



TRAINING CENTERS QUARTERLY

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WGO TRAINING CENTERS

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Announcements

WGO invites and encourages the Training Center directors to continuously provide the WGO Secretariat with the latest announcements and courses taking place at their respective centers. We may acknowledge these contributions both in the Training Center Quarterly newsletter and WGN newsletter as well as on the WGO website.

The work and commitment each of you has demonstrated, especially in the role of educator, is vital to enhancing the profession all over the world and should be commended.

It is also essential that potential partners or sponsors see your outstanding contributions to the field of gastroenterology. We feel that this can be achieved through links, photos, videos, etc. on your Center's page on the WGO website.

WGO is committed to being the vehicle that promotes your Center's tireless efforts. There are wonderful activities and events taking place throughout the year and we look forward to working with you to ensure that your efforts are recognized within WGO, as well as by those who visit our website frequently.

Training Centers Update

Bangkok Training Center

The following items are projected for 2011:

A Live Demonstration Endoscopy Workshop: Disease of the Pancreas, August 22–23, 2011.

Training in Basic Upper and Lower GI Endoscopy course

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and ERCP (4 times per year), with the following cycles: February–April 2011, May–July 2011, August–October 2011, and November 2011–January 2012.

Egypt in the 7th Millennium

The Cairo Training Center

Director: Dr. Ibrahim Mostafa

Based on the 2010 Events Fact Sheet, Cairo held two annual courses this past December, the 3rd Hepatology and Gastroenterology Post Graduate Course and the 12th International Workshop on Therapeutic Endoscopy, both with great success.

Endorsed by the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG), and in collaboration with WGO, the 3rd Hepatology and Gastroenterology Post Graduate Course took place from December 10–12, and presented eight sessions geared towards improving the educational level for physicians in the Middle East and Africa. Twenty-six international speakers from fourteen countries delivered thirty-four state of the art lectures covering topics in Hepatology, Gastroenterology, and Endoscopy. This event was accredited and granted nine European CME credits.

The 12th International Workshop on Therapeutic Endoscopy featured two days of live endoscopy transmission, with 38 complex therapeutic endoscopy and ultrasonography cases executed with much success.

Sponsored by the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) and the European Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE), over 1200 physicians from 48 countries were in attendance as well as twelve world class endoscopy experts, including Cairo Training Center Director Dr. Ibrahim Mostafa.

Regarding the Cairo Training Center itself, the following are quotes from former trainees:

“Can you imagine that one doctor from the Democratic Republic of Congo said that if they have patients with bleeding varices, they refer that patient to another country (mainly South Africa) in order to do endoscopy because they lack the skills and proper materials to do band ligation or histoacryl injection? I think all efforts must be done at the CTC for the sake of the health of other African patients!”

–Muhammad El Zahaby, Egypt

“Following the training that was facilitated by the training site, I was able to participate in an improvement process that culminated in us changing the endoscopy practice at the national referral hospital in Uganda by acquiring state of the art equipment, the re-training of doctors and nurses, and adopting minimum internal guidelines for endoscopy practice.”

–Kenny Opio, Uganda

“The CTC Cairo experience was truly amazing for me. My learning curve went all the way up. I am now able to perform upper GI endoscopy much better and I have been doing this in Lagos, Nigeria since returning in May 2009. This truly was the best hands-on experience I have ever had!”

–Ladi Hameed, Nigeria

The Suva Training Center

Directors: Drs. Joji Malani, Finley Macrae, and Their Htut

In 2010 there were 5 teachers and 2 nurse consultants that attended the Colonial War Memorial Hospital (CWMH) and the Fiji School of Medicine, both based in Suva, Fiji. They included Dr Mark Norrie, Dr Chris Hair and Mrs. Lula Britten (team week 1 &2), Dr Chris Middleton, Dr Chris Leung and Ms. Kathy Pietris (team week 3, 4 &5) and Dr Betty Kawake. During the months of August and September, teams conducted endoscopy training, attended ward rounds and provided specialist consultation and lectures in gastroenterology at CWMH

A series of educational lectures and bedside teachings were provided to medical trainees and some medical students. Most of the senior participants were physicians and surgeons from two sites in Fiji (Lautoka and Suva). In addition, the program provided further education and skill development to nurses from Suva and Lautoka. While invitation was sent to other Pacific Island Country Doctors, unfortunately none were able to attend due to staff shortages.

