

e-WGN

WORLD GASTROENTEROLOGY NEWS

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As we welcome the New Year, it is only fitting that we also welcome an update on the Healthy Stomach Initiative, highlighted in this issue's article by Professor Malfertheiner. This initiative was created by researchers Peter Malfertheiner, Francesco DiMario, Francis Megraud and Richard Hunt. It has been endorsed by the WGO as well as the European Helicobacter Study Group and the European Association of Gastroenterology, Endoscopy and Nutrition among others.

Threats to the healthy stomach include *H. pylori* infection, gastric cancer and medications. Research will help with understanding mechanisms of injury, and developing better diagnostic methods and therapies. Education of the public is an important key component. This was started at UEGW 2013 in Berlin with educational booths and a large model of the stomach that was so big people could walk inside and see common GI disorders. There was even an opportunity to

get free testing for *H. pylori*. We applaud the vision of this group in increasing global awareness and collaborations.

We turn our attention to this year's annual World Digestive Health Day (WDHD), the theme this year being Gut Microbes – *Importance in Health and Disease*. WGO Member Societies, organizational partners, and others around the world have already begun planning events and celebrations around the topic with Francisco Guarner, Spain, leading this year's campaign. WDHD was inaugurated in 2004 and since then, each year focuses upon a particular digestive disorder in order to increase general public awareness of prevention and education. Future issues of *e-WGN* will highlight the exciting and creative events set to take place around the globe this year.

With Education being one of WGO's core activities, WGO is proud to announce the addition of the 16th Training Center in Ankara, Turkey, in December

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of last year. This training center's creation is a collaborative effort with the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology, American Gastroenterological Association, and WGO.

Another exciting announcement for the New Year is one of our new Member Societies – Ethiopian Gastroenterology Association (EGA). They were recently inaugurated at the General Assembly meeting in Shanghai, China. We welcome them and

acknowledge Abate Bane Shewaye for putting together a summary of their growing society thus far.

We would like to acknowledge Justus Krabshuis for his role and work with the WGO Global Guidelines and Cascades over the last 12 years. His dedication and warm persona was exemplified through his work in making the Global Guidelines the success it is today. Thank you, Justus!

■

The Healthy Stomach Initiative



Peter Malfertheiner, MD

Director of the Department of Gastroenterology
University Hospital Magdeburg A.ö.R.
Magdeburg, Germany

The Healthy Stomach Initiative (HSI) was created by a group of clinical researchers with a special interest in the stomach – in health and in cases of diseases. Compared to other organs in the digestive tract (i.e. colon, liver) these specialists viewed overall activities and education events for a healthy

stomach – in regards to preventive measures in fighting gastric cancer – neglected. Particularly with the discovery of *H. pylori* as the key gastric pathogen, the prerogatives have been set to detect and eliminate the trigger of gastric tumor genesis and other gastroduodenal pathologies. The stomach

is recognized for its central role in orchestrating digestive function and for participating in the control of food intake by interfering with mechanism of appetite and satiety. The knowledge about all the factors resulting in damage of the gastric mucosal integrity (*H. pylori*, Aspirin and non-steroidal inflammatory drugs in particular) significantly enlarged the necessity to create awareness to the public.

The primary aim of HSI is the dissemination of knowledge about how to keep the stomach healthy and how to help when the stomach is affected by disease. The first public awareness event of this kind was held during the UEGW 2013 in Berlin.

CELEBRATING THE HEALTHY STOMACH INITIATIVE 2013!



Destination Services Europe



Destination Services Europe

The event took place in the heart of Berlin, where the flow of visitors is estimated to be around 30,000/day. The set up was a large stomach model with information booths around it. The size of this organ replica allowed visitors to step inside the stomach and to learn about anatomical structures, gastric functions and gastric diseases, including peptic ulceration and gastric neoplasias. Medical and paramedical staff of the University Otto-von-Guericke, Magdeburg assisted the public by explaining and educating. Movie clips, poster walls and medical staff at info booths provided information about:

- 1) Nutrition and Lifestyle: measures to maintain a healthy stomach
- 2) General prevention, cancer prevention: Explanation of functional gastric disorders and diseases, breath and serological tests, *H. pylori*, gastric atrophy
- 3) Diagnostic: non-invasive tests, endoscopy
- 4) Treatment: gastric protection, acid suppression, *H. pylori* eradication, phytotherapy, probiotics

To illustrate the options for *H. pylori* testing, ¹³C-UBT breath tests were offered to visitors. Furthermore illustrations and practical demonstrations about serological testing and endoscopic investigations were presented and leaflets with take-home messages of healthy foods were available.

The one-day event was enriched by short lectures on “gastric topics”, lively interactions with the public and acting scenarios “doctor – patient”. Leading authorities in Gastroenterology from all over the world participated throughout the day and provided TV interviews on specific needs and activities in their countries. The positive feedback of this first-time HSI public awareness event was exceptional

CELEBRATING THE HEALTHY STOMACH INITIATIVE 2013!



and encourages the HSI to continue its campaigns throughout different regions in the world. The next event is planned in Vienna during the UEGW in October 2014.

In addition to the HSI public awareness events, it is the mission of the HSI to provide a platform for clinical multi-centric research initiatives and issue updates on topics pertaining to the stomach. The HSI

organizes regular “group of interest” meetings during the DDW, UEGW and at the APDW. The “group of interest” meetings offer unique opportunities for exchange for researchers, clinicians and industries. For more information please visit www.hsinitiative.org.



**Francisco Guarner, MD**

University Hospital Vall D'Hebron
Barcelona, Spain
Chair, WDHD 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Our knowledge of the microbial communities that inhabit the human gut has grown exponentially over the last few years and there is a profusion of novel information flowing from basic science laboratories into the clinical scenarios. Gut Microbes function like an organ within the gastrointestinal tract, and Gastroenterologists are the health professionals who should bring the new knowledge into practice.

The human host provides a habitat and nutrition to a large and diverse ecosystem of microbial communities and they play key roles in digestion, metabolism and immune function and have a significant impact beyond the gastrointestinal tract. Changes in the diversity and function of those communities are associated with far reaching consequences on host health and have been linked with a number of disorders, including functional bowel disorders, inflammatory bowel diseases and other immune mediated diseases (coeliac disease, allergies), metabolic conditions (type 2 diabetes, NASH), and perhaps, behavioral disorders such as autism and depression. The emerging data on the microbiota and its interaction with the host may provide novel diagnostic and prognostic tests for clinician, and also lead to the development of new and effective therapeutic interventions (functional foods, probiotics, prebiotics, microbiota transplants) to relieve symptoms, as well as treat and prevent illness.

The World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) seeks to raise awareness of this novel organ and bring the latest fundamental and clinically relevant knowledge to the Gastroenterologist and, through the Gastroenterologist, to the lay public. The “Gut Microbes - *Importance in Health and Disease*” campaign for World Digestive Health Day 2014 seeks to undertake the challenge of translating science into practice by developing educational and training platforms and materials around the world through a concerted collaboration with WGO Member Societies. Such actions include a WGO Gut Microbes Manual, “Meeting in a Box” tools to share with Member Societies, an update of the Probiotics and Prebiotics WGO Guideline, sponsored meetings and more.

We look forward to a fruitful campaign throughout 2014 and beyond.



Upcoming WDHD Events and Celebrations

Latvia

An informative conference for gastroenterologists, general practitioners, and other health professionals about the gut microbiota will take place in Riga, Latvia, on June 5, 2014. For more information, email ikikuste@gmail.com.

Malaysia

The Digestive Health Advisory Board Malaysia (DHAB) will hold its 6th annual World Digestive Health Day celebrations this year in collaboration with the Nutrition Society of Malaysia (NSM), Malaysian Paediatric Association (MPA) and National Cancer Council (MAKNA). As part of their efforts to further reduce the prevalence of gastrointestinal diseases within Malaysia through educating the public about the importance of having a healthy digestive system, they will hold events May 21 - 25, 2014 at the Centre Court, Old Wing, 1 Utama Shopping Centre. During the official ceremony on May 24, they will be launching the "Healthy Digestive Journey" which is a theater style tunnel playing a three-minute multimedia on digestive health.

Past events include a nation-wide road show where various health screenings have taken place and nutritionists and gastroenterology nurses were available to provide advice on healthy eating and general digestive health. Additionally, educational materials have been available for the public and a healthy digestion walks have taken place.

