The BJD 2008 WORLD NETWORK CONFERENCE and PATIENT ADVOCACY SEMINAR in INDIA

Planning for this year’s Bone and Joint Decade World Network Conference and Patient Advocacy Seminar is in full progress, and invitations have been sent. The events will be held in Pune, India, relatively near Mumbai. Beginning on the 28th November and going through the 1st December, 2008. The Hotel Sun-n-Sand in Pune will be this year’s congress venue. http://www.sunnsandhotel.com/pune/about_us.htm

Dr Arvind Chopra, NAN coordinator in India, bjdindia@dataone.in will be hosting the meetings in India.

The official registration information have been sent to each National Action Network (NAN) for two delegates to attend – the coordinator or another NAN representative and a patient representative. All delegates of the Patient Advocacy Meeting will be automatically registered for the Network Conference as well.

One of the themes of this year’s Network conference is: “Childhood Arthritis” with a specific symposium chaired by Dr Ross Petty from Canada, and with Prof. Prudence Manners from Perth, Australia as well as local speakers contributing. It will be the first time that the Bone and Joint Decade will focus on Paediatric Musculoskeletal Conditions in a Network meeting.

Please visit http://www.bjdonline.org/default.aspx?contid=1965 to view the programmes of the Network Conference and the Patient Advocacy Seminar.

Reminder: The registration deadline is September 15, 2008 but we would appreciate an early reply of your intention to attend. It is important that each Network will attend with one NAN representative and one patient representative in Pune. The discussions on BJD beyond 2010 and the planning for the BJD World Network Conference 2009 in Washington DC, will be ongoing in India.

The Patient Advocacy Seminar will begin on Friday, November 28, and continue on Saturday, November 29. The Network Conference will start with a Banquet on the evening of Saturday, November 29, with the meeting itself taking place on November 30 and December 1, Sunday and Monday.

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In addition, the BJD World Network Conference will be linked to the Annual Meeting of the Indian Rheumatology Association (IRANCON 2008), on 26-29 November.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Pune, India.

Mark the dates:

BJD Patient Advocacy Seminar
Friday & Saturday, 28-29 Nov 2008

BJD World Network Conference
Sunday & Monday, 30 Nov-1 Dec

Venue: Hotel Sun-N-Sand, Pune, India

Start planning your attendance now, and watch for further announcements on www.bjdonline.org

Please contact the BJD Secretariat bjd@med.lu.se for any enquiries.

International Steering Committee meeting

The BJD International Steering Committee met in Milan, Italy on May 10 – 11, 2008. The meeting first focused on the further planning of the programme for the meeting in India. Discussions then moved on to the main issue of The BJD beyond 2010 – a continuation of our work. This is based on a summary of the breakout sessions at the BJD World Network Conference 2007 in Australia. Two groups of the ISC members discussed a revised plan and the two proposals will be merged to one document.

A few points that came up during the group discussions were:

- A Global Musculoskeletal Forum for musculoskeletal organisations is a necessary platform
- Regional collaboration is necessary
- Establish BJD Regional Councils in each of the world regions
- Continue with national networks and coordinators

BJD 2009 World Network Conference and Patient Advocacy Meeting, October 21-25, 2009
Washington DC, USA

The USBJD will host our 2009 annual international meeting of physicians and researchers from many musculoskeletal science disciplines, as well as patient advocates. The planning for the meeting is well underway. For more information please contact Toby King at the USBJD on tobyking@usbjd.org

BJD lecture Series

June eLecture: The Do’s and Don'ts in Total Knee Arthroplasty

This month we are honoured to be able to share a key lecture. Dr Leo A. Whiteside, Executive Director of the Missouri Bone & Joint Research Foundation, presents The Do’s and Don’ts in Total Knee Arthroplasty. Dr. Whiteside, an internationally known orthopaedic surgeon, inventor and educator is recognized as one of the world’s foremost authorities on osteo-integration technology in total knee and hip arthroplasty. To view this web cast please go to http://www.ortopediveckan.se/soffilm/err/index_l eo_whiteside.htm

Winners of the 2008 BJD Award and Scholarships to Support Cartilage Research in OA

We are delighted to announce that the 2nd BJD Award for Clinical and Experimental Cartilage Research in Osteoarthritis of 25,000 Euro will go to Prof Thomas Aigner, MD, DSc, University of Leipzig, Germany.
The official BJD Award will be given during the BJD World Network Conference in Pune, India, November 29 – December 1, 2008.

