e-NewsLetter March 2013

Editors Section

We would like to draw your attention to the 18th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISCP which will be held in Rome from 28 to 30 June 2013. Information regarding the meeting – including the preliminary programme, registration and abstract details – is available on the dedicated event website: www.iscp2013.com. Please note that the deadline for early bird registration is the 15th April 2013 and the abstract submission deadline is 6th of May 2013. Information on abstract submission is available at ISCP 2013 ABSTRACTS. The Rome meeting encompasses both the scientific sessions of the ISCP and its administrative activities, i.e. meetings of Board of Directors, Board of Governors and General Assembly. The latter has on its agenda the adoption of an updated set of Statutes and the election of new Office Bearers.

This year there will be a joint ISCP and ESC session at the ESC Congress in Amsterdam in 2013. The session “Is there a role for non-statin based treatments in dyslipidaemia?” will be held from 08:00-10:00 on Wednesday 4 September. Please support the session by promoting it to your colleagues and staff and attending.

We would like to remind you that the first book in the series on Current Cardiovascular Therapy - Antiplatelet and Anticoagulation Therapy by Albert Ferro and David A Garcia is available for purchase from Springer as an eBook or in soft cover.

Please submit any articles, news or information on upcoming conferences or meetings for the June 2013 Newsletter to lisa.demos@monash.edu by the 22nd of May, 2013.

Editors: John McNeil & Lisa Demos

President’s Section

Preparations are going ahead for the ISCP Annual Meeting in Rome. The scientific programme is truly excellent and we have appointed an outstanding International Faculty. It is now imperative that Governors and Board members ensure a good participation. Please do encourage your colleagues to join us in Rome and your junior doctors and research fellows to submit their abstracts for the poster sessions and enter the Young Investigator Award competition (3 prizes totalling Euros 1,000.00). There are lower cost packages planned for junior doctors, nurses, student and trainees as ISCP would like to see a large group of young people taking part in the scientific event. Please log in to get more information regarding our Annual Meeting which promises to be an outstanding event (LINK to meeting website).

We have appointed new ISCP Governors this year; Prof Y Rozenman (Israel) and Prof M Volterrani (Italy) replace Prof Tenenbaum and Prof Naccarella, respectively, who have now completed their terms in office. On behalf of ISCP I would like to express our gratitude to Prof. Naccarella and Tenenbaum for their contributions to the Society throughout these years and hope they will continue their collaboration with ISCP on a different capacity in years to come.

Congratulations also to all our recent Governor appointments, which include:

- Dr Luis Gerardo Rodriguez Plaza, Governor for Venezuela
- Dr Roberto Fernandez de Castro, Governor for the Dominican Republic
- Prof Germanas Mariniskis, Governor for Lithuania
- Dr Zlatko Fraz, Governor for Slovenia
- Prof Ashot N. Hovhannesyan, Governor for Armenia
- Prof Assen Goudev, Governor for Bulgaria
- Prof Josef Kautzner, Governor for Czech Republic
- Prof Oskars Kalejs, Governor for Latvia
- Prof Celso Amodeo, Governor for Brazil

ISCP continues to grow rapidly in different areas and its educational programmes have now been implemented in different geographical regions, with the help of our Governors. Several meetings have been organised and/or endorsed by the Society, which have attracted large audiences. I am delighted to see that ISCP currently represents an important forum for discussion of issues related to CV pharmacotherapy worldwide and is being recognized by large academic institutions and scientific societies as a major player in the field. Thank you to all of you for your continuing support to our activities.

Please do encourage your colleagues to visit our website and join the ISCP to take advantage of our scientific activities.

Best wishes for 2013
Juan Carlos Kaski
The 18th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISCP will be held this year at the NH Vittorio Veneto Hotel in Rome. The organising committee includes Juan Carlos Kaski- President/Organising Co-Chair; George A. Dan- President-Elect/Organising Co-Chair; Maurizio Volterrani- Organising Co-Chair; Giuseppe Rosano, Organising Co-Chair; Robert Rogers-Meeting Advisor and the programme includes almost 40 speakers from across the globe.

Abstracts: Research Abstracts are invited for the Poster presentations during the Congress. Please note that all topics related to cardiovascular disease are acceptable, but abstracts dealing with cardiovascular pharmacotherapy issues are especially welcome. Authors of the latter can apply for the ISCP Young Investigator Award if they meet the established criteria.

