



The Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010 INFOLETTER 37

October/November 2004

Dear Bone and Joint Decade supporting organisation and friend,

On behalf of the BJD Steering Committee I am pleased to report to you of the latest achievements in regard to the initiative.

Lars Lidgren, Chairman of the Steering Committee

**55 GOVERNMENTS ARE
NOW SUPPORTING
THE DECADE!**

At the opening session presentations were given by Dr Cao Zeyi, Chinese Medical Association, and Dr Henk Bekedam, World Health Organization representative who spoke about the WHO's view on musculoskeletal disorders.

GREAT NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES



Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines has signed a declaration of support. This was announced at the World Network Conference in Beijing. For more information please contact Dr Bee Giok Tan-Sales, NAN Coordinator, e-mail: pra@pacific.net.ph

2004 BJD Annual Network Conference took place on 23-25 September 2004 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, North Beijing, PR China with delegates from 45 countries. At the start of the conference, 25 patient representatives had a separate meeting led by Armin Kuder, member of the BJD International Steering Committee and former president of the Arthritis Foundation, and Amye L. Leong, BJD Spokesperson and Director of Strategic Relations.

For the first time ever a medical meeting had its official opening ceremony at the Great Wall of China.

The official ceremony was staged at the Great Wall by Prof KM Chan, member of the International Steering Committee and local host of the meeting. A Beijing Declaration, agreed by all networks, was read, emphasizing the importance of physical activities as prevention and amelioration of musculoskeletal conditions. The theme of the BJD 2004 conference was **Bone and Joint Decade On the Move**.

All participants, including patients, walked for one hour on the historic Great Wall to highlight the importance of physical activity for health.

The Great Wall Walk



To the left
Prof. KM Chan, Hong Kong SAR, China



To the left
Mr Robert Johnstone, Arthritis and Rheumatism
International (ARI), United Kingdom

All **Presentations** from the conference are available on <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/beijing2004/index.html>

E-Poster session

All NANs were asked to report on their yearly activities in an “electronic poster” using a PowerPoint template. The posters were presented at an e-Poster session and Iran was selected as winner for 2004. The posters can be found on <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/beijing2004/index.html>

Workshops

The 2004 BJD World Network conference focused on workshops with interaction between the delegates with the following subjects:

Workshop I: Education - Better Education
– Implementation of the NEW Curriculum

Workshop II: Road Safety – Where do we go from here?

Workshop III: Health Strategies – How to implement musculoskeletal strategies?

Workshop IV: Indicators of Musculoskeletal Health – Monitoring: Why should we measure musculoskeletal health and how?

Workshop V: Reaching Out: Future Directions: How are we getting the messages across?

Workshop VI: Musculoskeletal Science: How do we increase priority and resources for research?

A summary of action points from each workshop can be found on <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/beijing2004/index.html>.

2004 BJD International Award Recipient and BJD Ambassadors

The BJD Nomination Committee held a meeting on September 8, 2004 and presented the 2004 International Award to: The Austrian National Action Network In the category: Awareness.

Dr Gerold Holzer accepted the award on behalf of the Austrian National Action Network at the Welcome Dinner of the Annual World Network Conference in Beijing, PR China, and reported on the activities:

<http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/beijing2004/index.html>

The following **BJD Ambassadors** were appointed:

Mrs Mary Anderson, USA
Prof Bruce D Browner, USA
Prof Dieter Grob, Switzerland
Prof David R Marsh, UK
Mr Denis Morrice, Canada
Prof PN Soucacos, Greece
Dr Stuart Weinstein, USA
Prof Hiroshi Yamamoto, Japan

ISC member received Distinguished Rheumatologist Award from ACR

Edward D. Harris, Jr. MD, George DeForest Barnett Professor of Medicine Emeritus at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California and member of the BJD International Steering Committee, received the Distinguished Rheumatologist Award from the American College of Rheumatology during the ACR Annual Scientific Meeting, Oct. 16-21 in San Antonio, Texas. For more information visit <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/default.html>

BJD Action Week 2004

The BJD Action Week took place during October 12 – 20. For information on activities please visit <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/default.html> and for more information on events in the different countries please go to [www.boneandjointdecade.org/choosing a country](http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/choosing_a_country)

Musculoskeletal eCooperative Update

BJD Action Week Webcast Series 2004 on Musculoskeletal Science

This year during Action Week, in honour of BJD Communications Day (October 14th) the Decade invited members of the public to log on to its Action Week Webcast Series, giving them the opportunity to view online presentations from key opinion-leaders in musculoskeletal science on topics such as Osteoporosis, Low-Back Pain, Road Traffic Injury Prevention, etc. As part of its internet-based education series, the BJD produces 30 min eLectures monthly which are freely accessible via the BJD Front Edge eLecture Archive: <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/eLect/FEArch/Intro/>

Conference Coverage

Highlights from the British Orthopaedic Association 2004 Annual Congress held in Manchester (Sept 16-19) are available on the MSeC portal. Equally, extensive Highlights from the SICOT/SIROT 2004 Annual International Conference in Havana, Cuba (Sept 26-29) are also accessible on the portal.

