

# ADA News and Meetings

## Food-Label Reform

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is actively involved in the current wave of food-label reform. A well-balanced, low-fat diet has long been recommended to the general public as a means of maintaining good health—but it is essential to diabetic patients in the management of their disorder. The ADA believes that accessible, understandable food labeling is essential to effective diabetes management, and is actively participating in the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) search for a better food label.

The debate in Congress and within the FDA has been ongoing. The current food-labeling format has not been revised since 1973, the year manufacturers started providing nutritional information on packaging. With the passage of the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990, labeling became mandatory for all foods, and the FDA began work on a new, more readable and understandable label format.

With the new format will come some new terms—the *Daily Value* (DV) and *Recommended Daily Value* (RDV). One proposal has the manufacturer providing the DV and the percentage of the DV that its product provides. The ADA supports this proposal because it would put nutritional information about the product in the context of the overall daily food intake, but the ADA also suggests some modifications. Under the suggested guidelines, the RDV would be based on a daily caloric intake of 2350

calories. The ADA maintains that these values can be misleading because caloric intakes vary from individual to individual. An alternative would be to provide a formula so that each person could calculate his or her own RDV, and, in turn, the DV that he or she is getting from a product. If providing a formula is not feasible, the ADA strongly advocates including a footnote on the label that would read "Your DV may be higher or lower, depending on your calorie needs." Another alternative the ADA suggests is providing a range of RDVs, but this has numerous drawbacks, the most obvious being the potential for a cluttered label.

The language of food has sparked many a debate. What is good, what is bad? What do high and low mean? ADA is an advocate of the total diet philosophy. Good and bad foods do not exist per se; however, good and bad diets do. Such a philosophy demands that each food be examined in the context of the overall diet, and that the new food labels be sensitive to this issue. The ADA maintains that the words "good" and "bad" and "high" and "low" have no place in food labeling because the focus should be on total diet, not individual foods. ADA also is lobbying to use the words "Nutrition Information" on the new label rather than "Nutrition Guide" or "Nutrition Values"—two phrases currently proposed.

The FDA is considering feedback from the ADA and several other health organizations and consumer groups. The FDA plans to publish a final regulation outlining the new format for food labels by 8 November 1992. Consumers

should begin to see labels reflecting the new regulations in late spring of 1993.

## Blood Cholesterol Levels in Children and Adolescents

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the National Institutes of Health; the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and the National Cholesterol Education Program has published the "Report of the Expert Panel on Blood Cholesterol Levels in Children and Adolescents" as part of the National Cholesterol Education Program. To place an order for a free copy, call (301) 951-3260 or write NHLBI Info Center at P.O. Box 30105, Bethesda, MD 20824-0105.

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## ADA Events

### Future Meetings

53rd Annual Meeting: 12–15 June 1993, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV.

40th Postgraduate Course: 22–24 January 1993, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, CA.  
 12th International Diabetes Immunology Workshop: 15–17 April 1993, Orlando Marriott, Orlando, FL.

4th International Symposium on Insulin, IGFs, and their Receptors: 20–23 April 1993, Marine Biological Laboratories, Woods Hole, MA.

For registration and program information, contact the American Diabetes Association, 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Tel: (703) 549-1500, ext. 330 or ext. 215.

### Diabetes: A Rural State's Perspective

The North Dakota Affiliate will hold its 17th Annual Professional Symposium for Physicians and Other Health Care Profes-

sionals titled "Diabetes: A Rural State's Perspective" on 6 November 1992 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. The program will cover topics such as type I diabetes management, pregnancy and diabetes, and diabetes diet and nutrition. For more information, contact Mary Ann Keller, Box 234, 101 North Third, Grand Forks, ND 58206. Tel.: (701) 746-4427; Fax: (701) 746-9337

#### **Consensus Development Conference on Dyslipidemia**

ADA will be holding a consensus development conference on the detection and management of lipid disorders in diabetes 11–13 January 1993. Registration information will be mailed to all ADA professional members in late September. For more information, contact Linda Cann, ADA, 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Tel: 703-549-1500, x215.