The ISCP Young Investigator Award: The ISCP has instituted three Young Investigator Awards, to be presented to the authors of the three best posters on topics related to cardiovascular pharmacotherapy, presented at the Scientific Meeting. Candidates should be less than 35 years of age at the time of the meeting. First prize is an Award certificate and 500 Euros; Second prize is an Award certificate and 300 Euros; and Third prize is an Award certificate and 200 Euros. Posters have to be written in the English language. Closing date for entries is 6th May. See meeting link http://www.iscp2013.com/ for further information.

The Scientific Program includes:

Friday 28 June
15.00 – 16.30 Registration
16.30 – 18.00 Satellite Symposia and Scientific Sessions Sponsored by National Societies

Saturday 29 June
08:00– 08:30 Registration
08:30 – Opening remarks – JC Kaski, President, ISCP
08:40 – Welcome – M Volterrani, President of Local Organising Committee
Session 1 – Cardiovascular Disease Prevention - Pharmacological Strategies – Chairs: Z Fras (Lubljana) and F Crea (Rome)
08:45 Cardiovascular disease prevention beyond statins – J McNeil (Melbourne)
09:05 HDL- Still a therapeutic target? – L Badimon (Barcelona)
09:45 Fibrates and niacin: Any place in clinical practice? – A Wierzbicki (London)
10:05 Round table discussion
Session 2 – Cardiovascular Therapy: Expert Opinion – Chairs: A Oto (Ankara) F Romeo (Rome) and G Rosano (Rome)
10:25 Cardiovascular drug therapy in pregnancy: what to use and what to avoid? – D Adamson (Coventry)
10:45 New anticoagulants in AF – Pros and Cons – Y Rozenman (Tel Aviv)
11.05 Cardioprotection with antidiabetic drugs. Myth or reality? – F Pelliccia (Rome)
11.25 Round table discussion
11:45 Coffee break
Session 3 – Pharmacotherapy in Angina Pectoris – Chairs: A Goudev (Sofia) and JC Kaski (London)
11:45 Ivabradine, Trimetazidine and beyond – M Marzilli (Pisa)
12:05 Interventional vs. medical treatment for stable angina – P Avanzas (Oviedo)
12:25 Pharmacotherapy for microvascular angina – P Ong (Stuttgart)
12:45 Round Table Discussion
13:00 Lunch and Poster session
Session 4 - Expert Opinion in pharmacotherapy: from evidence based guidelines to real life practice – Chairs: F Martinez (Cordoba) and D Tziakas (Alexandroupolis)
14:15 Combination therapy in hypertension: a sensible option? – S Taddei (Pisa)
14:35 Are ACE-I and ARBs interchangeable? – P Perrone-Filardi (Napoli)
14:55 The Polypill: Therapeutic panacea? – C Torp-Pedersen (Copenhagen)
15:15 Any role for beta blockers in hypertension? – T Kahan (Stockholm)
15:35 Round Table Discussion
15:45 Coffee break
17:00 Sponsored Symposium 1
18.15  Sponsored Symposium 2
20:30  Dinner

Sunday 30 June
Session 1  –  HOW TO...? – Chairs: D Cokkinos (Athens), A Bayes de Luna (Barcelona) and J Camm (London)
08:30  Use NSAIDS safely in CAD patients? – J Tamargo (Madrid)
08:50  Manage atrial fibrillation in 2013? – GA Dan (Bucharest)
09:10  Prevent stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation? – A Martinez Rubio (Barcelona)
09:30  Round Table Discussion

Session 2  –  DEBATE - All antiplatelet offers similar benefits in the management of ACS patients – Are the current guidelines wrong? Chairs: M Volterrani (Rome) and A Gallino (Bellinzona)
10:00  Pro – A Ferro (London)
10:15  Against – M Tubaro (Rome)
10:00  Rebuttal 1
10:10  Rebuttal 2
10:20  Conclusion – M Volterrani and A Gallino

Session 3  –  Coffee and Moderated Posters

Session 4  –  ISCP/CVCT JOINT SESSION ON HEART FAILURE – Chair: F Zannad (Paris) and F Martinez (Cordoba)
11:30  New agents and new targets? – F Zannad (Paris)
11:50  Drugs for AF in patients with heart failure – J Camm (London)
12:10  Management of acute decompensated HF: Why and where have we failed? – S Anker (Berlin)
12:30  Why lowering heart rate works? The role of ivabradine in HF management – L Tavazzi (Cotignola)
12:50  Discussion
13:15  Lunch and Posters
14:15  Young Investigator Award- Presentation of prizes – J M Volterrani and M Volterrani
14:45  Sponsored Symposia
18:30  Concluding Remarks – JC Kaski, G Dan and M Volterrani

Registration for the congress is now open on the website, with a special reduced rate for ISCP Full Members, Students, Trainees, Nurses, and Attendees under 35 years, Abstract Presenters and ISCP Junior Members. Some great hotel and registration packages to suit all budgets are also available on the website by going to ISCP 2013 REGISTRATION.