The program developed upon a solid foundation that had been formulated during the past 2 years of support at the WGO SUVA Gastroenterology Training Centre. All members of the 2010 teaching program have returned with significant enthusiasm to support the program, and a greater appreciation of the service that is being developed through the Training Centre in Suva. We would like to see the 2011 program, academic and clinical, continue with more participation in therapeutic endoscopies and improvement in colonoscopy techniques and arrival to cecum and ileal intubation.

"(as a physician) incredibly difficult to walk away from young, gentle and friendly patients who face imminent mortality from disease, knowing well that the same patient (in one's own practice) would have access to medical therapy, survival and hope"-Trainee

A wide range of endoscopy supplies is currently available including re-useable biopsy forceps, snares, clips and capsule endoscopy. The visiting teams had received donations of equipment from their own endoscopy units as well as company (Boston Scientific, Given Imaging, Cook), as well as medicines including a large supply of donated proton pump inhibitors. There is a need for supplies in variceal ligation devices, foreign body removal devices, sclerotherapy needles and dilation devices.

An inventory was established to account for these devices. Oesophageal bypass procedures are common for certain patients with benign and malignant GI obstructions. Assuming enteral stents can be obtained, there are adequate facilities available to insert these which may obviate the need for major surgery in these difficult cases.

Feedback from the trainees and the training team is an integral part for the successful future development of this program. A formal questionnaire was circulated to the trainees at the completion of the training program. The majority of feedback indicated the training to be a very valuable and rewarding experience. Below are a few of those comments.

Overall impression of the program was: Fantastic-73%, Very good 27%

- I have learned a more therapeutic side of the procedures which is very interesting. We can save a lot of money and time endoscopically rather than taking patients to theater especially with an acutely bleeding ulcer, varices or stricture.
- This was my first time to be exposed to endoscopy at this level. It was with great honour and privilege that I was able to see at first hand procedures being performed by great endoscopist. The knowledge passed on during the month of training was quite invaluable to me. I realize now how much impact interventional endoscopy has.
- I have been doing diagnostic endoscopy for several years and lacked interventional skills. After this year's training, I learned to do variceal banding, esophageal balloon dilation, and polypectomy. I saw how adrenaline injection and clipping is done to control bleeding.
- Our local nurses are more confident and skillful, that definitely makes our endoscopies a success. Keep the program ongoing as we train more nurses from Lautoka each year; trained nurses are responsible to the much improved endoscopy services we now offer in Lautoka Hospital.

To view the 2010 Teacher's Presentation, click [here](#).

To read the full 2010 Teacher's Report, click [here](#).



Prof. Their Htut, Prof. Finlay Macrae, and Dr. Joji Malani.



The Santiago Training Center

Directors: Drs. Claudio Navarrete and Roque Saenz

The following courses are slated to take place this quarter:

Summer Seminars: Jan– Feb 2011

Workshop and Delphi Technique protocol for NASH in our center

Impedanciometry and **Spyglass** Incorporated last year.

CO2 for daily use since last year.

March 24–26 2011

[Biennial International Course on Advances in Therapeutic Endoscopy](#). To access the program schedule, please click on the above title.

With Live Demonstrations. (This course was cancelled last year due to the earthquake in Chile).

Course “**Revival of the Chilean TC Experience**”. **March 23rd**.

This course was cancelled last year as a result of the devastating earthquake. Former trainees as well as current faculty and trainees are welcome to attend this course.

The following is a recap of the events that took place at the Training Center in 2010:

22 medical doctors served as trainees in 2010

– Chile (9), Argentina (4), Venezuela (2), Colombia (2), Ecuador, México, Nicaragua, Pakistan, and Bolivia.

–3 of the trainees, originally from Colombia and Chile, have been training for 6 months in Endo-Sonography.

–2 trainees received their formation in Colonoscopy, for 5 months.

–16 medical doctors had been attending as observers for periods of 1 to 8 weeks: Chile (6), Argentina (3), Uruguay (3), Brazil (2), Spain, and Ecuador.