#### **Highly Scientific Didactic Lectures and Panel Discussions on Diabetes and Endocrinology**

The Colorado Affiliate, along with the Colorado Society for Endocrinology, is sponsoring the 30th annual Colorado Diabetes/Endocrine Institute presentation of highly scientific didactic lectures and panel discussions on diabetes and endocrinology on 23–30 January 1993 in Aspen-Snowmass, Colorado. For more information contact the American Diabetes Association, Colorado Affiliate, 2450 S. Downing, Denver, Co 80210. Tel: (303) 778-7556.

### *Other Events*

#### **5th World Congress on Diabetes in the Tropics and Developing Countries**

The Diabetic Association of India will sponsor the "5th World Congress on Diabetes in the Tropics and Developing Countries" 31 January–2 February 1993 in Bombay, India. For more information, contact General Secretary, 5th World Congress on Diabetes in the Tropics and Developing Counties, All India Institute of Diabetes, S.L. Raheja Hospital, Ma-

him, Bombay 400 016.India. Telex: 011-78006 RR IN; Fax: 91-22-6498569.

#### **International Symposium on Diabetic Polyneuropathies**

An international symposium on diabetic polyneuropathies to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the University of Erlangen will be held 5–6 March 1993. For more information contact Dr. B. Neundorfer or Dr. D. Claus, Department of Neurology, Schwabachanlage 6, W-8520 Erlangen, Germany. Tel: 09131-854444; Fax: 09131-854436.

#### **Theoretical and Practical Aspects of the Treatment of Diabetic Children**

Congest M. & C. will hold the 4th International Course on "Theoretical and Practical Aspects of the Treatment of Diabetic Children" 20–27 March 1993 in Verona, Italy. For more information contact Congest M. & C., Vicolo S. Silvestro 6, 37122 Verona, Italy. Tel: (045) 597940; Fax: (045) 597265.

#### **5th Postgraduate Course of Endocrinology and 2nd International Symposium on Hypertension**

The Servico de Endocrinologia will hold its 5th Postgraduate Course of Endocrinology and 2nd International Symposium on Hypertension in Granja, Portugal at the Hotel Solverde, 24–26 June 1993. The deadline for all lecture and communication submissions is 31 March 1993. For more information contact Dr. Ignacio Salcedo, Servicio de Endocrinologia, Symposium 93, Hospital Geral de Santo Antonio, 4000 Porto, Portugal. Phone: 200 52 41/200 73 54, ext. 309-1-2-3. Fax: 02-32-03-18.

#### **19th Annual Meeting of the International Study Group of Diabetes in Children and Adolescents**

The International Study Group of Diabetes in Children and Adolescents will hold its annual meeting 2–6 September 1993 in-

the Aegean Sea on board the cruise ship Neptune. For more information, contact Dr. C. Bartsocas, Dept. of Pediatrics, P & A Kyriakou Children's Hospital, GR-11527 Athens, Greece. Fax: 30-1-7796461

#### **29th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes**

The 29th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes will be held 6–9 September 1993 in Istanbul, Turkey. For more information contact Serpil Bagriacik, Osmanli Sok. 23, 80090 Taksim-Istanbul, Turkey. Tel: (90-1) 0 245 04 15; fax: (90-1) 251 75 60.

#### **12th Danube Symposium**

The 12th Danube Symposium on Diabetes Mellitus will be held 7–10 October 1993 in Krakow, Poland. The topics include long-term diabetes complications, insulin therapy, diabetes mellitus in children, and gestational diabetes mellitus. The deadline for registration and abstracts is 1 April 1993. For more information contact Associate Professor Jacek Sieradzki, Department of Endocrinology, Medical Academy in Krakow, 31-501 Krakow, Kopernika 17, Poland. Tel: 48 12 21 01 44; Fax: 48 12 21 40 54.

