



WGO-OMGE E-Newsletter May 2005

Wednesday, 25 May 2005

### 3rd World Digestive Health Day, May 29, 2005



Dear Colleagues

**May 29 is World Digestive Health day!** We invite you to take the time to think about what you can do to improve public awareness of digestive health around you. Join us in encouraging patients to undertake a positive action - something they can do, as opposed to something they can't. Provide simple messages. For example, when food shopping, buy a fruit or vegetable that they've never had before, perhaps take a stroll on a warm summer's night, or reduce stress by trying a new activity: join a yoga seminar or try a new watersport. The message should be about staying healthy and enjoying it!

#### In this Issue:

- » **3rd World Digestive Health Day**
- » **WCOG Abstract Submission Deadline**
- » **WCOG Hepatology Highlights**
- » **UptoDate Subscription Grants**



Dr. Henry L. Bockus

In recognition of the tradition underlying the forthcoming World Congress of Gastroenterology, Past WGO-OMGE President Dr. Vilardell has written a brilliant essay on the history on the World Congresses.

"As the Thirteenth World Congress of Gastroenterology is being held later this year in Montreal (10–14 September 2005), it is timely to look back nearly 50 years to the period when the First World Congress was held in Washington, D. C., in 1958.

The origins of the international gastroenterology conferences are closely associated with Georges Brohée (1887–1957), a surgeon and radiologist from Brussels. In 1935, Brohée and a group of enterprising gastroenterologists organized the First International Congress of Gastroenterology in Brussels.

Other congresses followed in Paris (1937), Lausanne (1948), Madrid (1950), Bologna (1952), Paris (1954), and London (1956), where the decision was taken to organize a World Congress and set up a World Society of Gastroenterology in 1958..." » [Read full text here](#)

We thank you for your support and welcome any reports of local World Digestive Health Day activities around the world.

Yours sincerely

## World Congress of Gastroenterology

**+++ LATE BREAKING ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 30, 2005 +++**

Submit your abstract electronically at

» [www.wcog2005.org](http://www.wcog2005.org)

The discounted registration deadline will be extended to June 30 for abstract submitters.



## WCOG Hepatology Highlights



A representation of the ancient Chinese concept of the liver, thought to be situated beneath the heart, and the seat of the soul.

The focus of this month is the HEPATOLOGY component of the outstanding Scientific Program at the 2005 World Congress in Montreal September 10-14. Not only is the liver the largest organ in the body, its many disorders present challenges to the clinician which will be critically discussed.

Topics will include Extrahepatic complications of cirrhosis (hepatorenal syndrome, encephalopathy, pulmonary hypertension and endocrinopathy); Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (pathogenic mechanisms, clinical features and natural history); Hepatocellular carcinoma (transition of dysplastic nodule to cancer, screening strategies, diagnosis and treatment update); Tropical/parasitic liver diseases (Schistosomiasis, hydatid cysts, other liver flukes and amoebiasis); Alcoholic hepatitis (basic mechanisms of alcoholic damage, diagnosis, natural history and new treatments); Portal hypertension (variceal bleeding and infections, tamponading varices, portohypertensive gastropathy and ascites: drugs, TIPS or taps?); Hepatitis C (treatment update, HCV immunology, genomics and proteomics); Autoimmune liver disease (mechanisms of disease, diagnosis, overlap syndromes and treatment); Hepatitis B (epidemiology, genomics/proteomics, treatment update and virus to cancer - how?).

There will be case presentations and discussions of abnormal liver chemistry tests.

Special Lectures in the program are the following. CASL Presidential Lecture on Primary biliary cirrhosis (Dr. E. Jenny Heathcote, Canada); AASLD Special Lecture: Liver research: The international face; IASL Special Lecture on HBV subtypes, genotypes and replicative states: What do they mean? (Dr. C.L. Lai, Hong Kong).

Liver as a vital organ was recognized by Shakespeare, although the concept has obviously evolved! Love was thought to be generated in the liver's heat - "The white cold virgin snow upon my heart Abates the ardour of my liver."  
(The Tempest, IV, i, 55)

## ■ **UpToDate**

**The World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO-OMGE)** announces the opening of the application process for **UpToDate** subscription grants.



The grants consist of seven, one year, donated subscriptions of **UpToDate** access for individual association members who practice in medically underserved areas and who could benefit from **UpToDate**, but who do not currently have funding to subscribe. These subscriptions will be awarded through a grant program conducted by WGO-OMGE and funded by **UpToDate** Inc.

**UpToDate** is a comprehensive evidence-based clinical information resource available to physicians on the internet and/or CD-ROM. It is designed to get physicians the concise, practical answers they need when they need them the most - at the point of care.

**UpToDate** enables physicians to:

- Access the most current information within their specialty
- Recognize the clinical manifestations of a wide variety of disorders and describe current options for diagnosis, management and therapy, including the efficacy, doses, and interactions of individual drugs
- Identify optimal screening and prevention strategies

For more information on **UpToDate** please click here:

» [www.uptodate.com](http://www.uptodate.com)

To apply for a subscription grant please email: [omge@omge.org](mailto:omge@omge.org) to request forms.

---

This e-newsletter promotes the activities of the OMGE.

Contact: Bridget Barbieri, WGO-OMGE Executive Secretariat,  
Medconnect GmbH, Bruennsteinstr. 10, 81541 Munich, Germany  
Tel: +49-89-4141 92 40 Fax: +49-89-4141 92 45 Email: [omge@omge.org](mailto:omge@omge.org)