Above: Drs. Saenz and Navarrete with their trainees

Training Center’s Faculty and Tutors:

Claudio Navarrete MD, Roque Sáenz MD, Antonio Rollán MD, Cecilia Castillo MD, Carlos Harz MD, Jaqueline Gobelet MD and Rodrigo Valderrama MD.

Last January 2010 was the first time the six month Endo-Sonography Training Program was initiated by Dr. Cecilia Castillo. This program took place at the advanced training plan for Surgical Endoscopy.

Weekly videoconferences between CAS to Costa Rica (Dr. Paula Vial) and Mendoza, Argentina (Dr. Jorge Isaguirre) have been established.

Two medical doctors in training, one from Colombia and Dr. Jaqueline Gobelet from Argentina, have completed their 6 month formations (1 trainee per period). We are pleased to report that Dr. Gobelet is part of our Endoscopy staff at our TC. Currently Dr. Cartagena, of Bolivia, is in her training period at this time.

Additional information continued on pages 5 and 6.

Santiago Training Center continued

Chilean TTT (Train the Trainers) 21-23 May 2010

The first TTT in Spanish was held in Santiago and organized by the Chilean Society of Gastroenterology. Eammon Quigley, Fernando Fluxa and Roque Sáenz along with Ricardo Santander and Cecilia Castillo served as faculty for the workshop. Among the international and local trainees that participated were the Training Centers staff doctors, Jaquelina Gobelet and Carlos Harz. The TTT in Spanish was well received and ended with excellent results.

Foreign Invited Faculty for ESD

Dr. T. Nakajima, Surgeon Endoscopist, from the National Cancer Center in Tokyo, Japan was a guest at the TC for one week, educating everyone on the latest techniques with life selected cases.

Research & Ongoing Protocols

- Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial “Endoscopic Drainage versus Medical Therapy in Silent Malignant Obstructive Jaundice”.
- Prospective Multicentric Protocol “Autoexpandable Wallflex® Stents, completely covered use, in benign Biliary stenosis” Boston Scientific. It Includes Centers such as Harvard University, Catholic University of Rome, Asiatic Gastroenterology Institute India etc.



Above: Dr Nakajima ESD training with some staff. Dr. Cecilia Castillo, trainer at the Santiago TC.



Daily work



Trainees from Ecuador, Pakistan, Nicaragua, and Mexico. Chilean Congress of Gastro., Puerto Varas, Llanquihue Lake.



Above: Dr Nakajima and some trainees.

Santiago Training Center continued

Abstracts Chilean Congress of Gastroenterology

Puerto Varas Nov 2010

¿Existe correlación entre enfermedad inflamatoria intestinal (EII) y enfermedad celíaca (EC) en nuestro medio?

Ibáñez P., Allende F., Figueroa H., Romero R., Sáenz R. Departamento de Enfermedades Digestivas y Laboratorio Clínico, Clínica Alemana de Santiago, Universidad del Desarrollo. The Latin American WGO, GIE Training Center

¿Es necesario extirpar todos los pólipos diminutos del colon?: Criterios endoscópicos para detectar pólipos no adenomatosos

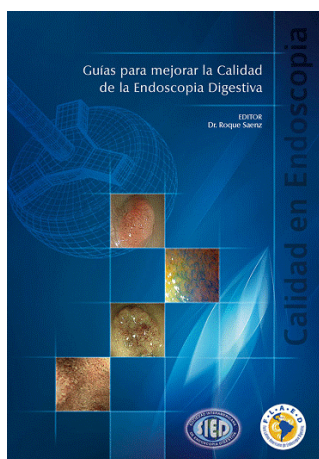
Rollan A., Nadaff R. Latin American Endoscopic Training Center. Facultad de Medicina Universidad del Desarrollo – Clínica Alemana. Santiago.

Books

To view this book, please click on the following link: ["Guías para mejorar la calidad de la Endoscopia en América Latina"](#)

"Guidelines to improve Endoscopy Quality in Latin America"

Editor: Dr Roque Sáenz.