Both conferences were covered as part of the BJD's volunteer reporter scheme. The programme, which is based on costs-split between the BJD and hosting society for a junior society member's travel, accommodation and congress fee to attend the annual meeting; in return they agree to work as a volunteer reporter at the meeting

and write up the highlights. The reporters are chosen by the society in collaboration with BJD, and thus far it has proven to be a cost-effective way to produce good portal content, and the experience is much appreciated by both reporters and their specialist society. Have a look at the BOA and SICOT highlights on the MSeC portal, and give us your feedback!

New MSeC Collaborations

The BJD has reached agreements with several new collaborators for portal content, including Joint and Bone.org to receive their excellent news feed, RheumaWire, via the MSeC portal; and the BMJ for full access to its *ARD Online First* web feature, which contains articles that have been peer reviewed and accepted for publication in *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases* but have not yet appeared in the paper journal. In addition, all portal members have been given access to the *Orthopaedics Hyperguide*, produced by Slack.

MSeC Developments

Earlier this year Pfizer, as our partner for the MSeC portal, conducted a survey of MSeC society members to try to determine what types of content or online tools would encourage users to log on more regularly. Based on the findings, the user interface and functionality will be improved considerably. This is set to happen late next year. Initial ideas were presented to MSeC Committee members during a joint BJD and US MSeC meeting held in New York City from October 24 to 26, 2004, and further plans will be discussed in the coming months.

For more information or access to the MSeC portal (www.bjdonline.org), please contact Dr Göran Magyar, BJD MSeC Executive Director, at Goran.Magyar@ort.lu.se or Sara Martin, BJD Communications Manager, at smartin@skynet.be.

New member of the International Steering Committee

Prof. Ghassan Maalouf, St George Hospital – Balamand University (Faculty of Medicine), Beirut, Lebanon and member of the governance board of IOF, and Middle East representative of the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) patient Society, has been elected to new member and patient representative of the ISC as from September, 2004. We welcome him.

At the same time we would like to thank Mrs Joyce Gordon, Toronto, Ontario for the time with us.

The BJD Annual Report 2004

Members of the BJD ISC and Communications Committee have worked together with key people at Torre Lazur McCann Healthcare to develop a communication platform for the Decade. Several strategic tools which will be of use to all NANs and Coordinators have been devised including a Bone and Joint Decade Annual Report, a Branding Guide and a PowerPoint template. All these tools were finalised just in time for the World Network Meeting in Beijing. Hard copies of the report were inserted into the conference bags of all the delegates and will be sent in limited numbers to the network coordinators.

The Annual Report could now be downloaded on <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/default.html>

NATIONAL ACTION NETWORKS NEWS

BULGARIA: October 2004 was rich in BJD-activities.

On October 13th and 15th presentations and workshops on the treatment of degenerative disk disorders were held in Sofia in Plovdiv, promoted by the Bulgarian NAN.

The 9th BOTA Congress had as the main topic “Treatment of Spinal Disorders”.

Prof. Panayot Tanchev, NAN coordinator held the leading lecture on “*The burden of degenerative spinal diseases at the beginning of the new millennium*” which gave rise to an important discussion.

The Beijing Declaration “On the Move 2004” and the latest press release of BJD-Steering Committee were distributed in 200 copies during the congress.

On October 20th, the International Osteoporosis Day, there was an out-door light show in the centre of Sofia “*To keep the beauty of the move*” organized by the Bulgarian Osteoporosis League and other organizations supporting the Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010. This most interesting event was visited by many citizens and was a real success in attracting the attention of the public on osteoporosis.

CHINESE TAIPEI: The Rheumatology Association in Taiwan will, under the BJD umbrella, host the 3rd Huaxia Rheumatology Meeting in Taipei (December 11-12) and this will be in conjunction with their Annual Rheumatology and Immunology Meeting. The Huaxia Meeting will gather rheumatologists from China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan by using Mandarin to exchange their scientific researches in the Rheumatology area.

For more information please contact Dr Chung-Tei Chou, NAN coordinator, e-mail: ctchou@vghtpe.gov.tw

ESTONIA: On September 4 there was the traditional open air event Walking Day for arthritis patients in Tallinn organized by Estonian Rheumatism Association with participants all over Estonia and from Finland and Latvia. The event was opened by vice minister of Social Affairs.

In the beginning of October there have been two events dedicated to the bone and joint diseases. Estonian Osteoporosis Society organized a seminar of osteoporosis for family physicians and residents of internal medicine on October 1-2. The seminar was

so successful that it was decided to be repeated next year.