Mexico

The Mexican Association of Gastroenterology in collaboration with the Danone Institute, will organize the 3rd International Symposium on Human Gut Microbiota in Health and Disease. The symposium is directed to GI's, Nutritionists, Microbiologists and General Practitioners, and they are expecting 500 attendees. Many topics will be presented including: Gut Microbiota: changes throughout the lifespan from infancy to elderly; Techniques used to characterize the gut microbiota; Human Gut Microbiota Transplantation; and Recommendations for probiotics use in 2014.

Poland

The West Pomeranian Division of the Polish Society of Gastroenterology in collaboration with the Polish Association of People on Gluten Free Diet and with Coeliac Disease, is holding an International Day of Gut Microbiota and Coeliac Disease on May 17, 2014. The event will include state of the art and up to date lectures on various diseases associated with coeliac disease and microbiota alterations. Key opinion leaders will deliver presentations and discuss important problems associated with coeliac disease and microbiome in relation to gastrointestinal, neurologic, skin, endocrine and immune systems. This event is open access and free of charge to the general public as well as health professionals. Dietary interventions aimed to modulate gut microbiota and manage coeliac disease as well as

non gluten coeliac sensitivity will be discussed. Participants will be invited to taste gluten free food offered by local manufacturers.

The event will take place at the Pomeranian Medical University, SPSK 1, Ul. Unii Lubelskiej 1, Szczecin, Poland.

Spain

The Spanish Society for Probiotics and Prebiotics (www.sepyp.es) will hold an event titled "Intestinal Microbes: Its Importance to Health and Disease" on May 29, 2014, at Hospital Gregorio Marañon in Madrid. The event, which is also expecting participation by the Spanish Society of Digestive Diseases, mainly addresses medical doctors such as pediatricians, gastroenterologists, and family doctors. Topics to be discussed include "Microbiota: an ecosystem in the digestive tract"; "What are functional foods?"; and "Clinical applications of probiotics and prebiotics in the adult". For more information on the event, contact sepyp@hkstrategies.com.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN EVENT

Are you planning an event for this year's WDHD? Visit <http://www.wgofoundation.org/submit-wdhd-2014-event> to officially submit your event for inclusion on the calendar, and to request the WDHD 2014 logo.



Ankara Training Center Inauguration Day



Necati Örmeci, MD

Department of Gastroenterology
Ankara University Faculty Member
President of the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology
Ankara, Turkey

The Turkish Society of Gastroenterology (TSG) was founded in 1959 and the first president of the Association was Prof. Zafer Paykoç. The New Executive Board of TSG appointed Prof. A.Kadir Dökmeçi as the Director of the Ankara Training Center.

The World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO), American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) and Turkish Society of Gastroenterology Training Center in Ankara, Turkey, was inaugurated on 10 December 2013 in the house of the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology. Prof. Süleyman Büyükberber (President of Gazi University), Prof. Necati Örmeci (President of TSG), Prof. Henry Cohen (Past President of WGO) and some members of TSG participated in the inauguration of the Ankara Training Center. Prof. Dökmeçi delivered the opening

speech and gave detailed information about the program of the Ankara Training Center. He pointed out:

- The center is in the private building of the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology.
- Each trainee will have a one year training program in Gastroenterology.
- Foreign students have been training in the Gastroenterology Departments of the three university hospitals in Ankara (Ankara, Hacettepe or Gazi Universities). A total of 42 candidates applied to this program and five of them were selected for training. They are as follows: Dr. Xeni Deda (Albania), Islam Salih Mohammed (Sudan), Habib Hammed (Afghanistan), Macet Vesilova (Ukraine), and Halile Yasidova (Azerbaijan).

- The training program will last for 12 months.
- The program will cover clinical gastroenterology, hepatology and gastrointestinal endoscopy. The center will provide accommodation and a monthly scholarship of \$500 for each trainee.

Aims and Missions:

The Training Center missions are as follows:

- To give Gastroenterology training to trainees from different countries where this training is not available or suboptimal. The targeted countries are central Asian countries of the former Soviet Union such as Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. Formal Gastroenterology training does not exist in any of these countries. Further, several countries located in the west (some Balkan countries) and east of Turkey (some countries in the Middle East and Africa) are also targeted.
- To improve the learning process through effective teaching activities: conferences, discussions, workshops with animal models and electronic simulators, live demonstrations with patients, tutorials and interactive video and computer programs.
- To provide modern learning tools to trainees.
- To promote interactions between regional and international experts and gastroenterology and endoscopy associations.
- To hold 2-3 days of courses, which are open also to Turkish Gastroenterologists in the gastroenterology field. These courses will be held once a year in collaboration with the World Gastroenterology



A view from inside the TSG building.

Organisation and the American Gastroenterological Association. As a consequence of these courses it is envisaged to bring together colleagues from WGO, the AGA and TSG in order to foster enduring relationships between the three organizations.

- To increase the number of physicians undertaking a gastroenterology fellowship program, especially in countries mentioned above.
- To encourage the founding of Gastroenterology Associations in the countries which do not have these. In addition, to provide an opportunity for these countries to develop lasting Gastroenterology fellowship programs after Internal medicine residency.

Facilities:

The center is in the private building of the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology which is located in the center of Ankara. The Training Center has six rooms, a conference room and a library of its own. Each trainee will have a one-year training program in the Gastroenterology field at one of the Gastroenterology Departments of the three university hospitals in Ankara (Ankara, Hacettepe or Gazi



A view from outside the TSG building.

Universities). The training program will last for 12 months. The program will cover clinical gastroenterology, hepatology and gastrointestinal endoscopy. The center will provide accommodation and a monthly scholarship of \$500 for each trainee.

Areas of Training:

- Clinical gastroenterology and hepatology
- Gastrointestinal endoscopy
- Gastrointestinal ultrasonography
- Endoscopic ultrasonography (EUS)
- GI motility

It is envisaged that the physicians who graduate from the Ankara train-

ing center fellowship program and who come from different countries will return to their countries, they will develop in their countries' health policies which may contribute to increased friendship and collaboration between our country and other countries.

The Turkish Society of Gastroenterology pledges its support and continuing close relationship with the Ankara Training Center.

Secretary General of WGO, Professor Cihan Yurdaydin, Receives the 48th Science Award of The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)



Nurdan Tözün, MD, FRCP

Acibadem University, School of Medicine
Department of Gastroenterology
Kozyatagi Hospital
Istanbul, Turkey

The Health Sciences Award 2013 of The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) was given to Prof. Cihan Yurdaydin from Ankara University Medical Faculty for his contribution to the advancement of medicine especially in the field of hepatology. The long-standing researches of Prof. Yurdaydin focusing merely on the extrahepatic manifestations of liver disease (hepatic encephalopathy, itching and fatigue) and viral hepatitis with a special emphasis on delta hepatitis were ratified to have raised great interest in the international literature and contributed to the understanding of the pathophysiology and management of these disorders.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) which is the leading agency for management, funding and conduct of research in Turkey, distributes awards every year to eminent scientists who contributed to the development of science and technology, by their outstanding and original studies in their field. This science award constitutes the most prestigious award among all others of that kind in Turkey. It consists of a golden plaque, a certificate signed by the President of TÜBİTAK and 50.000

Turkish Liras (approximately \$23,000 USD). The awardees also receive a grant as seed money for their further scientific studies.

Prof. Yurdaydin has received his award from the hand of His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Gül, The President of Turkish Republic, at a ceremony held under his patronage at the Çankaya Köşkü (Çankaya Villa) which is the official residence of the President of Republic of Turkey. The ceremony was opened by the President of The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Prof. Yücel Altınbaşak, who emphasized the role of innovative ecosystem as a motto for advances in science of the 21st century and defined the profile of nowadays scientists as: creative, research oriented, technology and IT friendly, able to comment on scientific data and come to practical conclusions while thinking ahead! His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Gül, and the Minister of Science, Industry and Technology, Mr. Nihat Ergün, and the awardees delivered speeches during the award ceremony.

Prof. Yurdaydin in his talk briefly summarized his studies where he positioned himself as a clinical scientist. In his talk, he mentioned the importance and potential contributions of a



His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Gül, The President of Turkish Republic and Professor Cihan Yurdaydin with the Health Sciences Award 2013 of The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK).

clinical scientist to overall international scientific input and in practical terms to the benefit of our patients but gave credit to the basic scientist. He touched upon the driving forces of a true academician, the level of value of being recognized as a science producing country and the importance of universities in this context. He further stressed the importance of motivation as a driving force in scientific studies re-emphasizing that scientific motivation in academic institutions has reached an "all time low level" in Turkey and what needs to be done to overcome this. He finished his talk by thanking his mentors for showing the right path to pursue and his university for providing the high standard of education.