Recent Publications

Ortega JP, Espino A, Calvo B A, Verdugo P, Pruyas M, Nilsen E, Villarroel L, Padilla O, Riquelme A, Rollán A. Helicobacter pylori infection in symptomatic patients with benign gastroduodenal diseases: analysis of 5.664 cases. Rev Med Chil. 2010 May; 138(5):529–35. Epub 2010 Jul 12.

Recent Publications

Claudio Cortés, Juan Carlos Díaz, Claudio Navarrete, Cecilia Castillo, Marcela Gallegos, Claudio Silva. "Pólipo Fibrovascular esofágico. Estudio por imágenes Multimodalidad". Rev Med Chile 2010; 138:742–745.

Cecilia Castillo. "Endoscopic ultrasound in the papilla and the periampullary region" World J Gastrointest Endosc 2010 Aug 16; 2(8):278–287... Accepted for publication

Claudio Navarrete, MD, Cecilia Castillo, MD, Jaquelina Gobelet, MD, Ignacio Robles, MD, Digestive Disease Department, Latin American Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Training Center, Clínica Alemana Universidad del Desarrollo, Santiago, Chile, Mario Caracci, MD, Surgery Department, Patricio Vargas, MD, Interventional Radiology Department

Clínica Alemana Universidad del Desarrollo, Santiago, Chile, The Latin American WGO, GIE Training Center Santiago Chile

Wide percutaneous access to pancreatic necrosis with self-expandable stent: new application.

Gastrointestinal Endoscopy 2010 www.giejournal.org. doi:10.1016/j.gie.2010.08.015

Ortega JP, Espino A, Calvo B A, Verdugo P, Pruyas M, Nilsen E, Villarroel L, Padilla O, Riquelme A, Rollán A. Helicobacter pylori infection in symptomatic patients with benign gastroduodenal diseases: analysis of 5.664 cases. Rev Med Chil. 2010 May; 138(5):529–35. Epub 2010 Jul 12.



Above: Dream Team trainees and local personnel

The Mexico City Training Center

Director: Dr. Miguel Valdovinos

Trainees

During the last quarter of 2010, the following gastroenterologists, from Mexico and South America, have been trained at the Center:

- Francisco Ramos MD, México, GI Motility, 4 months
- Thalia Ortega Escarabay MD, Ecuador, GI Motility, 3 mos
- Juan Valdivia Quiteras MD, Bolivia. ERCP, 3 months
- Carolina Silva Kohler MD, Bolivia. ERCP, 3 months
- Julio A. Ramos Jiménez MD, Venezuela. Endoscopic Ultrasound, 3 months
- Nashdalish Grana MD, Venezuela. GI Motility, 3 mos

Workshops and Hands-on Courses

Several workshops and hands-on courses in patients using animal models and electronic simulators had been organized in the last quarter of 2010:

- Two workshops on GERD. 20 gastroenterologists from Ecuador learned the pathophysiology, diagnosis and treatment of GERD. They improved their skills in upper GI endoscopy using electronic simulators. Live demonstrations of the new esophageal tests and anti-reflux surgical procedures were included in these workshops.
- Workshop on complications in liver cirrhosis. Attendees learned the new tests to identify subclinical encephalopathy; how to diagnose and treat spontaneous bacterial peritonitis, refractory ascitis and variceal bleeding.
- Hands-on course on Portal Hypertension. Attendees learned the indication and techniques of hepatic hemodynamics and TIPS.



Dr. Tanimoto during EDSD



ERCP Room

Research and Training

Miguel A. Tanimoto MD, staff member at the Training Center, is leading several research protocols on endoscopic submucosal dissection and endoscopic esophageal myotomy in a canine model. Preliminary results have been published recently: *Tanimoto M. et al: Endoscopic submucosal dissection in dogs in a World Gastroenterology Organisation training center. World J Gastroenterol. 2010 Apr 14; 16(14):1759-64.*

Great News

- ACG Universe: Since last June, the Mexico City Training Center has been involved in the ACG Education Universe pilot program. Twenty fellows have been included in this program with very promising results.
- Equipment donation: Last December, Olympus selected the Training Center as the recipient of a generous endoscopy equipment donation.

Future Courses

- V International Course on Therapeutic Endoscopy, April 7-9, 2011.
- International Course on: New Challenges in Gastroenterology, Endoscopy and GI Surgery, June 30, 2011 and July 1-2, 2011.



