



## WGO Program E-Newsletter

May 2007 Edition

Dear Members,

May 29, 2007 is World Digestive Health Day and the focus this year is **Viral Hepatitis**.

A total of 400 million people are chronically infected with hepatitis B, and about half that number is chronically infected with hepatitis C. Together, these diseases are responsible for the majority of hepatocellular carcinoma cases, the third leading cause of cancer death worldwide.

**FACT: The disease burden of chronic hepatitis C among Americans is three to five times that of HIV/AIDS**

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In order to help doctors worldwide detect and treat **Hepatitis B**, a special WGO team of experts, led by Dr. J. Heathcote, is currently writing a new Guideline which will be available free on the website ([www.worldgastroenterology.org](http://www.worldgastroenterology.org)) in six languages in June 2007. Also online, WGO's Resident Librarian, Justus Krabshuis, has compiled an annotated listing of the most important articles about viral hepatitis. WGO provides this tool free of charge to the global gastroenterology community to improve the care of viral hepatitis patients and world health.

If you are attending DDW, please stop by the WGO Booth, number 2549, to pick up a copy of the WDHD Newspaper which highlights viral hepatitis problems in different parts of the world and some of the solutions which have worked as well as others that are being attempted. You can also meet WGO's Resident Librarian to discuss research strategies, learn more about upcoming courses and programs, and pick up a WGO pin and the latest version of World Gastroenterology News.

On behalf of the entire WGO Executive, I urge everyone to take a moment out of their busy practices on May 29 to honour World Digestive Health Day.



Henry Cohen  
Secretary-General, WGO

Douglas LaBrecque  
Treasurer, WGO

## 7th TTT-A Success in Portugal!



From April 16-19, 2007 the 7th annual Train the Trainers workshop took place in Porto, Portugal.

The workshop was organized in cooperation with the Portuguese Society of Digestive Endoscopy, the Portuguese Gastroenterology Society and Dr. Guilherme Macedo, whose personal dedication and attention to detail made the meeting an overwhelming success. To date, TTT workshops have trained over 300 doctors from 71 countries.

» [Read the full report and learn more about upcoming TTT workshops](#)

"The Train the Trainers faculty infected the participants with a passion for learning."  
Participant, USA

## La Paz Training Center

From March 13-27, the La Paz Training Center held the 3rd International Course in Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy. 30 students from 10 South American countries, plus Mexico, attended. Highlights included a two day Evidence Based medicine module and a hands-on session in Copacabana. Support was received from partner societies: ASGE, AEG (Spain) and CAG (Canada).



» [Read more](#)

## WGO's 9th Training Centers Opens in La Plata, Argentina



On March 21, 2007 WGO opened its 9th Training Center in La Plata, Argentina. 35 miles south-east of Buenos Aires, La Plata is a bustling metropolis with a population of 600,000. The La Plata training center will be co-directed by Drs. Landoni and Chopita and offers a variety of training opportunities.

» [Read more](#)

## WGO Guidelines Committee

WGO Guidelines, "Endoscope Disinfection" and "Celiac Disease" now available on at the National Guideline Clearing House. The National Guideline Clearinghouse is a public resource for evidence-based clinical practice guidelines and is an initiative of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

» [WGO Guidelines](#)



## ■ Did you know:

The HINARI program, set up by WHO together with major publishers, enables developing countries to gain access to one of the world's largest collections of biomedical and health literature. Over 3750 journal titles are now available to health institutions in 113 countries, benefiting many thousands of health workers and researchers, and in turn, contributing to improved world health.

» [Read more](#)

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This e-newsletter promotes the activities of the WGO.

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