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Issue 18, March 2015

Message from the President

Dr. Jianan Li
President of ISPRM

"Things do not happen. Things are made to happen" (John F. Kennedy)

Dear Colleagues

During past month, there are several important events happened with our society. The most important is the International SCI Survey Kick-off Meeting and 1st International Steering Group Meeting held in 26-27 February 2015 in Nottwil, Switzerland. The survey in the context of IPSCI implementation and the WHO Global Disability Action Plan 2014-2021. There were 14 national representatives of the countries from America, Europe, Asia and Oceania. Ms. Alarcos Cieza, the officer of the Disability and Rehabilitation (DAR), World Health Organization chaired the meeting. The leadership of ISPRM, Prof Jianan Li, Dr. Jorge Lains, Prof Francesca Gimigliano and Prof Gerold Stucki as well as Prof Christoph Gutenbrunner joined meeting. This could be a milestone for the cooperation between ISPRM and WHO. The challenges of Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) is recognized in both developed and developing countries.

- 40 to 80 new cases per million population per year

- 250,000–500,000 newly injured per year worldwide

People with SCI have a higher mortality and shorter life expectancy than recorded in the general population. Mortality rates among people with SCI are affected by the capacity of the health system. WHO initiated the International SCI Survey, and Swiss Paraplegic Research Institute designed the Survey with efforts of Prof. Gerold Stucki, Prof. Jerome Bickenbach, Dr. Martin Brinkhof and Dr. Christine Thyrian. The survey aims to study people's functioning and the response by the health system across countries in light of the IPSCI recommendations and the CRPD and based on the model of SwiSCI. Where there is kindness and goodness, there is magic. Magic things are made to happen by each member of the international

ISPRM is now on the right track to be a matured society.

Cheers,

Jianan Li

ISPRM President

Message from the Central Office

National Societies contact information update

In the aim of having a fluent communication with ISPRM National Societies, ISPRM Central Office kindly asks official Representatives of ISPRM National Societies to check their respective contact details being displayed on <http://www.isprm.org/discover/assembly-of-delegates>. Should there be any inaccuracy, please contact us at isprmoffice@kenes.com.



ISPRM 2015, 19-23 June 2015, Maritim Hotel, Berlin (Germany)

We are proud to welcome prestigious international and national guest speakers to the ISPRM 2015 in Berlin. In different sessions, workshops and educational courses they will present the latest results of research in the field of PRM and share their knowledge.

Please find the detailed programme [here](#). This online programme also functions as a planning tool and can also be accessed via your mobile devices

ISPRM in Memoriam André Van Gestel

On behalf of the members of ISPRM in The Netherlands, I have the sad duty to announce that Dr. André Van Gestel from The Netherlands, Honor Role Member of ISPRM, died on January 6, 2015, at the age of 84.

Dr. Van Gestel specialized in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and became a member of the Netherlands Society of PM&R in 1963.

During his whole professional career he played an important role in the development of the practice

(smart phones, tablets, etc.). With the help of this “Programme Planer” you will have the opportunity to create and save your individual programme, according to your needs and interests.

Social Programme

You are curious about Berlin and German and Austrian History? Then register for our social and cultural programme and take part in our guided tours through the city of Berlin and other famous cities in Austria and Germany.

For details please visit www.isprm2015.org



and get the latest updates on the ISPRM 2015.



ISPRM 2016, 29 May-2 June, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

Malaysian Association of Rehabilitation Physicians (MARP) is the sole association representing Rehabilitation Physicians and Rehabilitation Medicine specialty in Malaysia. MARP was officially registered in April 2011, having established a presence of at least one Rehabilitation Physician serving seven of the 13 states in the country, a requirement by Registrar of Society. Presently, it has a strength of 61 members, and is increasing yearly alongside the roll out of graduates of the Master of Rehabilitation Medicine University of Malaya, each year.

MARP's administrative organization comprises of 8 committee members, led by Dato' Dr Zaliha Omar as President and Dr Nazirah Hasnan as the Vice President.