Prof. Yurdaydin, who is the current Director of the Institute of Hepatology of Ankara University, has graduated from Ankara University Faculty

of Medicine where he obtained his specialty in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology. He pursued his post doctoral studies at the University of Vienna, Austria and National Institute of Health, Liver Diseases Section in USA. He was the Past President of the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology and the Editor of the Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology, a SCIE indexed journal. Prof. Yurdaydin has published more than 100 original articles which so far have received more than 3,300 citations. Having served as a member of the Governing Board of EASL, Prof. Yurdaydin's present position is the Secretary General to the World Gastroenterology Organisation since 2009.



Professor Cihan Yurdaydin's speech during the award ceremony.

ACG-WGO: Celebrating a Unique Collaboration Serving Gastroenterology Worldwide

This year marks the continuation of the extension of a five-year agreement between the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) and the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) that will run through 2018. This partnership, which began in 2009 as an outcome of a Train the Trainers (TTT) Workshop held in Florida in 2008, has contributed to the resounding success of WGO's educational programs such as TTT and Training Centers.

Through this agreement, the ACG will provide annual financial support for the TTT program and supporting ACG faculty and participants to attend. In addition, access to the ACG Education Universe program will continue to be granted to trainees at WGO Training Centers. The Education Universe program began as a pilot at three of WGO's Training Centers in 2010 and due to its positive results, the program was extended to seven centers, where it continues to benefit countless international trainees.

This online GI education program, developed for usage by both trainees and gastroenterologists in practice, serves as a valuable resource tool for the delivery of GI education transmitted to trainees worldwide through journal articles from the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*, abstracts from past ACG scientific meetings and presentations from various ACG national and regional meetings. The Education Universe program allows directors to develop an educational curriculum for their trainees and track their usage and progress.

The initial five-year collaboration between the ACG and WGO has played a pivotal role in expanding and enhancing education for gastroenterologists worldwide. The level of expertise involved on behalf of the ACG has proven to be outstanding at all TTTs.

Developed by WGO in 2001, TTT exposes educators in gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy, oncology and GI surgery to current educational techniques and philosophies. It brings together faculty and participants from across the globe through an arrangement of lectures and breakout/interactive sessions with special exercises devised to involve all attendees.

With the emphasis placed on "skills-training", this unique workshop has proven to be a highly successful method of disseminating teaching skills to GI physicians who hold training positions in their own

countries. Delegates are equipped with skills which they can then implement in their countries. Not only has this workshop been enthusiastically received by all WGO Member Societies around the world, it also provides an excellent forum for the exchange of ideas and the establishment of contacts between various countries in an environment which is conducive to learning and interaction.

Since 2001, WGO has held 21 TTT workshops worldwide, consisting of over 900 physicians and healthcare professionals, representing more than 80 countries. Over 300 of those participants are from the USA and Latin America alone! Forty-seven faculty and participants on behalf of the ACG have had the opportunity to fully experience the educational value TTT has to offer. The impact of TTT has also led to the integration of its components into a successful USA-



Morning breakout session led by Dr. Amy Foxx-Orenstein in Xi'an.



Participants experiencing the Teaching Procedural Skills: Hands-on Session during TTT Bogotá.

Testimonials from past ACG TTT faculty and alumni as well as from directors using the Education Universe program

“Thank you so much for the 2-day Advanced TTT. Everybody did an outstanding job and as always the meeting surpassed by far my own expectations. It was great to know and share ideas from different people around the world. Special thanks to the dedicated faculty and TTT staff for their commitment.”

- Francisco Ramirez, Advanced TTT Porto

“The seamless management of the program was truly impressive and I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate. I hope many more will be able to participate in future workshops.”

- Joseph K. Lim, TTT Porto

“Our faculty contingent reported that the session in Xi’an was fabulous and our ACG learners appreciated the superb learning environment, the camaraderie of the participants, and the hospitality of the hosts. I salute Jim Toouli for his efforts to perfect TTT; each iteration outdoes the last.”

- Lawrence Schiller, Past ACG President

“The ACG Universe is wonderful. Trainees working in the ACG Universe, they said that the program is excellent. The quality of the presentations and papers as well as the evaluations test is very good. The ACG tests are very important to evaluate the Education Program: I am very proud with the test results. Actually, ACG universe is one of the most important components in this training and one of the most important tools in our TC.”

-Luis Carlos Sabbagh, Director, WGO Bogotá Training Center

“I’m impressed with the results of this online teaching program and the improvement I noticed in my residents in such a short time. Many other residents are on the waiting list with the request to join this fruitful program. It is a unique and very interesting experience for our region!”

-Naima Amrani, Director, WGO Rabat Training Center

based workshop both organized and delivered by the ACG to its members in 2012. A second US-based workshop will be held in 2014. Moreover, elements of the TTT curriculum were incorporated into a Spanish-language course organized by the Chilean Society of Gastroenterology for its members in 2010. TTT is a program that can be adapted into any language and delivered in any country. All WGO Member Societies are encouraged to hold TTTs in their respective countries.

Looking ahead, as part of WGO’s long-term goals, the following are ways in which the WGO looks forward to expanding Training Centers and Train the Trainers in the immediate future:

- Export aspects of the TTT workshop to regions around the world
- Delegates who have attended the TTT will ideally deliver elements of the program in their own country, with collaboration from their local GI society
- Develop new modules and topic-focused TTT workshops
- Offer TTT programs in other languages, in addition to English and Spanish
- Partner with Training Centers to hold workshops
- Develop an international curriculum for usage at all 17 Training Centers

Lastly, WGO is pleased to announce that the ACG will partner with the WGO to host The 2017 World Congress of Gastroenterology in association with The 2017 ACG Annual Scientific Meeting and Postgraduate Course in Orlando, Florida, USA, October 13-18. We look forward to continuing the collaboration and extend our profound appreciation to the ACG for their continued partnership with WGO.



New WGO Member Society: Ethiopian Gastroenterology Association (EGA)



Abate Bane Shewaye, MD

Consultant Gastroenterologist and Associate Professor of Medicine
Addis Ababa University School of Medicine
President of EGA
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Ethiopia is located in Eastern Africa along the tropics inhabited with over 90 million people; 80% whom are farmers, with interesting, diverse, ancient cultures and a history of 80 ethnic groups. The country also has enjoyable weather and a climate with 13 months of sunshine along with beautiful mountains, lakes and rivers, various wildlife and birds, some of which are indigenous to Ethiopia. Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, is the seat of the African Union and other various international offices. However, there are only about 3,000 medical doctors and only ten gastroenterologists in the country demanding more training and capacity building so as to promote and expand the health service and training in the country.

EGA was established by ten members and two associate members in February 2008 to promote the service, training and research in the field of Gastroenterology and Hepatology in Ethiopia in collaboration with local, regional and international stakeholders and partners like the Ministry of Health (MOH) and WGO.

ACTIVITIES OF THE EGA:

Administrative

- Acquired legal registration license from the Ethiopian Authority.
- Developed logo and stamp of the EGA.
- Employed secretariat and opened an office for the association.
- Developed the website (www.gastrohepethiopia.org) and email address (gastrohep.ethiopia@gmail.com).

- Networking and communicating with MOH, local, regional, international organizations, and universities.
- Periodic reporting of activities to the Ethiopian licensing authority.
- Currently we have reached 30 members, and we are recruiting more.
- Raising more funds and opened a bank account for the association.
- Established communication lines with five local contact members in the regions.
- Registered as full members of the Ethiopian Medical Association, WGO, and WHA/FSRC with a plan for more networking with regional and international institutions.

Training and Education

- Run quarterly and annual CMEs on viral hepatitis, AIH, HCC, IBD, GERD, practice guidelines, EUS, ERCP, *H. pylori*, Advances in Endoscopy, GI bleeding, Endoscopy cleaning and disinfection.
- Run regular public media health education by members on various topics of GIT and liver diseases.
- Represented Ethiopia in various regional and international professional conferences and meetings.

Health Services and Consultancy

- Provided consultancy and advisory services to MOH on health policy issues and management recommendations.
- Provided outreach with free medical services in the region out of the capital Addis Ababa.
- Developing local practical guidelines on diagnosis and treatment of common GI and liver disorders.
- Developing local practical guidelines in GI endoscopy as well as various GI and Hepatology procedures.



EGA members after a national conference.

- Consult and support various media in public health education.
- Consulted in GI fellowship curriculum and licensure in Ethiopia.
- Celebrated world viral hepatitis day at national level in presence of the Minister of Health and various media representatives.
- Established Ethiopian Liver Health Association (ELHA), to fight viral hepatitis in Ethiopia.

Research Activities

- Developed and running research proposals on viral hepatitis, HCC, *H. pylori*, malnutrition and pattern of GI disorders in Ethiopia.