... from the ISCP Governors

Eduardo Rivas-Estany, the ISCP Governor of Cuba and President of the Cuban Society of Cardiology would like to invite all the professionals engaged in the field of cardiovascular diseases to gather in Havana, Cuba, from June 3rd to 6th 2014 during the VIII Cuban Congress of Cardiology. The title of the congress is "Cardiovascular Diseases: Our challenge in the Century XXI" and themes include prevention, diagnostic techniques, medical, and surgical intervention and rehabilitation. The diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmias with cardiac stimulation will be also included.

Further information is available on the official website of the Congress: www.cardiologiacuba.com.

Vladimir Popov, the ISCP Governor for Russia provided the following information and photographs on Russia’s and Ukraine’s simultaneous live sessions as part of the IX CardioVascular Clinical Trialists Forum Workshops held in Paris last year.

On 30 November 2012 a workshop “Topical Issues of Clinical Trials in Cardiology” included the Non-Governmental Healthcare Institution, Research clinical centre of JSC Russian Railways and the Central Clinical Hospital No. 1 of JSC Russian Railways from Moscow. At the workshops the use of antithrombotic and anti-diabetic medical products were discussed. The workshop was organized by Non-Governmental Healthcare Institution - Research clinical centre of JSC Russian Railways within the framework of CardioVascular Clinical Trialists Forum (CVCTlive with Moscow, Russia) and under the guidance of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), the International Society of Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy (ISCP), the National Society of Atherothrombosis, and with the support of the pharmaceutical company Egis PLC (Hungary) and the Russian Society of Cardiology (RSC).

All participants of the workshop were able to ask leading world experts in cardiology clinical trials questions. They also had the opportunity to share their experience with colleagues and participate in discussions with the leading specialists.
The workshop was organized by "Your Doctor" Scientific Medical Centre with the support of L.T. Malaya Research and Development Therapy Institute of Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine and Contract Research Organization ESMAR. Investigators-cardiologists of the leading clinic of Kharkov, employees of pharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations took part in the event.

The participants received certificates on their participation in the Workshop.

Koji Yamaguchi, ISCP Governor for Japan has provided the following article: Possible protective role of incretin hormones in cardiovascular diseases from Prof Koichi Node who is serving as a deputy Governor of Japan for ISCP, and his college Dr Jun-ichi Oyama, Saga University, Department of Cardiovascular Medicine.

Type 2 diabetes (T2DM) is a major risk factor for cardiovascular disease and a critical problem in accordance with increasing the numbers of patients with T2DM worldwide because cardiovascular complications represent the primary source of morbidity and mortality in diabetic subjects. Recently, incretin hormones and the associated drugs, including glucagon-like peptide-1(GLP-1) analogue and dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitor, have become available as new drugs for T2DM.

GLP-1 stimulates insulin, inhibits glucagon secretion in a glucose-dependent manner, and also inhibits gastric emptying and reduces appetite, actions that contribute to improved glycaemic control. DPP-4 is the enzyme responsible for GLP-1 inactivation. Several GLP-1 receptor agonists, and DPP-4 inhibitors, the enzyme responsible for GLP-1 inactivation, have been developed as therapeutic agents for the treatment of T2DM. Besides much easier glycaemic control than conventional drugs, incretin-based treatment, including GLP-1R activation and DPP-4 inhibition exert multiple cardioprotective actions in preclinical animal models or patients with cardiovascular disease.

Recently, we reported that liraglutide, GLP-1 analogue, decreases the production of TNF-alpha-induced oxidative stress, inhibits the expression of NF-kB, and upregulates the expression of SOD-2 and catalas in human umbilical vein endothelial cells (1). Sitagliptin, one of DPP-4 inhibitors, also attenuated the high-fat diet-induced atherosclerosis in apoE-knockout mice (2). Therefore, GLP-1-based therapy may attenuate the atherosclerogenesis regardless of glycaemic control. In vivo study, DPP-4 inhibition reversed diastolic heart failure through the stromal cell-derived factor-1–dependent/cAMP-dependent mechanisms in diabetic rat (3). In humans, sitagliptin increased circulating endothelial progenitor cells (EPC) in patients with TY2DM (4). Based on these findings, incretin hormones and the associated drugs have the pivotal cardioprotective effects in vitro and in vivo.

