

Issues and Updates

ADA Events

46th Annual Postgraduate Course
22–24 January 1999
Orlando, Florida

Sponsorship: American Diabetes Association

Contact: American Diabetes Association, 1660 Duke St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Tel: 800-232-3472, select option 5. Fax: 703-549-1715 or 703-683-1351. E-mail: meetings@diabetes.org. For program information, visit our web site at www.diabetes.org/pg99.

59th Scientific Sessions
19–22 June 1999

San Diego, California

Location: San Diego Convention Center
Sponsorship: American Diabetes Association

Contact: American Diabetes Association, 1660 Duke St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Tel: 800-232-3472, select option 5. Fax: 703-549-1715. E-mail: meetings@diabetes.org.

Other Events

An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Diabetic Foot

8–10 January 1999

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Location: The Doubletree Hotel

Sponsorship: The Western Pennsylvania Hospital and its affiliate, Joslin Center for Diabetes, and the Foot and Ankle Institute of Western Pennsylvania

Contact: Beth Sheedy, Residency Coordinator, The Foot and Ankle Institute of Western Pennsylvania, 4800 Friendship Ave., North Tower, First Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15224. Tel: 412-688-7580. Fax: 412-681-9676.

Clinical Diabetes & Endocrinology in 1999

24–28 January 1999

Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado

Location: Snowmass Conference Center

Contact: Donna Loy, Medical Education Resources. Tel: 800-421-3756. Fax: 303-798-5731. E-mail: mer@dnvr.uswest.net. Web site: www.mer.org.

First International Postgraduate Course on Endocrinology and Diabetes
24–26 February 1999

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Contact: Prof. Antonio Selman-Geara, MD, Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, P.O. Box 20308, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Fax: 809-688-1022.

First Collaborative Meeting of the European Diabetes Epidemiology Group (EDEG) and the Latin American Diabetes Epidemiology Group (GLED)

5–8 April 1999

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Contact: GLED, Secretary, Rodriguez Peña 1838 1^o4, 1021 Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel: 54 1 813 4476. Fax: 54 1 813 9535. E-mail: sereaday@interlink.com.ar.

The 4th Scientific Meeting of the Hypertension in Diabetes EASD Study Group (HID)

23–24 April 1999

Katowice, Poland

Contact: Dr. Peter T. Sawicki, Department of Metabolic Diseases, Heinrich-Heine University of Düsseldorf, P.O. Box 10 10 07, D-40001 Düsseldorf, Germany. Tel: 49-211-811-7836. Fax: 49-211-811-8772. E-mail: sawicki@med.uni-duesseldorf.de.

Seventh WHO/IDF International Seminar on the Epidemiology and Public Health Aspects of Diabetes Mellitus

18–29 July 1999

Cambridge, U.K.

Location: Clare College, Cambridge

Sponsorship: WHO/IDF and the University of Cambridge
Contact: Dr. Nick Wareham, Institute of Public Health, University of Cambridge, Robinson Way, Cambridge, CB2 2SR, U.K. Fax: 44-1223-330330. E-mail: njw1004@medschl.cam.ac.uk. Web site: www.pitt.edu/~akira/CAMB/home.htm.

Seventh World Congress of the International Pancreas & Islet Transplant Association
22–25 August 1999

Sydney, Australia

Contact: Congress Secretariat, GPO Box 2609, Sydney NSW Australia 2001. Tel: 612-9241-1478. Fax: 612-9251-3552. E-mail: reply@icmsaust.com.au.

35th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes

(EASD)

28 September to 2 October 1999

Brussels, Belgium

Location: Brussels Exhibition Centre (the Heysel)

Contact: EASD Secretariat, Merowinger Str. 29, D-40223 Düsseldorf, Germany. Tel: 49 211 316738. Fax: 49 211 3190987. E-mail: easd@uni.duesseldorf.de. Home page: <http://www.uni.duesseldorf.de/WWW/EASD/>.

Announcements

Declaration of the Americas

The Declaration of the Americas on Diabetes (DOTA) is evolving into a movement with the purpose to better the health of people affected by or at risk for diabetes in the Americas by the year 2000 and beyond. In 1998, over 30 million people are estimated to have diabetes in the Americas, a quarter of the total diabetic population for the world. Approximately half of these people are in Latin America and the Caribbean, where the caseload is increasing more rapidly than in North America. This is the challenge the DOTA stakeholders are facing in their efforts to implement the 10-point plan outlined in the DOTA document. The 10 points are as follows:

1. Determine the epidemiology and economic burden of diabetes
2. Establish diabetes strategies
3. Develop and implement diabetes programs
4. Allocate resources for diabetes prevention and management
5. Develop and implement integrated health care model
6. Make available and affordable insulin and other medications
7. Make available diabetes education
8. Promote diabetes public awareness via nongovernmental organizations
9. Implement quality-of-care information systems
10. Stimulate partnerships among stakeholders

Through the DOTA, the nongovernmental and governmental sectors have come together in many of the countries in the Americas. Nongovernmental organizations are now involved with many national diabetes programs and initiatives that are taking place to encourage more interaction

and establish stronger diabetes networks. For example, such networks are getting stronger, and there is a commitment from not only the Ministry of Health but also the Ministry of Social Development and other governmental agencies to help the Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago with its efforts to better the lives of people with diabetes. Also, the Diabetes Society of Argentina is providing advice in cases of job discrimination and is working toward the establishment of an antidiscriminatory law for people with diabetes in Argentina. This society has also established a partner-

ship with the Commission of the Argentinean Diabetes Federation to establish joint efforts in many areas for the fight against diabetes. The DOTA Bulletin on Diabetes provides a forum where such initiatives can be published and distributed to all the DOTA stakeholders and other interested parties.

The DOTA task groups that so far have been formed are developing reference and position statements in areas such as education, quality-of-care information systems, and the assessment of the availabil-

ity of insulin and other diabetes supplies. The next steps in the movement are the creation of action plans within these core areas and the establishment of DOTA country groups to facilitate the implementation plan of the DOTA and to strengthen the networks between countries.

For more information on the DOTA initiatives, please contact the DOTA office at 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Telephone: 703-299-6095; Fax: 703-549-1715; E-mail: DOTA@diabetes.org; www.DOTA.org.