Upcoming Issues and Plans

- National CMEs on GI luminal pathologies on April 27, 2014 with speakers from Canada, Norway, India, and Ethiopia.
- Registration of ELHA and Ethiopia.
- Launch training center in collaboration with WGO and Ethiopian stakeholders.
- Launch a newsletter and the Gastroenterology Journal of EGA.
- Participate in licensure and renewal of Gastroenterologists and GI members in Ethiopia.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the various supporters of the EGA:

- The EGA Executive Committee and EGA members.
- Ethiopian MOH.
- WGO Leaders and the Secretariat.
- Toronto, Bergen, and Wisconsin universities.
- Local and international pharmaceutical companies: AstraZeneca, Roche, Blim Pharmaceuticals, Sanofi, Cadilla Pharmaceuticals Limited, Medoche.



EGA members in teaching activities.



EGA members going for a free medical services field trip.

The Argentine Congress of Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy



Julio Horacio Carri, MD

Professor of Internal Medicine, National Córdoba University
Secretary International Affairs - Argentine Gastroenterological Federation
Córdoba, Argentina

The Argentine Congress of Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy was held in Córdoba, Argentina from 5-7 September 2013, and over 2,000 delegates attended this annual scientific meeting.

The activities held on the first day were the Gastroenterology Course, the Digestive Endoscopy Workshop and the Endoscopy Assistants Course. During the next two days different scientific sessions were held.

The main topics included: Neoplasms of the Digestive Tract, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Diagnosis of Celiac Disease, Neurogastroenterology, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Strategies in Pancreatic Disease, Clinical Challenges and Images in Gastroenterology, Immunological Aspects of Liver Disease, etc.

Seventeen foreign experts were specially invited to participate in the Congress and their contribution was outstanding.

The Argentine Gastroenterological Federation thanks those who contributed to the meeting's success.



Córdoba Cathedral in Córdoba, Argentina.

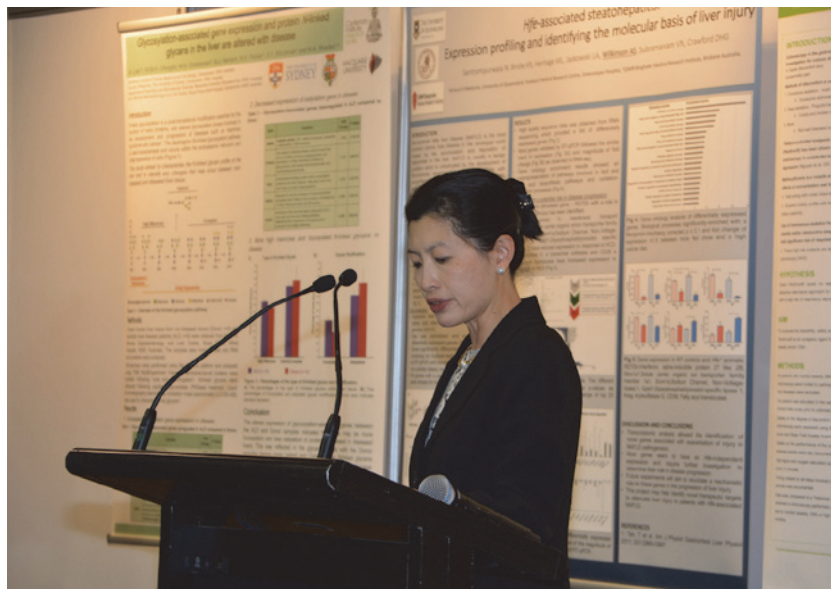
Australian Gastrointestinal Week (AGW) 2013 Attracts Record Numbers

Gastroenterological Society of Australia

Thousands of specialists converged on Melbourne in October for the highly successful Australian Gastrointestinal Week 2013 (AGW), incorporating the Federation of Gastrointestinal Societies.

The Gastroenterological Society of Australia's meeting welcomed colleagues from the Australian and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association, the Australia and New Zealand Hepatic, Pancreatic and Biliary Association and the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand as well as oncologists from the Australian Gastrointestinal Trials Group and the Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia.

With an overarching theme of *Malignant Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases: Prevention, Surveillance and Cutting Edge Therapy*, AGW 2013 featured an exceptional scientific and educational program thanks to a diverse line-up of international and national speakers.



Associate Professor Narci Teoh, AGW 2013 Scientific Program Committee Chair, presenting at the Poster of Merit Competition.

Highlights included:

- The popular live endoscopy workshops featuring a colonoscopy masterclass.
- Advances from bench-to-bedside in inflammatory bowel disease.
- Screening, imaging and advances in management of hepatocellular carcinoma.
- The Digestive Health Foundation symposium highlighting the importance of prevention and surveillance of digestive tract cancers.

AGW is one of the most significant scientific meetings in the Asia Pacific region, featuring the latest advances in clinical management, cutting-edge translational and basic science, and original research in endoscopy, gastroenterology and hepatology, attracting thousands of medical practitioners, surgeons, researchers, and allied health professionals from across the Asia Pacific region.

AGW 2014 will be held at the Gold Coast from 22 – 24 October 2014.

www.agw.org.au



Cutting Edge Science at UEG Week Berlin 2013



Joost PH Drenth, MD

UEG Chair National Societies Committee
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Center
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Last year's United European Gastroenterology Week (UEG Week) was the scientific highlight in Gastroenterology in 2013. The congress offered fresh perspectives in clinical management of digestive diseases, state-of-the-art basic and translational research, and many other scientific highlights. UEG Week was in its 21st year and held at the ICC Berlin, Germany, from October 12 to 16, 2013.

UEG Week attracted over 12,500 delegates from 125 countries and their presence made this meeting a huge success. The opening Plenary Session included the best abstracts and immediately drew a large audience. The topics were therapeutic endoscopy, management of functional gastrointestinal disorders, and the link between human genetics with gut microbiota in inflammatory bowel disease.

This congress is also the place to honor those who are able to advance science in gastroenterology. World renowned expert in GI genetics, Ian Tomlinson, received UEG's prestigious research prize for his research on cancer predisposition. Ian Tomlinson is the professor of Molecular and Population Genetics and Group Head at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, Oxford, United Kingdom. His work focuses principally on predisposition to cancer; he has been able to identify more than 20 genes which increase the risk of colorectal



UEG Week Berlin 2013 Plenary Hall.
UEG, www.ueg.eu, image of UEG Week used by courtesy of Jan Pauls.

cancers, representing the majority of all known bowel tumour genes.

Immediately following the Opening Plenary session was the "What's new in 2013?" session, a session at which leading European figures summarized the big changes in clinical practice over the last year, and top journal editors described the best new published research. The popular "Today's Science; Tomorrow's Medicine" initiative took place throughout Monday and Tuesday, with top scientists from around the world updating delegates on new advances in genetics, and their implications for pathogenesis and stratified treatment in a wide variety of subject areas.

UEG Week is also the place to award the best and brightest 'rising stars' in gastroenterology. Last year eight young gastroenterology researchers from six different European countries received the UEG Rising Star Award. The Rising Stars of 2013: Francesc Balaguer, Spain, Tine Jess, Denmark, Johanna Laukkanen, Finland, Georgia Malamut, France, Michael Quante, Germany, Harry Sokol, France, Augusto Villanueva, Spain, Thomas von Hahn, Germany. One of them, Harry Sokol from Paris, France, won for his research in deciphering the mechanisms involved in the complex cross-talk between the gut microbiota and the host in health,



Networking in the UEG Association Village. UEG, www.ueg.eu, image of UEG Week used by courtesy of Jan Pauls.

and its alterations leading to human diseases such as IBD.

As one of the major scientific congresses in the field worldwide, UEG Week managed to attract 3,600 abstracts. Some 2,150 were selected for scientific presentation, the majority as a poster (~1700). Japan was the leading country in terms of abstract submissions followed by United Kingdom and Italy. John Atherton, Chair of the UEG Scientific Committee commented: *"The standard of abstracts submitted to the meeting has improved measurably again this year!"* UEG Week hosted 142 scientific sessions describing the major advances in gastroenterology and hepatology. Delegates commented: *"For me the number one stage to profile myself as a scientist and head of a large clinic and translational laboratory"* adding that *"many of the people that I want to meet and are that pivotal for my research are at UEG week"*. Others mentioned that the *"focus of the UEG week is clinical in line with practice interests of the international audience"*. Indeed, UEG Week has become more open to an international audience and draws delegates from Asia and Middle East, making it an extremely interesting exchange platform.