However, few large-scale trials about the cardioprotective effects of incretin-based drugs in humans have been reported until today, and randomized large-scale trials would be ideal.

Therefore, PROLOGUE (Program of vascular evaluation under glucose control by DPP-4 inhibitor) study has been ongoing now in Japan, whose purpose is to compare the effects of sitagliptin with conventional diabetic drugs on the atherosclerosis of carotid arteries in patients with TY2DM. This trial is designed to evaluate the carotid intima-media thickness (IMT) by using ultrasonography, plasma levels of cardiovascular biochemical markers and also the incidence of cardiovascular events in T2DM over a period of two years. The results from this trial will be vital for determining the possible effects of incretin hormones beyond the glycaemic control.

In summary, animal and preclinical studies illustrate multiple cardioprotective actions of incretin-based therapy, and have not revealed evidence for adverse effects on cardiac function. Unfortunately, the safety of incretin-based therapies in older subjects with a long duration of T2DM and established cardiovascular disease so far remains unknown. Although many of the actions of GLP-1R agonists and DPP-4 inhibitors on cardiovascular risk factors, blood vessels, and heart might be predicted to reduce cardiovascular risk, the clinical results of multiple ongoing cardiovascular outcome studies will establish the place of incretin-based therapies in the treatment paradigm of T2DM and cardiovascular disease.


The Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy (CDT) Journal - official journal of ISCP

The first issue of Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy for 2013 (CDT issue 27:1) has been published online and has been distributed. Issue 27:2 is expected to be published in late March or early April with an April 2013 cover date. CDT includes peer-reviewed articles on basic pharmacology, clinical pharmacotherapy, clinical trials, pharmacoconomics and pharmaco-epidemiology of novel and established therapeutic agents in a wide range of cardiovascular disease areas.

To access the journal Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy through the ISCP website log in with your username and password and click on the JOURNAL link.

News from World Heart Federation (WHF)

Global leaders in cardiovascular disease health: Two of the world’s leading experts in cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention and control have been elected to the World Heart Federation. They are Prof Srinath K Reddy, MD, DM, MSc who took over as President and Prof Salim Yusuf, DPhil, FRCPC, FRSC who is the President Elect.

New Lancet series supports the inclusion of CVD and other NCDs in the post-2015 development agenda, aligning with World Heart Federation objectives.

Upcoming Meetings, Courses & Workshops 2013
(Highlighted meetings have been organised or endorsed by ISCP)

**TRENDS 2013**
1-2 March 2013
Frankfurt, Germany

**ACC. 13**
9-11 March, 2013
San Francisco, USA

**Hypertrophic & Restrictive Cardiomyopathy: Genetics, Imaging and Emerging Treatments in Adult and Pediatric Patients**
13 March, 2013
New York, USA

**Japanese Circulation Society 77th Meeting 2013**
15-17 March, 2013
Yokohama, Japan

**3D ECHO Intensive Course**
18-22 March, 2013
Padua, Italy

**33rd ISICEM**
19-22 March, 2013
Brussels, Belgium

**China Interventional Therapeutics 2013**
20-23 March, 2013
Beijing, China

**9th International Congress of Update in Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery**
21-24 March, 2013
Antalya, Turkey

**Monaco/USA Arrhythmia Course**
21-23 March, 2013
Monaco

**EuroHeartCare**
22-23 March, 2013
Glasgow, UK

**Cardio Athena 2013 - International Meeting on Cardiovascular Medicine**
29-30 March, 2013
Athens, Greece

**EuroPRevent 2013**
18-20 April, 2013
Rome, Italy

**Mediterranean Cardiology Meeting**
20-22 April, 2013
Catania, Italy

**60th International Conference of the Israel Heart Society**
22-23 April, 2013
Jerusalem, Israel

**11th PASCAR Congress & 4th All African Conference on Heart Disease, Stroke and Diabetes**
15-20 May, 2013
Dakar, Senegal

**81st EAC Congress**
2-5 June, 2013
Lyon, France

**British Cardiovascular Society Annual Conference 2013**
3-5 June, 2013
London, England

**iCi 2013**
26 June, 2013
Frankfurt, Germany
CSI 2013
27-29 June, 2013
Frankfurt, Germany

18th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISCP
28-30 June, 2013
Rome, Italy

ESC Congress 2013
31 August - 4 September, 2013
Amsterdam, Netherlands

24th Great Wall International Congress of Cardiology
10-13 October, 2013
Beijing, China

American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2013
16-20 November, 2013
Dallas, Texas, USA

Global CVCT Forum and Workshop
6-9 December, 2013
Paris, France

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