Above: Training with electronic simulators

VII International Course on Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy

La Paz Training Center, Director: Dr. Guido Villa-Gomez



The course welcomed participants from Panama, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Cuba, in addition to the South American countries that have participated in previous versions.

- 15 countries were represented, which included professors from USA, Spain, and Japan.
- Average age of trainees: 34 yrs. (range 27 to 42 years).
- Gender: Male 53% –Female 47%.
- From: Public Health System: 63.9%, Private Health System 19.4%, and Public/Private: 16.7%.

37 Trainees came from the following countries:

Argentina (6), Bolivia (8), Brazil (5), Chile (1), Cuba (2), Ecuador (2), Guatemala (1), Nicaragua (1), Panama (3), Peru (2), Uruguay (3), and Venezuela (3).

The seventh version of the International Course was in tribute to the 50 Anniversary of the Bolivian Society of Gastroenterology. Dr. James Köller, President of the Bolivian Society of Gastroenterology, presented the historical background during the special event. In addition, a greeting sent by WGO President Professor Richard Kozarek and WGO Vice President Professor Henry Cohen was also read.

New Trends and Innovations in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy, March 30 to April 1, 2011

On the third day, the ***VII International Course*** was open to specialists, internists, surgeons and general practitioners under the name of ***New Trends and Innovations in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy***, which had 250 participants.

What Trainees said and thought:

The ***VII International Course on Advances in Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy*** performed in the past month of March in the city of La Paz, Bolivia, was a great experience for all those involved.

From an organizational point of view, it was excellent. We were kept informed prior to the event via a course syllabus as well as activities where we had direct intervention. They also gave us study material electronically. We were offered all assistance to our arrival and stay, which comfortable and pleasurable.

From the academic perspective, guest teachers showed at all times, not only their high scientific quality, but also human quality, always in order to resolve our questions and doubts, and let us also share with them in social activities.

Advanced endoscopic techniques were demonstrated through live cases and gave us the opportunity through the *hands on* (practices in pork stomach) to practice endoscopic techniques that some of us do not have in our work units.

Through Program Community Outreach, we could approach the reality of the country that hosted us (10days), enjoying the people, giving back a little of being practicing endoscopic studies in the hospital in Copacabana with the guidance of the guest teachers.

From the social point of view, the experience of sharing with other Latin American physicians was magnificent, because we have similar situations in our countries. This opens the door for each other and allows not only to strengthen friendship ties, but also to have a multiplier effect in each of our countries of the knowledge received.

Special thanks to Professor Dr. Guido Villa-Gomez (PhD), brilliant professor and best friend, whose leadership and knowledge made possible the organization of such an important event of international magnitude.

As a recommendation we would like to see this event become a reference for other similar events in Latin America, lasting longer and with the continuous support from the WGO. Thanks to everyone involved in the realization of the VII course it was really a great success!

To view the full report, [click here](#).



Doctors, Participants in the VII International Course

The La Plata Training Center

Directors: Drs. Néstor Chopita, Néstor Landoni, and Juan Carlos Gómez

The following events took place the last 3 months of 2010:

1) WGO–San Martin Hospital Live Demonstration:

Date: November 10–11, 2010

Operators: R. Kozarek, WGO President (USA)
C. Sabbagh (Colombia)

Number of participants: 113

Activities: Endoscopic Surgery; Diagnostic and therapeutic EUS

The event was broadcast by internet to Montevideo, Uruguay.



2) Hands–on in porcine models

Date: November 25–26, 2010

Number of participants: 16 MD; 6 nurses

Procedures:

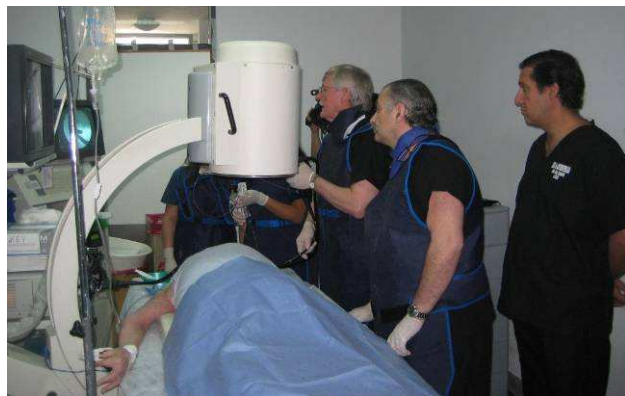
- a) Bleeding management: clips, banding, APC, sclerosing
- b) Extraction of foreign bodies
- c) Polypectomy, EMR, ESD
- d) Esophagus dilation and placement of SEMS