#### **American Board of Internal Medicine Examinations**

The 1993 Certification and Recertification Examinations in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism will be held 3 November 1993. The registration period is from 1 January 1993 to 1 April 1993. The 1993 Certification Examination for Added Qualifications in Sports Medicine will be held 30 September 1993. The registration period is from 1 September 1992 to 15 January 1993. For more information and applications contact Registration Section, American Board of Internal Medicine, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Tel: 1-800-441-2246; Fax: 1-215-243-1500.

### **15th International Diabetes Federation Congress**

The International Diabetes Federation will hold its 15th annual congress 6–11 November 1994 at the Kobe Convention Center, Kobe, Japan. The congress will focus on prevention of diabetes and clarification of goals to reach by the year 2000. For more information contact S. Ohsata, Kobe Convention Center, 6-9-1, Manatojima-nakamachi, Chuo-Ku, Kobe 650, Japan. Tel: 078-303-0055; Fax: 078-302-7303.

### **International Genetic Collaborative Study**

The Institut de Morphologie Pathologique Loveral, Center for Human Genetics, is starting an international collaborative study. Clinicians with patients who have total lipodystrophy (lipotrophic diabetes, Berardinelli-Seip syndrome) can enter an international genetic collaborative study aimed at localizing the gene responsible for the disease. Participation consists of providing a single blood sampling of affected patients, unaffected siblings, and their parents. For more information contact Dr. Lionel Van Maldergem, Center for Human Genetics, IMPL, Allee des Templiers 41, 6280 Loveral, Belgium. Tel: 0032-71-471520; Fax: 0032-71-471520.

## *ADA Research Awards*

### **ADA Career Development Awards**

ADA Career Development Awards will provide up to \$75,000/yr for 3 yr to support new researchers with 2–5 yr of postdoctoral/postfellowship research experience. Funds are to be divided between salary and other grant support.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutes. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

### **ADA Research Awards**

ADA Research Awards will provide between \$20,000 and \$40,000/yr for 2 yr to assist researchers, new or established, who have a novel, exciting idea for which they need support. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time faculty positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutes. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

### **Clinical Research Grant Program**

The Clinical Research Grant Program provides up to \$70,000/yr for 3 yr for studies that involve humans. Studies must focus on intact human subjects in which the effect of a change in the individual's external or internal environment is evaluated. In vitro research on human blood or tissue samples does not qualify unless there has been a major in vivo intervention, and the protocol is designed specifically to quantitate the effect of the manipulation. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time faculty positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutes. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

## *Research Awards*

### **Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship Program**

Mentor-based Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Awards, in the amount of

\$30,000/yr for 3 yr, are given to support a postdoctoral fellow working with an established diabetes investigator. The investigator must be a U.S. citizen or have permanent residence status and hold an appointment at a U.S. research institution. The fellow must have an MD or PhD and no more than 3 yr of postdoctoral research experience. The application deadline is 9 October 1992 for 1 July 1993 funding. For more information and applications contact the American Diabetes Association, 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Tel: 703-549-1500, ext. 362.

### **Lions SightFirst Diabetic Retinopathy Research Program**

The Lions SightFirst Diabetic Retinopathy Research Program supports clinical or applied research in diabetic retinopathy in the U.S. and abroad. Up to \$40,000/yr for 2 yr will be given to support new treatment regimens, epidemiology, and translation research. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 February 1993.

### **Medical Student Diabetes Research Fellowship Program**

The Medical Student Diabetes Research Fellowship Program will award up to \$4000 for a 3- to 6-mo period to promote medical student interest in careers of diabetes-related clinical or basic research. Applicants must have a qualified sponsor and must have completed at least 1 yr of medical school. The award stipend will be \$3000 to cover the 3- to 6-mo period of research experience, and \$1000 will be made available to the sponsor to defray costs. The deadline for 1 July 1993 funding is 1 March 1993.