MARP is the Local Organising Committee(LOC) for the 10th ISPRM World Congress which will be held in Kuala Lumpur from May 29 to June 2 , 2016.

The LOC team is multigenerational yet cohesively daring, dedicated, diligent and dynamic, motivatingly strong and determined to make the congress an astounding success. In the lead is

of PM&R in the Netherlands, especially in the southern part of our country.

Already in 1964, a year after joining our National Society, he became a member of its Board of Governors, which he remained until 1969, and from 1971 until 1976 he was President of the Society.

During the 5th Congress of the International Federation of PM&R in 1968 in Montreal, he was elected as Secretary of the Board of Governors and he remained in that position until 1980. Thereafter, from 1980 to 1992, he served as Deputy Secretary and spokesman for the Netherlands National Society.

During that time he was actively involved in the creation of the White Book on Education and Training in PM&R, which was produced by the Committee on Education and Training of the Federation, and finished in 1992.

In addition to these activities at the global level, he was also involved in the work of the vEuropean Federation of PM&R. He was from 1984 till 1991 Vice-President of this federation of National Societies, and its President from 1991 till 1994.

In 1990 the European Federation published, in co-operation with the European Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine and the Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Section of the European Union of Medical Specialists, a White Book on 'The role of physical and rehabilitation medicine in wholcare and its consequences concerning education and training of students and medical specialists comparable with the While Book published by the International Federation.' This white book is still the basis of education and training in PM&R all over Europe.

André Van Gestel died after a short illness, peacefully, at home, in the midst of his family.

We will remember him as an excellent friend and colleague, who did a great deal to promote the development of our specialism, in the Netherlands and internationally.

To be awarded in 1999, the year of the merger of the International Federation and IRMA, the Honor Role Membership of ISPRM as well as the position of Member of Honor of the Netherlands Society of PM&R, was the recognition which he richly

Dato' Dr Zaliha Omar, the Malaysian Rehabilitation Medicine icon and respectable pioneer in the field.

For full article click [here](#).



(Congress President, Dato' Dr Zaliha Omar)



(MARP: Local Organising Committee-Main committee members)

deserved.

On behalf of the members of ISPRM in The Netherlands,

William Peek

2014 Highlights from Tunisians Society of PRM

During 2014, the Tunisian Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation "SOTUMER" joined the ISPRM as an active member of the International Society of PRM, and participated in reflections action plans to promote specialty MPR worldwide.

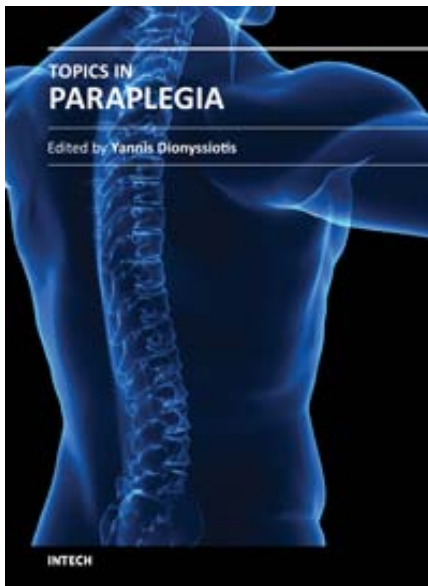
Regionally, the SOTUMER was an active member in the PanArab society of PMR and participated in its congress held in Amman -Jordan in March 2014. This was an opportunity to exchange experiences and reflections on draft PMR in Arabic countries.

With a high collaboration between Tunisian, Algerian and Moroccan society of PMR, we created the Maghreb society of PMR and we organized the first Maghreb congress of PMR, on 3-4 April 2014 in Marrakech - Morocco.