3) AIGE scholarship: 4 months

Oscar Manuel Villa Jimenez, MD (Cuba)

Activities: Rotation in all the departments of service



The Karachi Training Center

Director: Professor Wasim Jafri

A one day National Workshop was held on August 07, 2010 titled “Acid Peptic Diseases and Functional Gut Disorders” under the auspices of World Gastroenterology Organisation, Karachi Training Center, Pakistan at Regent Plaza Hotel in Karachi.

It was chaired by Professor Khalid Mehmood and Professor Raana Q Masood of Dow University of Health Sciences. The speakers at the meeting included Professor Wasim Jafri, Dr. Saeed Hamid, Dr. Hasnain AliShah, Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed, Dr. Khalid Mumtaz, Dr. M Salih, Dr. Lubna Kamani, Dr. Col Shakil Mirza and Dr. Amna Subhan. The following topics were addressed at the meeting gastroesophageal reflux disease, functional reflux, functional dyspepsia, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs induced gastric ulcer, Helicobacter pylori associated duodenal ulcer, irritable bowel syndrome, chronic constipation and functional abdominal pain.

The meeting was well received and attended by the internists, general practitioners, and fellows in training from various regions within Pakistan. The entire workshop was interactive and was described by attendees as a “useful exercise that needs to be done more frequently.” Upon completion of the workshop, certificates were distributed to the participants by WGO.



Above: Professor Wasim Jafri



Welcome to the 10th Anniversary of the WGO-RTC

By Dr. Naima Amrani, Director of the RTC

I am especially honored to welcome you to the 10th Annual Course of The Rabat Training Centre (RTC) of the World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO) and celebrate together this event.

WGO-RTC has a commitment to promoting the highest standards in hepato-gastroenterological training and education.

For those unfamiliar with the WGO- RTC, I can say that the Moroccan Ministry of Higher Education and the WGO have joined forces to launch a truly unique training Centre in the area (see: www.centreomge-rabat.org)

This centre is part of the Mohamed V-Souissi University and is located at the Medicine and Pharmacy Faculty of Rabat, near the Academic Hospital Ibn Sina.

It is open to all gastroenterologists, mainly from Africa, who wish to improve their theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of Hepatology and Gastroenterology.

The centre organizes ten-15-day training Annual Course for groups of about 55 gastroenterologists (40 to 74) on a regular basis, representing to date a total of about 500 trainees from the following 22 countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Mali, Morocco, Madagascar, Mauritania, Palestine, Senegal, Syria, Togo and Tunisia.

It also gives African trainees the opportunity to stay for longer periods: from a few months to four or five years. The Centre claims the privilege of providing some African countries their first gastroenterologist.

The educational programme, which has been validated by different partners, is composed of theoretical courses and hands-on training for each module.

The priority is on practical training, with ultrasound and endoscopy technique, for both diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. The various tutorials available provide the opportunity to have a personalized educational programme, which can go from training on mechanical or computerized (symbionix) simulators to the acquisition of various endoscopic procedures on pig stomachs (EASIE models).



From the left to right: Dir. of Ibn Sina Hospital, the Past President of WGO, and the VP of Univ. Mohammed5 Souissi -Rabat

Our media centre, which is continually evolving, provides our trainees with electronic documents selected according to their didactic character. For attendees already familiar with endoscopy, we decided, in light of our first experiences, to replace live-transmission from the hospital by a companionship programme so that small groups of trainees can work with experts.

Interactive teaching plays an important role, including practical workshops and presentations of clinical cases. With the acquisition of videoconference equipment in 2006, telemedicine has been our hobbyhorse with the aim of giving gastroenterologists from other countries the opportunity to benefit from these



Dr. Naima Amrani, Director of the RTC

courses. Experts recognized worldwide for their competence and teaching skills run all sessions. They come from Austria, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Italia, Libya, Morocco, The Netherlands, Portugal, Senegal, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey and United Kingdom.