UEG Week is also attractive for young researchers since it supports diversity among participants and delegates, with awards and prizes. In 2013, 34 young researchers received the national scholar award which is awarded to the highest scoring abstract from each respective country. In addition, the best presenter at one of the oral sessions received a certificate of excellence for his or her effort. In order to support young gastroenterologists even further UEG Week awards International Scholarships that grant travel reimbursement and free access to UEG Week.

One of the educational highlights of UEG Week was the Post Graduate Teaching Programme that hosted almost 2,000 participants. Course directors Julia Mayerle (Greifswald, Germany) and Laurent Peyrin-Biroulet (Nancy, France) offered a very interactive programme. Other highlights were the live endoscopy sessions and the update on management on viral hepatitis and diverticular disease. The presentations were highly relevant for clinicians.

During UEG Week Prof. Michael Farthing (UK) was elected as UEG President, Prof. Michael Manns (Germany) as President-Elect and Prof. John Atherton (UK) as Secretary General in January 2014. Furthermore, Prof. Thierry Ponchon (France) was elected for the position of Chair of the Public Affairs Committee, and Prof. Guido Costamagna (Italy) as an Independent Member on UEG Council.

The UEG web portal UEG e-learning is an excellent resource for any gastroenterology professional as it contains many of the talks given on the occasion of UEG Week in Berlin. One of the benefits of UEG Week 2013 delegates is that they have free access to UEG e-learning which features 307 talks that were recorded at the Postgraduate Teaching Programme and the core programme.

Beginning in 2014 UEG Week will

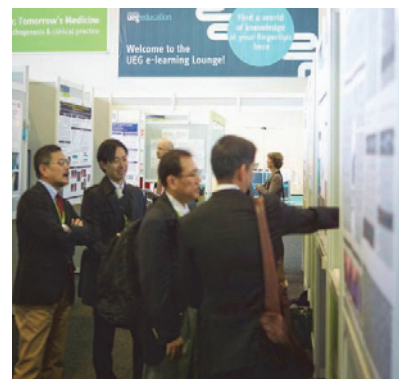
alternate between Vienna (Austria) and Barcelona (Spain). Between October 18-22, 2014, Vienna will host the 22nd UEG Week. Magnus Simrén, Chair of the Scientific Committee comments *"We will have new sessions on therapy updates as well as a specific sessions on advances on clinical digestive oncology"*. To make UEG Week even more attractive for young gastroenterologists, a "Young Network Club" will be launched in 2014 together with a Young GI track through the core programme.

We hope to see you in Vienna in 2014 as UEG Week is a must visit event for any professional in Gastroenterology to explore and engage!

Highlight these dates for UEG Week Vienna 2014, October 18-22, in your calendar:

- April 22, 2014: Deadline for abstract submission
 - May 15, 2014: Deadline for early bird registration fee
 - July 4, 2014: Deadline for late breaking abstract submission
- Click [here](#) for abstract submission information.

Find out more, visit www.ueg.eu/week/



Scientific exchange in the poster area. UEG, www.ueg.eu, image of UEG Week used by courtesy of Jan Pauls.

Chilean Congress of Gastroenterology 2013



Jorge Contreras, MD

Executive Secretary, Chilean Congress of Gastroenterology 2013
Department of Gastroenterology
Clínica Alemana de Santiago & Hospital Padre Hurtado
Santiago, Chile



Rodrigo Zapata, MD

President, Chilean Society of Gastroenterology 2012-2014
Department of Gastroenterology
Clínica Alemana de Santiago & Hospital Salvador
Santiago, Chile

The 40th Chilean Congress of Gastroenterology was held in Pucón, a beautiful town on the shores of Villarica Lake, located in the Araucanía Region (Southern Chile), from 27-29 November 2013. The President of the Congress was Rodrigo Zapata, MD, and the Executive Secretary was

Jorge Contreras MD. This is the most important event organized each year by the Chilean Society of Gastroenterology.

This year our Society celebrated 75 years of existence since 1938 when Dr. Ernesto Pradro Tagle and his contemporaries first gave life to our society.

The conference brought together a total of 540 attendees from across the country and also from abroad. In this meeting, a total of 80 novel scientific papers were presented orally, the best six of them being selected for a plenary session. The conference had six international guest speakers which represented 60% of all lectures of the congress. Our international speakers included: Dr. Nageshwar Reddy (Director of the Asian Institute of Endoscopy, Hiranagar, India, with lectures on therapeutic endoscopy and cholangiography); Dr. Heleine Petrof (Kingston, Canada, with lectures on Clostridium Difficile and fecal transplant as an innovative therapy for cases refractory to conventional therapies); Dr. Julio Carri (Córdoba, Argentina, with lectures on functional Dyspepsia); Dr. Geert D'Haens (Amsterdam, Netherlands, who presented topics on therapy in inflammatory bowel disease); Dr. Jean-Michel Pawlotsky (France, with lectures on viral hepatitis) and Dr. Jorge Rakela (Mayo Clinic, Arizona, who presented a wide variety of topics from viral hepatitis to liver transplantation management).

The emotional highlight of our conference was undoubtedly the recognition through a tribute given every year as "National Guest Award." This year corresponded to a Chilean Gastroenterologist of wide and outstanding trajectory, Dr. Jorge Rakela, a Chilean doctor who developed his specialty, Hepatology, and subsequently his academic and medical career, in the United States, trained in California, later worked in Pittsburgh, Mayo Clinic Rochester and currently at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona, in charge of Regenerative Medicine Unit.



From left to right: Jorge Contreras, MD (Executive Secretary of the Meeting), Marco Arrese, MD (Vice President, Chilean Society of Gastroenterology), Jorge Rakela, MD (Hepatologist, Mayo Clinic Arizona, Chilean National Guest Award), Moni (Wife of Dr. Rakela), and Rodrigo Zapata, MD (President, Chilean Society of Gastroenterology).

Chilean speakers gave the rest of the lectures in sessions of endoscopy, hepatology, pancreatic diseases, Neurogastroenterology, and some issues of pediatric gastroenterology. They brought updates in diagnosis and therapy of different pathologies of our specialty.

The Chilean Congress of Gastroenterology is held yearly in a southern or northern city of our country, bringing together specialists who work throughout our vast nation, and corresponds to the event of the year organized by the Chilean Society of Gastroenterology. In 2014 it will be held in Coquimbo (Enjoy Hotel Convention Center, 26-28 November 2014).



During the meeting from left to right: Arnoldo Riquelme, MD and Maria Isabel Jirón, MD.



From left to right: Jorge Contreras, MD and Jean-Michel Pawlotsky, MD.

WGO Membership Update

WGO Member Society Information and Update Forms

Each year, WGO Member Societies and Regional Affiliates are asked to submit a current WGO Member Society Information and Update Form. Each society will receive a form via email, which may be updated and returned to membership@worldgastroenterology.org. If you need another copy of the form or have any questions about the information requested, please contact the WGO Executive Secretariat at membership@worldgastroenterology.org. Invoices are created based on the information received on these forms, and you will receive your 2014 invoice promptly upon receipt of the completed form. Your expedient response ensures important WGO news and information will be received promptly by the appropriate contacts within your Member Society, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

WGO Member Societies – Dues are Payable at DDW 2014!

Did you know you can pay your WGO Member Society's membership dues during Digestive Disease Week (DDW)? Just visit WGO at booth 3016 in Foundation Row at the McCormick Place in Chicago, IL, USA, during DDW 2014! The WGO booth will be open during official exhibition hours, 09:30-16:00, Sunday through Tuesday, 4-6 May. If you wish to pay your dues at DDW, prior receipt of your society's Member Society Information and Update Form by WGO will allow us to have a current and correct invoice ready and waiting for you when you visit the booth!

Dues Payment Methods

Membership dues may be paid in US dollars, or check made payable to the World Gastroenterology Organisation. Please note, if you elect to pay dues at the WGO booth, a receipt will be emailed to you as promptly as possible following payment.

The dues that WGO Member Societies contribute each year are channeled into training, education and advocacy in the developing world, while also strengthening these aspects in developed regions. WGO looks forward to receiving your society's 2014 dues and to keeping you, our Member Societies, apprised of all the current WGO and WGO Foundation news and events. Please watch the monthly *e-Alert* and the quarterly *e-WGN* for the latest news!

Participation in the 2014 General Assembly

We are delighted to announce that the 2014 General Assembly Meeting



will be held during DDW this year. Please be reminded that at the time of the General Assembly, only Member Societies who have fully paid up their dues through 2013 may participate with full voting privileges. If you are unsure of your society's membership status, please contact the WGO Executive Secretariat at membership@worldgastroenterology.org.

