



**WGO Program E-Newsletter**

September 2009 Edition

WGO is pleased to present this special GASTRO 2009 issue of our regular e-newsletter.

■ **A Message from the Chair of the GASTRO 2009 Programme Committee, Michael Farthing**

"The response from researchers wishing to present new work at Gastro 2009 has been incredible. We have received a record number of submissions of extremely high quality. The acceptance rate was kept steady at about 65% and therefore we have been able to increase the number of oral presentations and posters while maintaining quality.



Don't forget that we also have an outstanding selection of symposia lead by a truly international faculty and a comprehensive Post Graduate Teaching Programme during the weekend immediately before the core meeting, with plenary sessions and parallel endoscopy, gastroenterology, hepatology and surgery courses, all of which can be accessed by the 'PG Programme passport'. See you in London!"

» [Register for GASTRO 2009 here](#)

■ **Working Party Update: HCV Genotypes 4, 5 and 6: The Neglected Genotype**



Gastro 2009 is proud to present the milestone findings of Professor Nabil Antaki's and Professor Patrick Marcellin's Working Party: HCV genotypes 4, 5 and 6: The neglected genotypes.

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a major health problem worldwide. Genotypes 1, 2 and 3 are most common in Europe and North America and they have been the focus of most clinical trials to date. An increase in the prevalence of the genotypes 4, 5 and 6, most common in the Middle-east, North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia, has been detected in Europe and it has now been confirmed that these genotypes represent approximately 20% of the global HCV infections.

This GASTRO 2009 Working Party will produce a white paper about the prevalence, epidemiology, natural history and treatment of the HCV genotypes 4, 5 and 6.

Recommendations for the management of the neglected genotypes will also be generated as a landmark document in improving patient care.

Learn more about the outcomes of this Working Party at GASTRO 2009

### **Working Party Report: HCV Genotypes 4, 5 and 6: the Neglected Genotypes**

Date: Wednesday November 25, 2009

Time: 09:30 - 10:00

Venue: N11/12

### **Special Working Party Interview with Charles H. Knowles and Roberto de Giorgio**

The chairs of the "Guidelines on histological techniques and reporting: The London Classification of GI neuromuscular pathology" Working Party, Professors Knowles and de Giorgio confirm that their team has tackled a subject that needed standardization urgently. The Working Party has already produced and published guidelines for histological techniques and reporting and is in the process of developing a contemporary classification of gastrointestinal neuromuscular pathology based on defined histopathological criteria and using the guidelines as a platform. This "London Classification" is a starting point for future modifications as new data become available.



» [Read the entire interview](#)

Learn more about the outcomes of this Working Party at GASTRO 2009

### **Working Party Report: Guidelines on histological techniques and reporting: The London Classification of GI neuromuscular pathology**

Date: Monday, November 23, 2009

Time: 12:00 - 12:30

Venue: Platinum 3/4

» [Register now to attend these sessions on the core programme](#)

Further highlights of the Working Parties' achievements will be presented in the upcoming WGO E-Newsletters.

**WDHD 2009: WGO is proud to present a symposium chaired by Dr. Eamonn Quigley concentrating on the key findings of the scientific highlight of WDHD 2009, the WGO IBS Task Force.**



#### **"New Horizons in Irritable Bowel Syndrome: developments in pathogenesis and a report from the WGO IBS Task Force"**

Dr. Eamonn Quigley comments on the work of the IBS Task Force:

**"Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) has long been recognized as a common and often very bothersome problem in North America and Western Europe which in severely affected individuals can impact significantly on work, family and personal life. Traditionally, its**

**management has posed challenges related in part to our failure to understand its cause(s). Two recent developments demand that we take a more global**

approach to IBS: firstly, the recognition that IBS is common almost everywhere but may feature differences in demographics and symptomatology in different parts of the world and, secondly, research that indicates potential roles for the gut flora and the host immune response in the pathophysiology of IBS. We all have much to learn from the experience with IBS in different parts of the world. This is the essence of the WGO Global task Force on IBS: to paint a truly global picture of IBS, to appreciate similarities and differences in the presentation and management of IBS between various regions and to develop strategies for diagnosis and treatment that are mindful of these issues."

**Speakers:**

- Dr. Francisco Guarner (Barcelona): the Gut Microbiota in IBS.
- Dr. Giovanni Barbara (Bologna): IBS; an Inflammatory Disorder?
- Dr. Eamonn Quigley (Cork): A Global Perspective in IBS; the report of the WGO Task Force.

Date: Sunday November 22, 2009

Time: 18:00 – 19:30

Venue: N7/8

**The work of the WGO Task Force has been made possible by an unrestricted educational grant from Procter & Gamble.**

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■ **WGO Brohée Lecture: Acid Secretion in the Developed World: Now too much of a good thing?**

In 1964 the Governing Council of OMGE/WGO decided in Article 11 of the OMGE/WGO statutes : "*To commemorate Dr. Georges Brohée, the founder of the first International Association of Gastroenterology, a Brohée Lecture will be delivered during each World Congress of Gastroenterology.*"

Since then, every 4 years during the World Congress the **Georges Brohée Lecture** is given by a distinguished member of the gastroenterological community. The lecturer receives a medal by the Belgian Brohée Foundation.

WGO Brohée Lecture Speaker Professor Kenneth E.L. McColl comments on his lecture at GASTRO 2009:

**"Gastric acid secretion in humans has increased recently due to a combination of disappearance of *Helicobacter pylori* infection and dietary factors. In addition, the evolutionary benefit of gastric acid in protecting us from ingested pathogenic micro-organisms has decreased due to the relatively sterile environment we now inhabit. Adverse gastro-oesophageal effects of gastric acid have also increased recently. These observations all pose the question – "Are we now producing too much of a good thing?" – Professor Kenneth E.L. McColl**

Date: Tuesday November 24, 2009

Time: 08:30 - 09:00

Venue: S4/5

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Prof. Kenneth E.L. McColl

**Latest WGO News:** We invite all our members and partners to read the article "Are Cascades Changing the Face of Clinical Guidelines", recently published in The Lancet Student. This article highlights the unique cascades feature, which guarantees global applicability at every recourse level for the WGO Global Guidelines.

**"The article identifies many important shortcomings of traditional guidelines, some of which had never really occurred to me. Context-sensitive guidelines constitute ambitious undertakings, but you present an excellent case for us to try to aim for this new standard"** – Andrew, medical student

» [Read the article here](#)

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This e-news promotes the activities of the WGO.

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