In addition, two BJD Scholarships have been awarded to support ongoing research and educational activities for younger scientists. These scholarships of 2500 Euro each will go to:

**Dr Rana S Hinman, BPhysio (Hons), PhD, Australia**

**Dr Qiang Fu, People’s Republic of China**

The BJD Award and Scholarship programme to promote documented research and ongoing projects in experimental or clinical cartilage research in osteoarthritis is sponsored by the International Gelita Health Initiative (GHI).


**First UN Summit on Global Road Safety Approved**

At a meeting on March 31, 2008 of the United Nations General Assembly attended by Drs Marcos E Musafir, and Wahid Al-Kharusi, members of the BJD International Steering Committee, the UN approved the first ever global conference on road safety, which will focus on reducing the rapidly growing death toll on the world's roads.

The UN Conference, with participation at least at Ministerial level, will be held in Moscow next year. The decision by the UN General Assembly marks a major victory for the BJD Global Road Safety and the Make Roads Safe campaigns, which have advocated for such high-level focus on the issue since the start of the Decade.

From the left Dr Marcos E Musafir and Prof Bruce D Browner, BJD Ambassador

Please click [here](http://www.bjdonline.org/default.aspx?contId=1888) to read more

**NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK NEWS**

**CUBA**: Prof. Dr. Sc. Rodrigo Álvarez Cambras, BJD coordinator and President, The Cuban Society of Orthopedics and Traumatology announced that the International Cuban Congress on Orthopedics and Traumatology “Orthopedics 2008” will be held on September 15-20, 2008. For more
information on the congress http://ortopedia2008.sld.cu or contact him at cambras@fpais.sld.cu for more information.

**ESTONIA:** The Estonian NAN coordinator changed on May 1, 2008. Dr Karin Laas, rheumatologist from East-Tallinn Central Hospital, has begun again coordinating the work of BJD in Estonia. Previously she was the coordinator from 2004 - 2006. We welcome her back and at the same time we extend our thanks to Dr Maria Yprus who replaced Dr Laas during this period. For more information please contact: karin.laas@itk.ee

**HUNGARY:** The Hungarian Action Network took an important part in the organisation of REHA Hungary, also this year. REHA Hungary is a regular two days event at Budapest, a rehabilitation exhibition and fair including cultural programs, round table discussions, CME courses, health advising and screening programs with the participation of the representatives of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Welfare, and National Health Insurance.

The Hungarian NAN had its own stand in the exhibition, where osteoporosis screening including bone mineral density measurement, medical advice, educational material about preventive exercises, etc were all available. The main topic of this year was prevention and rehabilitation in diseases characteristic for older age, and especially multi-morbidity in the elderly.

The Hungarian NAN organised two multidisciplinary CME courses, one for general practitioners and specialists, and one for physiotherapists and took part in others with the main topics of drug interaction in the elderly, similarities in the pathogenesis of arteriosclerosis, osteoarthritis and osteoporosis; common prevention of cardiovascular and musculoskeletal diseases, prevention of falls and accidents in the elderly etc.

Géza BÁLINT, NAN coordinator, gave an overview about the national and international achievements of the Decade and about the future plans and perspectives. 3500 people - mostly persons with disabilities and their families, and some health professionals attended the REHA Hungary.

The Hungarian Bone and Joint Decade Foundation issued the 4th volume of its patient’s education series, this time, about osteoarthritis. The previous volumes published earlier were about osteoporosis, low back pain, rheumatoid arthritis and rheumatic diseases. SpringMed Publisher publishes the series. The osteoporosis and low back pain, and rheumatic diseases volume is so popular, that second edition has been required. For more information please contact bjd@t-online.hu

**POLAND:** Prof Jacek Kruczynski, NAN coordinator, organised a conference on Prevention and Treatment of Injuries in ‘Ball-and-Net’ Racquet sports, which was held on June 12-13, 2008 in Bydgoszcz, Poland in connection with BJD Poland National Action Network. There was a mini-symposium: “Health related problems in aging athletes – Physical activity after arthroplasty”. For more info jacek@rose.man.poznan.pl

**SWEDEN:** The Swedish Inheritance Fund has granted means for a third year of Sweden NAN BJD project.

The “Straighten Up Sweden” campaign has now reached about 50 primary schools and 20 local branches of patient’s organizations, and the information leaflet has been sent to all schools in Sweden by the end of April.
Stand tall throughout life!
That’s the message on the newly produced card with information to patients on how important it is to check your body length as an indicator of vertebral fractures associated with the presence of osteoporosis.

