26 October 2012

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Greetings from the World Allergy Organization!

We are just a few weeks away from the 2nd WAO International Scientific Conference (WISC 2012), and I am looking forward to hosting all of you in the vibrant city of Hyderabad, India. There is still time to register if you haven't had the chance yet, and all of the information you need is available at [www.worldallergy.org/wisc2012](http://www.worldallergy.org/wisc2012).

This month I would like to provide you with a few updates about the Conference as well as announce a few upcoming WAO initiatives.

**UPDATE ON WISC 2012**

WISC 2012 will offer over 55 sessions, including keynote lectures, symposia, plenaries, postgraduate courses, and many other programs delivered by a faculty of over 90 experts. More than 225 abstracts were accepted, and 5 travel grants have been awarded. Posters will be presented throughout the Conference when no other sessions are taking place in order to emphasize the importance of this new research. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the Outstanding Abstract Awardees which will be presented their awards on Sunday, 9 December at 9:30 am in the HICC, Hall 3:

- Ulus Aatasoy (United States)
- Swati Behera (India)
- Woo-Sung Chang (Korea)
- Yoon-Seok Chang (Korea)
- Mulin Feng (China)
- Brenda Gerwing (Canada)
- Chhavi Goel (India)
- Rodneck Peter Hafner (United Kingdom)
- Sun Moon Hong (Korea)
- Claudia Ivonne Gallego (Mexico)
- Anderson Jones (Australia)
- Soo Whan Kim (Korea)
- Narasaiah Kolliputi (United States)
- Heung Man Lee (Korea)
- Michael Levin (South Africa)

  Purevsuren Losol (Korea)
  David Martino (Australia)
  Jessica Metcalf (Australia)
  Sachiko Mori (Japan)
  Mizuho Nagao (Japan)
  Veeresh Patil (United Kingdom)
  Wendy Gonzalez Ramirez (Cuba)
  Razi Refeeq (United States)
  Elena Rubio (Spain)
  Chang Sun Sim (Korea)
  Hideaki Shirasaki (Japan)
  Neetu Talreja (United States)
  Morimitsu Tomikawa (Japan)
  Arzu Didem Yalcin (Turkey)

**Attend the hosted WISC 2012 Social Program!**

WISC 2012 is also delighted to share that the Honorable Chief Minister of the State of Andhra Pradesh will be hosting the following social programs for all WISC 2012 Delegates to enjoy:

- Cultural Program & Welcome Reception on Thursday, 6 December 2012, HICC
- Conference Dinner on Sunday, 8 December 2012, Chowmahalla Palace
Both of these programs will highlight the local culture and hospitality of the State of Andhra Pradesh and Hyderabad - these are not to be missed!

*Please do not miss this wonderful opportunity to attend such an excellent scientific meeting which is being held for the very first time in India.*

**UPCOMING WAO INITIATIVES**

**ICON: Eosinophil Disorders**

Recognizing a lack of consensus-driven information and general recommendations, four allergy/immunology professional organizations have joined forces to launch the International Collaboration in Asthma Allergy and Immunology (iCAALL). Participating in iCAALL are the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI), the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (ACAAI), the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) and the World Allergy Organization (WAO).

iCAALL is designed to collect and disseminate consensus-driven information about allergies, asthma and immunological diseases. Communicating this knowledge can positively impact diagnosis and treatment, as well as cost containment and policy decisions. A major focus of this initiative is the production of a series of International Consensus (ICON) reports. These documents offer general recommendations based on global challenges in caring for patients with allergic and immunologic diseases.

WAO has coordinated the most recent ICON on Eosinophilic Disorders. This document will officially be launched at WISC 2012 and will soon be published in the *World Allergy Organization Journal*.

**Sublingual Immunotherapy Guidelines - Update**

In 2009, the World Allergy Organization convened representatives from their regional, national and affiliate member societies, along with non-governmental organizations to discuss a global consensus on sublingual immunotherapy (SLIT). This truly global consensus group acted as advisors in the development of the WAO’s Sublingual Immunotherapy Position Paper. This Position Paper offered consensus based on currently available evidence and expert opinion, developed practice parameters, identified unmet needs based on analysis of SLIT trials and recommended further studies and suggested methodologies.

Continuing the emphasis on the global consensus of SLIT, WAO is now developing an update to the 2009 Position Paper. The core document will remain the same with short, condensed updates of several chapters along with the addition of a few new chapters on emerging issues. Each chapter “update” will contain new evidences, corroborated by references and new data. The WAO Member Societies will once again convene to take part in this important initiative towards global consensus on SLIT during WISC 2012.

**EAACI-WAO World Allergy and Asthma Congress 2013**

It is my great pleasure to announce that the Preliminary Program of the EAACI-WAO World Allergy and Asthma Congress in Milan, 22–26 June 2013 is now available online.

The Scientific Program Committee has put together an outstanding program covering the whole field of allergy, including many new topics, highlights and new formats of education and communication. We believe that there will be something for everyone; whether you are interested in clinical practice, basic science, translational medicine, allied health, veterinary medicine or education. The congress will include
8 Plenary Symposia, 38 Satellite Symposia, 24 Meet-the-Expert Sessions, 22 Workshops and 34 Oral Abstract Sessions.

Please be sure to visit the website for the latest updates regarding the Congress!

Sincere regards,
Ruby Pawankar, MD, PhD
President, World Allergy Organization

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**WAO International Scientific Conference 2012 Update**

View the WISC 2012 Scientific Program

**Accommodation Reservations Now Open**
View hotel information at the WISC 2012 website. Click here to reserve your hotel. WISC 2012 is pleased to provide delegates with a variety of accommodation choices at reduced rates. All hotels listed are within 10-15 minutes by bus from the venue of the Conference – the Hyderabad International Convention Center (HICC).

www.worldallergy.org/wisc2012

**Keep track of all WAO activities at:**


@worldallergy on Twitter

WorldAllergyOrg on Facebook

TheWAOChannel on YouTube

Join the WISC LinkedIn group. (Click the Join Group button.)