On Sunday, October 3 - there was a meeting of arthritis patients on Town Hall Square in Tartu organized by South Estonian Rheumatism Associations dedicated to the world arthritis day and it was meant to raise awareness of public about the problems of arthritis patients and the importance of healthy life style. For more information on events in Estonia in autumn 2004 please visit

www.boneandjointdecade.org /Estonia or contact Dr Karin Laas, NAN coordinator, e-mail: karin.laas@itk.ee

FRANCE: Please find the exciting events organised in France for the BJD Action Week at www.boneandjointdecade.org /France or please contact euller-ziegler.l@chu-nice.fr

GERMANY: A German Blue Book on Osteoporotic Fractures which is called Weissbuch has been released at the Annual Conference of the German Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgeons, October 20-23 October, 2004 in Berlin.

Please visit

www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/default.html to download the book. The book covers all aspects of diagnosing and treating patients with osteoporotic fractures. The German NAN organised a consensus meeting with participants of all relevant scientific organisations and patient societies, who agreed to publish this book together. For more information please contact wolfhart.puhl@medizin.uni-ulm.de or karsten.dreinhofer@medizin.uni-ulm.de

HUNGARY: During the BJD Action Week the Hungarian National Action Network focused on the Arthritis Day and on the Osteoporosis Day. Please visit www.boneandjointdecade.org /Hungary or contact bjd@axelero.hu

THE NETHERLANDS: During Eular 2004 more than 50 rheumatologists braved

the weather and went on a cycling trip in Berlin. The event was a great success, and provided the rheumatologists with a fresh, active sporting break from the congress. This initiative was put forward during the ACR in San Antonio.

The fact that movement is good for people can no longer be denied. Movement is particularly beneficial for people with joint disorders such as rheumatism or osteoporosis. Physicians often advise their patients to perform regular movement exercises. Following on from the event in Berlin, the rheumatologists were again active during the ACR in San Antonio. This time the inspiration came from Tai Chi, which is a good form of movement for people with joint disorders. It improves balance, strengthens the muscles and makes ligaments supple. It increases people's vitality and boosts energy levels and self-confidence, which is something those that attended the conference could also benefit from! For more information please visit www.boneandjointdecade.org /Netherlands or contact e.vanderwallen@erasmusmc.nl

NEW ZEALAND: A paper was published in the New Zealand Medical Journal 8 October, 2004, Vol 117 No 1203 with the title "*The burden of rheumatic disorders in general practice: consultation rates for rheumatic disease and the relationship to age, ethnicity, and small-area deprivation*" This will be useful in trying measure the burden of disease in New Zealand. Mr Chris Bossley, NAN coordinator will report that they intend to develop articles for the media For more information please contact bossley@xtra.co.nz or kmiles-nzoa@paradise.net.nz

NORWAY: On October 12, 2004 Norway NAN held the annual conference to make awareness of the growing burden of musculoskeletal problems and to achieve the goals of BJD.

Participants from the Norwegian Health Authorities, politicians, patient organizations, healthcare professionals and university attended the conference. The director of the Public Health Department of the Ministry of Health and Social Security, Bjørn-Inge Larsen opened the conference and focused on the need for a comprehensive collaboration on every level in the public health to improve the health related quality for people with musculoskeletal disorders and to promote cost-effective prevention and treatment.

Professor Björn Rydevik was invited and gave an update on the Bone and Joint Decade.

During the conference the delegates received knowledge from specialists about back pain, osteoporosis, joint diseases and traffic injuries and the challenges we have making musculoskeletal problems a public health priority. For more information contact anne.ording.haug@vha.no

USA: Monday morning, October 11, 9:20 a.m. at the American Stock Exchange in New York City, Joe Klecko, former New York Jets player, and Gary Whyte, important advocate for increased research into musculoskeletal disorders, in particular FOP, both rang the opening bell on behalf of the Decade. For news on National Awareness Week activities, please visit www.usbjd.org, and click on National Awareness Week, 2004. For more information please contact regis_okeefe@urmc.rochester.edu

***Our current status:
94 BJD National Coordinators
56 National Action Networks
55 Supporting Governments***

OREF giving totals surpass 2003 goals

The Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF) had another successful year in seeking private support in 2003. Gifts and pledges for 2003 totalled more than \$12 million, or approximately 39 percent above income targets.

In addition to individual donations, the total funds raised include \$2.2 million for the Annual Campaign, \$4.7 million in corporate support and \$5.1 million in support for various endowments, including \$2.5 million in Planned Giving arrangements (insurance policies, charitable trusts, estate gifts).

BJD World Network Conference October 27 – 29, 2005

Will take place in ***Ottawa, Canada***

Keep the dates open and watch out for further announcement on
<http://www.boneandjointdecade.org>

The Bone and Joint Decade Secretariat

If you have any questions or need any assistance please feel free to contact Agneta Jönsson, bjd@ort.lu.se

The BJD website

Please send information and photos (fine quality) on activities and events to the BJD Secretariat, bjd@ort.lu.se and we will put it on the web. Please send us information about action in your country, which we can include on <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org>

Next Infoletter

Will be sent out on December 17. For information to be included, please submit before December 3.

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