Prospective Members

Are you interested in becoming a WGO Member Society? Interested Member Societies are encouraged to apply. Please visit the [membership application section](#) of the WGO website to learn more about the application process and required materials.

WGO representatives in the WGO



The 2014 General Assembly will convene at DDW in Chicago, Illinois, USA.



Visit us at McCormick Place during DDW 2014 in Chicago, Illinois, USA!

booth during DDW 2014 will be more than happy to share with you the benefits of WGO membership. We invite you to stop by the booth, speak with us, and read a wide variety of materials on the various WGO programs and initiatives which you may take with you. If you have any questions about the membership application process, please contact membership@worldgastroenterology.org and the Executive Secretariat will answer any queries you may have!

Promote your Society's Event with WGO!

Member Societies are encouraged to keep WGO informed of their meetings and events. To submit the details for your society's upcoming meetings and/or events for promotion on the [WGO Online Conference Calendar](#), please submit these via the WGO website at: [Submit an Event](#).

Questions About Membership?

To inquire on the status of your membership, or if you have any questions regarding the information update or dues payment processes, please contact the WGO Executive Secretariat at membership@worldgastroenterology.org.





Educational Programs

Providing high quality educational opportunities for all levels of resources.



WGO's Newest Educational Offering is Now Available!

The World Gastroenterology Organisation is pleased to announce the release of its newest educational program:

Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS): What is it, what causes it and can I do anything about it? A Web-Based Educational Program for the General Public

This webcast, which was developed from the [World Digestive Health Day 2012 Campaign](#) "From Heartburn to Constipation - Common GI Symptoms in the Community: Impact and Interpretation", will target those common symptoms most associated with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) and will focus, in particular, on an approach to educate the general public on issues related to this condition. It is led by Professors Eamonn Quigley, USA, WGO Foundation Chair, Richard Hunt, UK, WGO Foundation Vice Chair, Pali Hungin, UK, and Anton Emmanuel, UK.

The webcast is available as a full program, as well as individual segments, so that you may choose which topics you would like to view. Segment 1 focuses on "What is IBS?" and "How to communicate symptoms to help the doctor make the right diagnosis." Here the focus is on the various symptoms that may be experienced by the IBS sufferer and the various definitions of IBS used in clinical practice and in research are reviewed. Strategies that facilitate the best interaction between the sufferer and their doctor are discussed. In Segment 2 you will learn about "Progress in IBS" and "Could it be something else?" The various factors that might contribute to the development of symptoms are reviewed and the panel addresses what is often a major concern for the sufferer and their doctor: the fear of missing other diagnoses. Segment 3 will look at "What can I do to deal with my symptoms?" and "How about diet and dietary supplements?" The role of diet in IBS is a "hot" topic at present and the various ways that constituents of the diet might relate to symptoms are evaluated. And finally in Segment 4 "Managing IBS" and "Living with IBS" is discussed. Here there is good news for IBS sufferers both in terms of new, effective treatments and ongoing research for new approaches to managing IBS.

We hope that you will share this information with your colleagues, patients, followers on social media, and anyone else who might benefit from this important information. We thank you for your support of this program!

[Click Here to Begin Viewing the Webcast!](#)

This webcast was created thanks to an unrestricted educational grant from

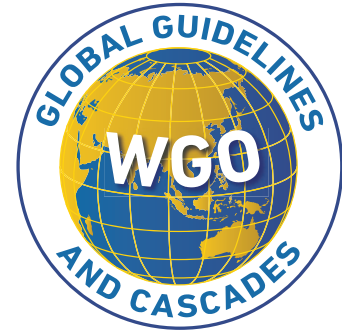


Thanking Justus Krabshuis



Anton LeMair, MD

WGO Guidelines Project
Amsterdam, Netherlands



A Resource Sensitive Solution

As of January 1st of this year, Justus Krabshuis has officially stepped down from all except his voluntary work for WGO. Justus has played a very important role in WGO and its Global Guidelines. His activities for WGO during more than 12 years helped WGO to develop a line of global clinical practice guidelines. With this mini ‘anthology’ we want to thank Justus Krabshuis for his invaluable contributions.

Michael Fried, former Chair of the WGO Guidelines Committee for 12 years:

“Justus, you are the one and only, a great personality and a warm hearted and devoted human being. You have achieved to maintain a very heterogeneous group of guideline producers together with the result that you always got the input needed. The outcome has been always a marvelous success of the WGO guideline program. With an outstanding efficacy you have produced highest quality guidelines that have become essential tools for doctors around the world. How is this possible, with so limited resources, limited manpower and experts in many different countries with different socio-cultural backgrounds? It needs the charisma and charm of Justus Krabshuis! Justus achieved with his Dutch allure, his prosaic letters and mails and with his limericks that everybody contributed whole heartedly to our guidelines project. Without Justus we would have achieved nothing; Justus is in fact the soul and heart of this project that helps doctors and patients in the less developed, the poor and underprivileged parts of our world. Justus, thank you so much for your friendship, your devotion and your highest ethical standards you have set up and maintained in our committee. Justus, I hope to have the chance to share an excellent malt Whisky with you, visit you in the Scottish Highlands or in your home in France, it would be my privilege to keep up our friendship in the future.”

<p>Guido NJ Tytgat Former Chair of the WGO Guidelines Committee</p>	<p>The man lived up to his name: JUSTUS <i>The first time I really met Justus was in my office in the academic medical center in Amsterdam many years ago, discussing the start of the guidelines project. It was the beginning of longstanding mutual respect, appreciation and friendship. I remember that he taught me how to use my laptop stressing the difference between hrrp and https! Justus became a passionate believer in the rationale and usefulness of guidelines with a global dimension. No one could foresee at that time the evolution the guideline project would take. What I will always remember is Justus’ erudition, his librarian experience, his enthusiasm, politeness, loyalty, love for nature and poetry. May he enjoy a well-deserved émeritaat’ with many beautiful, healthy years in la douce France.</i></p>	
<p>Justus \j(u)-stus, jus-tus\ as a boy’s name is pronounced JUS-tus. It is of Latin origin, and the meaning of Justus is “upright, just”.</p>	<p>The “WGO dictionary” says about JUSTUS: communicator, connecting bridges, respect, appreciation, friendship, erudition, enthusiasm, politeness, loyalty, competence, impressive, responsibility, and intellectual generosity.</p>	

	<p>He was a driving force behind the development of the unique ‘Cascades’ of resource independent options for diagnosis and management in the WGO guidelines. He co-authored more than 25 practice guidelines and participated in several articles on important topics such as WGO global guideline cascades, evidence based guidelines, and gastroenterology in developing countries.</p>
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<p>Eamonn Quigley WGO Foundation Chairman and Past President, WGO</p>	<p><i>Any attempt to encompass the impact of Justus on WGO will inevitably fall short such have been his contributions in so many, many ways. His critical role in the phenomenal success of our Guidelines is immediately apparent to all who have worked in the Committee and the visibility and clinical importance of these very guidelines will forever serve as a testament to Justus’ contributions and his ability to work so constructively with Committee Chairs, Members and contributors.</i></p>
<p>Jim Toouli President, WGO</p>	<p><i>As the current president of WGO I would like to acknowledge his enormous contributions to our organization. Justus and his company were contracted to deliver a service. However Justus went way beyond his contract and delivered much needed advice and guidance to colleagues from all over the world. One contribution which shall always be appreciated by the many people who have accessed it over the years is his “Ask a Librarian”. This service was provided free of charge to people from around the world who wished to find manuscripts they would not be able to access using their own resources.</i></p>
<p>David Bjorkman Treasurer, WGO</p>	<p><i>Having him as a resource has been critical in the development of the guidelines that are in multiple languages and accessed frequently from our website. His enthusiasm and his personal motivation to access information has helped many people throughout the world through his voluntary “Ask a Librarian” program.</i></p>
<p>Cihan Yurdaydin Secretary General, WGO</p>	<p><i>I can only thank him what he has done for WGO, for his enormous contributions to propagate education of our discipline throughout the third world and thus helped WGO to fulfill its ideas.</i></p>
<p>Greger Lindberg Chair of the WGO Guidelines Committee</p>	<p><i>Justus, you are a great source of inspiration, always ready to have views on difficult matters. I have appreciated your commitment to WGO and I think you epitomise the vision of WGO, to improve gastroenterology in countries where it is most needed.</i></p>

