

Report on CISEPO and PASGeP Related Activities
World Congress of Neurology
Morocco, November, 2011

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Background

The WCN was held in Morocco in November, 2011. My roles included:

- Canadian Delegate to the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) (2007 – present)
- Co-Chair of the WFN eLearning Task Force (2010 – present)

The WCN was attended by Neurologists from across the world and provided an important opportunity for face-to face discussions with key individuals in relation to Neurology as vehicle for furthering the goals of CISEPO and PASGeP.

Accomplishments

The major accomplishments focused on:

1. Relationship with Palestinian Neurologists
2. Expansion of Israeli sites for International Videoconference Behavioral Neurology Rounds
3. Collaboration with Tunisia

1. Relationship with Palestinian Neurologists

I had an opportunity to meet Dr. Adel Misk, President and WFN delegate of the Palestinian Neurological Society. We discussed collaboration with a focus on education using the International Behavioural Neurology Rounds as a medium. Dr. Misk is very supportive of the international rounds and expressed interest in participating. However, it became clear that there were barriers that needed to be overcome. A major obstacle is lack of easy access to Abu Deis from his place of work at the time of the rounds.

Action Plan:

- Dr. Misk and I agreed to work towards joint participation in the International Rounds. To facilitate the process, he will speak with Dr. Ziad Abdeen, CISEPO Director, Palestinian Program. An important issue is the need for easy access to Abu Deis to attend the rounds.

2. Expansion of Israeli sites for International Videoconference Behavioral Neurology Rounds

I met with Dr. Natan Bornstein, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the Elias Sourasky Medical Centre, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel-Aviv University, Israel, and Israeli delegate to the World Federation of Neurology. Dr. Bornstein is an expert in stroke and, following our discussions prior to and during the WCN, he agreed to have his centre participate in the International Behavioural Neurology Rounds.

Action Plan:

- An international round, presented by Dr. Bornstein's group, will be planned with a focus on stroke and cognition. This may be a joint presentation with Baycrest.

3. Collaboration with Tunisia

We held an inaugural international Canada-Tunisia Behavioural Neurology Round on May 25, 2011. This was highly successful and resulted in presentation of a poster at the WCN in Morocco. Discussions with Dr. Riadh Gouider, Head of Neurology Department, Razi Hospital La Manouba, Tunisia and WFN Delegate from Tunisia, were held regarding a second international Canada-Tunisia

Round with the possible addition of Morocco. In addition, we had further discussion about our joint Canada (Baycrest) -Tunisia research projects that are in the development phase, as well providing training at Baycrest for a visiting neuropsychologist from Tunisia.

Action Plan:

- A second Canada – Tunisia International Behavioural Neurology Round will be planned. Morocco may participate as well
- Further development of joint Baycrest – Tunisia research program
- Explore 3 - 6 month training program at Baycrest for a neuropsychologist from Tunisia. Resources required include expenses for food and lodging for the neuropsychologist.

Significance

The meetings and discussions in Morocco were highly successful for advancing the role of Neurology in helping to achieve the overall goals of CISEPO and PASGeP.