer as a back-up.

If combining video films with PowerPoint, please make sure to check it in the session hall where your lecture is taking place during a coffee or lunch break prior to your session, at least 30 minutes before the start of the session – even after checking it in the Speakers’ Ready Room. Please note that the Congress computers in the session halls are being supplied with Windows XP and Office 2007.

Important note for Macintosh users

In order to use MAC presentations on a PC compatible computer please note that you need to prepare it according to the instructions below, before bringing it to the Speakers’ Ready Room:

1. Use a common font, such as Arial, Times New Roman, Verdana etc. (special fonts might be changed to a default font on a PowerPoint based PC).
2. Insert pictures as JPG files (and not TIF, PNG or PICT – these images will not be visible on a PowerPoint based PC).
3. Use a common movie format, such as AVI, MPG and WMV (MOV files from QuickTime will not be visible on a PowerPoint based PC).

You may use your own Macintosh laptop computer as a back-up. In such a case please confirm that it has a VGA socket for external signal and come to check it first in the Speakers’ Ready Room as soon as you arrive and later on in the session hall where your lecture is taking place during the coffee or lunch break prior to your session, at least 30 minutes before the start of the session. Please note that VHS Video, 35mm’ slide projection and overhead projection (projection of transparencies will not be available)

Poster Presentations

Please see the scientific program for your board number and hang your poster on this board. Posters may be hung from 08:00 on your scheduled poster presentation day and should be removed by the end of sessions on that day. The poster presentations are an important part of the scientific program and an
invaluable opportunity for the exchange of ideas and updates on new research. The main opportunity for poster viewing and discussion is during the Poster Session. There are two sessions taking place as follows:

- Friday, May 28 from 13:30 - 15:30
- Saturday, May 29, from 13:30 - 15:30

Each poster will be displayed for one day. Authors are requested to stand by their poster boards during their scheduled poster session and during the coffee breaks.

**Best Poster Awards**

The Poster Committee will be reviewing the posters during the poster sessions and the Best Poster Prizes will be announced and awarded in the Closing Ceremony on Sunday, May 30 between 12:30 - 13:00.
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Fourth International Congress on Neuropathic Pain, 2013

NeuPSIG will hold its Fourth International Congress on Neuropathic Pain between May 23 – 26, 2013 in Toronto, Canada. The decision to hold the Congress outside Europe for the first time was made by the NeuPSIG Management Committee in a conscious attempt to broaden the international ethos of the Congress. Over recent years we have witnessed many innovative developments in both the science and in the patient care of neuropathic pain and many of these will be addressed by world-renowned experts at the Congress. The scientific programme will be designed to reflect the aims of NeuPSIG, which are “to advance the understanding of mechanisms, assessment, prevention and treatment of neuropathic pain”; it will consist of plenary sessions, topical workshops and poster presentations. In line with the procedures adopted for previous Congresses the Scientific Programmed Committee will be inviting suggestions for workshops and plenary speakers.

Toronto is a venue not to be missed. We invite you to enjoy this multicultural city and its attractive surroundings. We look forward to you joining us for this exciting and important Congress. Further details will be announced on the Congress website, www.kenes.com/neuropathic, in due course.

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International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP)

IASP Secretariat
111 Queen Anne Ave N, Suite 501
Seattle, WA 98109-4955 USA
www.iasp-pain.org

IASP brings together scientists, clinicians, health care providers, and policy makers to stimulate and support the study of pain and to translate that knowledge into improved pain relief worldwide.

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TSA-II - Thermal Sensory Analyzer is used for QST (Quantitative Sensory Testing) to clinically evaluate small nerve fibers (A-delta & C fibers). VSA-3000 - Vibratory Sensory Analyzer is used for assessment of large peripheral nerve fibers (A-beta).

For more information, please visit: www.medoc-web.com
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