<p>As a consultant he guided the WGO process of guideline making and didn’t get tired to push, promote, and further develop WGO’s guideline making focus on supporting clinicians in regions with less optimal resources.</p>	<p>Ask a Librarian</p>
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<p>Eamonn Quigley WGO Foundation Chairman and Past President, WGO</p>	<p><i>Less apparent perhaps are his many contributions beyond those delineated by his official role in WGO. Justus has a very profound and fundamental commitment to those in greatest need and of his own accord initiated and serviced the “Ask a Librarian” service; in a more general sense, Justus, by dint of his personality, infused this devotion to emerging nations, their doctors and their patients into every activity that he participated in on behalf of WGO.</i></p>
<p>Aamir Ghafoor Khan Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>It was a pleasure to know and work with him over the years. His commitment can be judged from this that, as his close friends know, he spends some of his holidays in Argyll, Scotland, where he has a cabin. I also usually work in one of the local hospitals in summer in Oban, and on quite a few occasions, he took the trouble to interrupt his holiday and drive up to Oban to discuss Guidelines and WGO related matters. The only pity, as he used to put it, was that since we met during a lunch break at the hospital canteen, I couldn’t serve him a dram. I wish him all the best in his retirement.</i></p>

<p>Jim Toouli President, WGO</p>	<p><i>From my very early involvements with WGO Executive, there has always been present the towering resource of Justus Krabshuis to guide, urge, question and at times humour and amuse. Unique? Yes he is! Others I know shall speak of his background and very interesting life.</i></p> <p><i>I think that I first met Justus by photo when in one of the early TTTs he offered through TTTs to provide this free service. He sent us a photo, which was used in a PowerPoint presentation on searching the literature. After the various hints, guides etc. that were given during the presentation there came a slide with a picture of Justus and his contact email saying if in doubt "Ask a Librarian".</i></p>
<p>Zaigham Abbas Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>Justus Krabshuis is one of the few people I have come across that have shown true dedication to their work. His bulletins, alerts and emails, encompassing different subjects were prepared with evident diligence and care. A thirst for meeting challenges and solving problems was characteristic of Mr. Krabshuis. I hope retirement suits him well and his energies are well spent, he will be thoroughly missed.</i></p>
<p>David Bjorkman Treasurer, WGO</p>	<p><i>Justus is a force of nature. It is not just his physical presence and outgoing attitude. It is his boundless enthusiasm and hard work that have been critical in our scientific approach to guideline development.</i></p>
<p>Suliman S. Fedail Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>I have known Justus Krabshuis for a long time and we became friends almost after our first meeting. He helped us quite a lot in the third world in getting reprints from obscure journals. He was very fast in replying. I once ordered a reference and after 15 minutes I received it. Despite he is not a medical graduate he mastered the cascades system in developing guidelines for the whole world.</i></p>
<p>Juan-R. Malagelada Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>My first impression of Justus Krabshuis was of competence. It was obvious that he was a master at what he was doing. My immediate reaction was, how can I incorporate this valuable and friendly person to my project? And he graciously agreed to help us develop the European Motility Center led by the Vall d'Hebron Barcelona group.</i></p> <p><i>This very positive first impression has been enhanced and expanded over subsequent years. His impact on the development of big projects like the "WGO guidelines" has been enormous and his well-deserved retirement is a loss to all although his also competent successors will continue to carry forward for the benefit of worldwide gastroenterology.</i></p> <p><i>Thanks Justus.</i></p>

As a volunteer he acted as WGO's 'resident librarian' and provided 'Ask a Librarian' and literature search services to support numerous clinicians and researchers, especially in Africa and Asia. He inevitably had a global impact with his work for WGO!



<p>Saeed Hamid</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>It was a pleasure to closely work with Justus in the Guidelines Committee. Justus is a towering figure whose presence, methodical approach and a friendly approach were all strong factors that motivated the WGO members, particularly the Guidelines Committee members, to work harder than they would have otherwise done. Best wishes to him for a successful transition.</i></p>
<p>Peter Ferenci</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>I was working with him for a long time. We exchanged many e-mails about conflicting issues (including guidelines and the role of EBM and Cochrane analyses). He was always receptive and tried what he could to include them into ongoing work.</i> <i>And...we should not forget...he is a kind, intelligent and also funny person!</i></p>
<p>Roza Bektayeva</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>I had numerous conversations on forums with WGO's Justus Krabshuis about our work, and he spent an active correspondence with us by mail. In my memory the image of Justus is of a very correct, competent, and very kind person, always willing to help. I think that Justus introduced an important role in WGO and its Global Committee and we thank him.</i></p>
<p>Igor Khalif</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>I would like to sincerely thank Justus for his invaluable help with collecting literature on gastroenterology topics, especially in IBD and IBS, for monthly updates. That was so important for Russian doctors, as much of this information was not readily accessible for our specialists.</i></p>
<p>Andrea F. González</p> <p>Guideline Author & Ask a Librarian Subscriber</p>	<p><i>I had the opportunity to work with Justus since 2011 in the drafting of Guidelines for Celiac Disease. I was invited to participate in this project by Doctor Julio Bai. Personally I want to highlight his enthusiasm, responsibility and intellectual generosity. Justus welcomed me into the project with the following phrase, which, in my opinion, shows his vision for his work: 'Dear Andrea and Julio, welcome to this intellectual 'adventure'. Andrea - I am most grateful to you for helping us - thank you.'</i> <i>He also helped me find some specific articles I needed for my Doctoral thesis that were really difficult to find. So I promised him that when he comes to Argentina I'll take him to try the best Argentinean steak and a good red wine... And of course that still stands.</i></p>
<p>Eamonn Quigley</p> <p>WGO Foundation Chairman and Past President, WGO</p>	<p><i>We will miss certainly his wisdom, integrity, expertise and commitment to excellence and detail but for me, above all, I will miss the man: his story telling, his amusing anecdotes and his camaraderie. May Justus, the Laird of Argyll and Duc de Dordogne continue to enjoy his estates for many the year to come!</i></p>
<p>Roque Saenz F</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>Always available. He has done a lot of work with Latin American Countries. Happy to be helpful. We just(us) say Thanks.</i> <i>Probably now, he as a retired person, could come to the south and have the best wine available.... Ours.</i></p>
<p>Jim Toouli</p> <p>President, WGO</p>	<p><i>Justus on behalf of all of those people who have accessed your very generously given expertise and helped in their career and/or knowledge development, let me say thank you!!!</i> <i>I then met Justus in person. What a warm, cultured gentleman!! The pressures of constant meetings during WGO activities have never really allowed for me to spend time to get to know him personally. However, Justus would certainly be on a list for me if I were ever allowed to invite ten people with whom I would like to have dinner.</i> <i>Justus I wish you a happy retirement. WGO shall forever be the better for the time that you have spent with the organization. Wishing you long good health and hopefully we can have that dinner in the not too distant future.</i></p>
<p>Luis Rodrigueyz De Leon</p> <p>Ask a Librarian Subscriber</p>	<p><i>I want to thank Mr. Krabshuis for his support and help when we needed it. My best wishes from Venezuela and the Gastroenterology Department of the Red Cross Hospital in Caracas.</i></p>
<p>Manuel Mojica</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>Dr. Krabshuis has been very important for the WGO and especially to keep all members up to date. I really thank him for the interest he has always showed. Many thanks Dr. Krabshuis.</i></p>

<p>Suliman S. Fedail</p> <p>Guidelines Committee Member, WGO</p>	<p><i>He was always kind and generous once he told me he has a holiday house in Scotland and I can use it anytime and his offer is still standing. I invited him to come to Sudan in 2012 for the Sudanese Society of Gastroenterology International meeting. I think this was his first trip to Africa he was very excited. Unfortunately one day after he received his ticket he had a heart attack from which he recovered. I kept wondering whether the excitement of coming to Africa might have contributed to this.</i></p> <p><i>We will miss him greatly. We wish him a happy and healthy retirement.</i></p>
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While he has more time available now for his family and wonderful house in the French Dordogne, his interest in activities to support those in health care who cannot fully benefit (yet) from the advances in diagnosis and treatment which are commonplace in the West, only seems to grow.