The card is now being distributed to important stakeholders and could be requested for local printing from the BJD office, bjd@med.lu.se

USA:
1st Advances in Rare Bone Diseases
During the last two decades there have been significant advances in the treatment and understanding of the most prevalent bone diseases, osteoporosis and Paget’s disease of bone. However, the situation regarding rare bone diseases is very different. There is much work to be done to better understand the science related to these diseases and to develop treatments.

To address the situation the US Bone and Joint Decade in partnership with the Rare Bone Disease Patient Network has organized a conference, “1st Advances in Rare Bone Diseases” to take place October 23-24, 2008, at the National Institutes of Health. For information on the conference, email usbjd@usbjd.org

Dr Marcos Musafir and Dr Wahid Al-Kharusi were invited by Mr Toby King, USBJD, to represent BJD International at the Rare Bone Disease Patient Network Meeting, held under the auspices of USBJD at the National Arts Club in New York. Dr Musafir gave a speech on behalf of the BJD and congratulated them for their initiative to focus on these diseases. Paediatric musculoskeletal conditions are one of the BJD focus area.

On 12th of May, Sweden NAN arranged open lectures on the topic of pain and pain management in Gothenburg and Uppsala. For more information please contact Cecilia Carpelan at cecilia.carpelan@reumatikerforbundet.org or info@rorg.se

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**ACT NOW!**

**2008 Call for Nominations; BJD International Awards**

The International Steering Committee has announced the call for nominations for two international programs. The 8th Annual Bone and Joint Decade International Awards will be presented at an awards dinner during the upcoming 2008 BJD World Network Conference, taking place in Pune, India. The second is a call for nominations for Bone and Joint Decade Ambassadors.

Please send the nomination form to the BJD Secretariat, bjd@med.lu.se by September 15, 2008.

**Bone and Joint Decade 2008 International Video Award**

We are pleased to announce the 2nd Annual Bone and Joint Decade International Video Award. This BJD honorary prize was created to recognise the most innovative and creative video presentations produced in member countries aimed at delivering messages to the public about musculoskeletal health. All BJD National Action Networks are invited to submit videos up to five minutes long which they have produced by the Network or by the national health department or other charity for public service and information.

During the 2008 Annual World Network Conference in India all the videos will be featured in a special screening for conference delegates, who will then act as the jury and cast their vote for the five best. Winners will receive an honorary prize, at the end of the conference.

Video messages will be accepted until October 30, 2008 and should be submitted as hard copies (on CD or DVD) to the Bone and Joint Decade Secretariat, attention: Prof Lars Lidgren, Department of Orthopedics, SE-221 85 Lund, Sweden.

For more information please go to http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/default.aspx?contId=1806

**The BJD Action Week**

**October 12 – 20,**

**Every year**

Start planning for the Action Week 2008 Already today!

The days are:
- October 12 - World Arthritis Day
- October 16 - World Spine Day
- October 17 - World Trauma Day
- October 20 - World Osteoporosis Day

**NEW Global Partner for Technical Development**

The BJD is proud to announce the support of GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare as a new global corporate partner for Technical Development. To learn more about GSK Consumer Healthcare, visit www.gsk.com

Our current status:

96 BJD National Coordinators
62 Supporting Governments
61 National Action Networks

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NEW e-mail address to the BJD Secretariat

The Bone and Joint Decade Secretariat has a new email address: bjd@med.lu.se

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

Next Infoletter
Will be sent on August 31. For information to be included, please submit before August 16.

We wish you all a nice Summer!

Global Corporate partners for research and education

Global Corporate partners for technical development