Nationally, the SOTUMER continued its efforts with Tunisian Ministry of Health and Insurance Companies to promote the specialty of PRM in Tunisia and improving the quality of life for those with impairments and disabilities

Photos from the 1st Maghreb congress of PMR in Marrakesh, Morocco:





New book published: Topics in Paraplegia

Edited by Yannis Dionyssiotis

ISBN 978-953-51-1621-9

Publisher: InTech, Chapters

Spinal cord injury related paraplegia changes a person's life in a sudden way. The most important issue for physicians, therapists and caregivers is to manage the complications that arise, and help paraplegic subjects return to a productive integrated life within society. The book *Topics in Paraplegia* provides modern knowledge in this direction. Addressing hot topics related to paraplegia, ranging from surgical management to research therapies with mesenchymal stem cells, this book could be a valued reference for physiatrists, neurosurgeons, orthopaedic surgeons, neurologists and physical therapists. The book is organized into four sections. The first covers the epidemiology and psychological conditions associated with paraplegia, the second discusses surgical management and common rehabilitation interventions; the third medical complications and special musculoskeletal issues, while the last outlines current research in animals and humans.

For more information, please click [here](#).



2014 Achievements of the Spanish PMR Society

The Spanish PMR Society was honored to have both ISPRM past and present presidents, Dr. Imamura and Dr. Li, at our national Congress, held on May 2014 in Bilbao. Dr. Imamura gave a lecture on stroke and the WHO action plan for disability and Dr. Li explain both the western and eastern approaches to pain. We were impressed with their lectures and extremely grateful for the opportunity it provided

for Spanish PMR specialists to meet personally with them. Their vision of rehabilitation worldwide was remarkable and so comprehensive that I think it is fair to say it opened the eyes of the majority of the audience.

Before the national Congress, Dr Imamura and Dr. Li also participated in a Rehab Management course, attended by the Heads of PMR departments of Spanish Hospitals. It was the 3rd edition of a one-day course, organized to "think tank" to generate improvement in our specialty from a management and an organizational perspective. Speakers were not only experts on PMR, as the ISPRM Presidents, or Dr. Esquenazi, but there was also a professor from one of the best Business schools in the world (ESADE- Barcelona) and also a politician, Mr. Martínez Olmos, from the Spanish National Parliament.

The President of our National PMR Society reported the findings from the workshop. Following on from this, on November 2014, and after several meetings and drafts, Mr. Martinez Olmos, presented an official proposal to the National Parliament on "Strategy for prevention, early detection and rehabilitation for potentially disabling conditions".

In line with the Disability World Action Plan, this initiative will help the PMR implementation in our National Health Plan. We hope to continue and develop this further.



Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine

Discover the list of recently published articles of the "Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine"

Volume 47

[Issue 1, January 2015](#)

[Issue 2, February 2015](#)

[Issue 3, March 2015](#)



ISPRM World Congresses

9th ISPRM World Congress,
June 19-23, 2015, Berlin,
Germany
www.isprm2015.org

Congresses & Events in the PRM World

IAPMRCON2015

30 January – 1 February 2015

Trivandrum, Kerala

www.iapmrcon2015.com

3rd Kuwait PM&R conference in
association with the 9th PAN

Arab PM&R congress

14-16 March 2015

www.kpmrc2015.com

27th Annual Kessler PM&R Board
Review Course

March 20-27, 2015 in Livingston,
NJ, USA

[www.kessler-
rehab.com/pmrboardreview](http://www.kessler-rehab.com/pmrboardreview)
[Brochure](#)

Third Annual Summit on Safety
and Quality for Rehabilitation
Hospitals

April 20-22, Arlington, VA, USA

www.safetyqualitysummit.org
[Brochure](#)

XIV PRM Chilean congress

27-28 August 2015,

Santiago, Chile

11TH Mediterranean Congress of

Physical & Rehabilitation

Medicine

1-4 October 2015

Alexandria, Egypt

www.prmcongress2015alex.org

Members of the News & Views sub-committee

Randall Braddom, Jorge Lains, Jianan Li, Leonard Li, Anton Wicker, S. Mansoor Rayegani

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