Thank you Justus Krabshuis for all the work you have done – we are most grateful to you and all of us, WGO executive and members of the WGO Guidelines Committee, as well as external team members, have very much enjoyed working with you in all those years!





www.agw-wgogastro2015.com

The World Gastroenterology Organisation and the Gastroenterological Society of Australia invite you to a major joint meeting in 2015

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GASTRO 2015: AGW/WGO

• INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS •

28 SEPTEMBER - 2 OCTOBER

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

Specialist education meeting

The shared goal of this event is to provide an international educational platform for the promotion of the latest basic science and clinical advancements in the field of gastroenterology and will include:

- Workshops
- Concurrent Sessions
- State-of-the-Art Lectures
- Clinical Updates
- Symposia
- Free Papers
- Poster Sessions
- Update from the WGO Training Centres

Participating organisations:

- World Gastroenterological Organisation
- Gastroenterological Society of Australia
- Australasian Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (AuSPEN)
- Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia (GENCA)

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AGW Secretariat: C/- GESA, PO Box 508, Mulgrave VIC 3170

Direct call: 1300 766 176 • Ph: +61 3 9001 0279 • Fax: +61 3 9802 8533 • Website: www.agw-wgogastro2015.com

WGO Calendar of Events

APAGE Clinical IBD Forum 2014

When: April 18-19, 2014
Location: Penang, Malaysia
Website: <http://www.apage.org/index.html>

Annual International GI Congress

When: April 18-20, 2014
Location: PC Bhurbhan Murree Pakistan
Address: Room 29, 4th Floor Kehkeshan Mall Tariq Road, Karachi, Pakistan
Organizers: Prof. Aamir G Khan (President) & Dr. Serbat Khan
Telephone: 00923008580105
Email: office@psg.org.pk
Website: <http://www.psg.org.pk/>

Digestive Disease Week (DDW)

When: May 4-6, 2014
Location: McCormick Place
Address: 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, USA
Organizers: American Gastroenterological Association, American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, American Association for the Study of Liver Disease, The Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract
Telephone: 301-272-0022
Fax: 301-654-3978
Email: jmerryman@gastro.org
Website: <http://www.ddw.org/>

Endo Live Roma 2014

When: May 22-23, 2014
Location: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy
Organizer: Prof. Guido Costamagna
Email: info@endoliveroma.it
Website: <http://www.endoliveroma.it/>
Special Note: A reduction of 20% is applied on the registration fee when registering online at <http://www.endoliveroma.it/> as "WGO Members".

47th Annual Meeting of ESPGHAN

When: June 9-12, 2014
Location: Jerusalem, Israel
Organizer: European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Telephone: +44(0)845-1800-360
Email: Espghan2014@mci-group.com
Website: <http://www.espghan.med.up.pt/>

WGO Train the Trainers in Colonoscopy

When: June 11-13, 2014
Location: Wolverhampton, UK
Organizers: World Gastroenterology Organisation and British Society of Gastroenterology
Website: <http://www.worldgastroenterology.org/train-the-trainers-future-workshops.html>

12th National Congress of the Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology

When: June 12-14, 2014
Location: National Palace of Culture, Sofia, Bulgaria
Organizer: Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology
Website: http://bsg.bg/bg/National_Congress_2014.html

Annual Congress (SED 2014)

When: June 14-16, 2014
Location: Valencia, Spain
Organizer: Sociedad Española de Patología Digestiva (SEPD)
Website: <http://www.sepd.es>

7th Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting (Enugu 2014)

When: June 17-20 2014
Location: Coal City, Enugu
Organizer: Society for Gastroenterology & Hepatology In Nigeria (SOGHIN)
Website: <http://www.soghin.org/new/conference.php>

Course on Advances in Gastroenterology

When: July 2-4, 2014
Location: Santiago, Chile
Organizer: Sociedad Chilena de Gastroenterología
Website: <http://sociedadgastro.cl/curso-de-avances-en-gastroenterologia-2014/>

APPLE 2014

When: July 11-13, 2014
Location: The Grand Hotel
Address: No. 1, Sec.4, Zhongshan N. Rd, Zhongshan Dist., Taipei City, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
Organizer: The Chinese Oncology Society of Taiwan
Telephone: +886-2-8502-7087
Fax: +886-2-8502-7025
Email: secretariat@2014applecongress.org
Website: <http://www.2014applecongress.org>

WGO Train the Trainers Workshop

When: August 31-September 3, 2014
Location: Cape Town, South Africa
Organizers: World Gastroenterology Organisation and South African Gastroenterology Society
Website: <http://www.worldgastroenterology.org/train-the-trainers-future-workshops.html>

XXVI ISUCRS BIENNIAL CONGRESS 2014

When: September 4-7, 2014
Location: Cape Town, South Africa
Organizers: International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons in association with the South African Gastroenterology Society, South African Society of Endoscopic Surgeons, South African Colorectal Society, South African Stomalthrapy Association and the South African Gastrointestinal Nurses Society
Telephone: +27 41 374 5654
Fax: +27 41 373 2042
Email: isucrs2014@easternsun.co.za
Website: <http://www.isucrs2014.co.za/>

New Advances in Inflammatory Bowel Disease**When:** September 6-7, 2014**Location:** Hilton San Diego Resort, San Diego, California, USA**Organizer:** Scripps Conference Services & CME**Website:** <http://www.scripps.org/events/new-advances-in-inflammatory-bowel-disease-september-6-2014>**XXIII Congress of the Latin American Association for the Study of the Liver****When:** September 11-13, 2014**Location:** Cancun, Mexico**Organizers:** Asociación Latinoamericana para el Estudio del Hígado, Asociación Mexicana De Hepatología**Email:** Aleh2014@kenes.com**Website:** <http://www.aleh2014.com>**The 2nd World Congress on Controversies in Gastroenterology (CIGI)****When:** September 12-14, 2014**Location:** Xi'an, China**Organizer:** ComtecMed**Email:** cigi@comtecmed.com**Website:** <http://www.comtecmed.com/cigi/2014/>**XVI Congress of the Polish Society of Gastroenterology****When:** September 24-27, 2014**Location:** Wroclaw, Poland**Organizer:** Polish Society of Gastroenterology**Website:** <http://www.ptg-e.org.pl>**Pan-American Week of GI Diseases (SPED)****When:** October 6-9, 2014**Location:** Hilton Buenos Aires**Address:** Av. Macacha Guemes 351, Buenos Aires, C1106BKG, Argentina**Organizers:** Inter-American Gastroenterological Association (AIGE), Federación Argentina De Gastroenterología (FAGE), Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), Interamerican Society of Digestive Endoscopy (SIED), The Argentina Federation of Digestive Endoscopy (FAAED),
Website: <http://www.gastro2014.com/ingles/index.php>**XX Russian Gastroenterological Week****When:** October 6-8, 2014**Location:** RANEPА**Address:** Prospect Vernadskogo, 82 Moscow, Russian Federation 119571**Organizer:** Russian Gastroenterological Association**Telephone:** +7 926 528 86 48**Fax:** +7 499 248 36 10**Email:** gastro@orc.ru**Website:** <http://www.gastro.ru>**ACG 2014 Annual Scientific Meeting and Postgraduate Course****When:** October 17-22, 2014**Location:** Pennsylvania Convention Center**Address:** 1101 Arch St, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA**Organizer:** American College of Gastroenterology (ACG)**Website:** <http://www.gi.org>**United European Gastroenterology Week (UEGW)****When:** October 18-22, 2014**Location:** Vienna, Austria**Organizer:** United European Gastroenterology (UEG)**Email:** office@ueg.eu**Website:** <https://www.ueg.eu/week/>**JDDW 2014 – Japan Digestive Disease Week 2014****When:** October 23-26, 2014**Location:** Kobe, Japan**Organizer:** Organization of JDDW**Email:** kobe2014@jddw.jp**Website:** <http://www.jddw.jp/jddw2014/en/index.html>**The 32nd World Congress of Internal Medicine (WCIM 2014)****When:** October 24-28, 2014**Location:** COEX World Trade Center**Address:** 159 Samseong-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea**Organizer:** The International Society of Internal Medicine (ISIM)**E-mail:** wcim2014@intercom.co.kr**Website:** <http://www.wcim2014.org>**APDW 2014 Bali****When:** November 22-25, 2014**Location:** Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center**Address:** Kawasan Pariwisata Nusa Dua Lot NW/1, Nusa dua, Bali, Indonesia**Organizers:** Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology, Indonesian Society of Digestive Endoscopy, Indonesian Society of Digestive Surgeons, Indonesian Association for the Study of the Liver**Telephone:** +65 63464402**Fax:** +65 63464403**Email:** Secretariat@apdw2014.org**Website:** <http://www.apdw2014.org/>**Gastro 2015 AGW-WGO International Congress****When:** September 28-October 2, 2015**Location:** Brisbane, Australia**Organizers:** Gastroenterological Society of Australia and World Gastroenterology Organisation**Email:** info@worldgastroenterology.org

Highlighted events represent WGO Member Society events. For a full listing of events, please visit <http://www.worldgastroenterology.org/major-meetings.html>

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Are you a WGO Member Society wanting to share your event with WGO readers? Visit <http://www.worldgastroenterology.org/submit-event.html> to submit your event for publication in WGO's website conference calendar as well as the quarterly *e-WGN* calendar of events!