WGO-RTC is delighted by the assistance that we have obtained from the Moroccan academic hierarchy: University Mohammed5 Souissi, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of Rabat, the Ibn Sina Hospital as well as its partners.

This 10th anniversary gives me the opportunity to thank warmly the Munich Gastroenterology Foundation and all scientific societies such as the Association des Sociétés Nationales et Méditerranéennes de Gastroentérologie (ASNEMGE), Société Nationale Française de Gastroentérologie (SNFGE), Association Française pour l'Etude du Foie (AFEF), Société Française d'Endoscopie Digestive (SFED) and Formation Médicale Continue en Hépatogastroentérologie (FMC-HGE), Société Belge d'endoscopie digestive (BSGIE) and the Association Française de Chirurgie Hépatobiliaire et de Transplantation Hépatique (ACHBT). We were also glad to have the German Society for Digestive Endoscopy (DGE-VB) and the Club de Reflexion des Cabinets et Groupes d'Hépatogastroentérologie (CREGG) join us last year, as well as the Urban Community of Greater Nancy. We would like to thank all our partners for their support and confidence, which is an honor for us.

(A Certificate of Recognition and has been offered for all these Partners who support our Center)

I would like to give a special Thank to Prof. G. Tytgat for his annual participation, his clinical and scientific leadership and his pioneering and innovative contribution to promote gastroenterology, not only in WGO-RTC but to global gastroenterology. WGO-RTC proudly recognizes the establishment of the Rabat WGO Traineeship to honour Professor Guido Tytgat as a Master of the WGO for his exemplary contributions.

This is an opportunity for me to pay a great tribute to Professor M. Classen, President of the Munich Gastroenterology Foundation and godfather of the WGO-RTC for his generosity, material and scientific. Professor Classen is the founder of the Center, he participated in its creation and contributed to its development. He has created a special link with the IDCA (International Digestive Cancer Alliance) which opens



new opportunities for training and allows our Center to enhance its ambitions in digestive cancer training.



Professor Eamonn Quigley

A special thank you also goes to Professor Eamonn Quigley, Past President of WGO, for his participation at this anniversary despite his busy agenda.

To conclude, please join me in thanking all companies who have generously supported the 10 Courses of WGO-RTC and asking them to continue to be involved in the development of gastroenterology in emerging countries, especially in Africa.

WGO-Rabat Training Centre is an ideal location for all partners to exchange ideas and experiences, renew old acquaintances and make new friends. This is why I am glad to celebrate the 10th Annual Course of our Centre with you.

Pr. Naïma AMRANI
WGO-RTC Director

Rabat Training Center continued

The Rabat Training Center wishes to highlight the following achievements that have taken place.

WGO-RTC organizes 2 types of training:

- ◆ Long term training
- ◆ Short term training up to 2 weeks: Annual Post-Graduate Course

Long term Training up to 5 years:

The WGO -Rabat Training Center currently has the following overseas doctors training in Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Ultrasonography and Endoscopy:

1. Galab MAHMOUD of Djibouti (2006-2011). He will complete his training at the end of 2011.
2. Khadijatou SAKE of Benin (2007-2012)
3. Ghislaine NGATCHA of Cameroon (2009-2013)
4. Enam SOBKENG of Cameroon (2010-2011). He was on the waiting list until December 2010, and will have one year of training.

3 trainees completed their training in 2010, one currently on the waiting list:

1. Rodolph VIGNON of Benin (2005-2010), who completed his training in October 2010 and returned to Benin in December 2010 as a specialist in Gastroenterology. RTC is please to report that Dr. Vignon passed the national examination for obtaining the Moroccan Diploma of Gastroenterology.
2. NaThalie BOUA AKELELO, of Central African Republic, trained from January to October 2010.
3. Georges SERVICE, of Central African Republic, trained from January to October 2010.

Short-term Training:

WGO-RTC is pleased to have celebrated its 10th annual course from Jan.27 to Feb.5, 2011. The program, available at www.centreomge-rabat.org, included:

- International Course on Advances in Hepatology, Gastroenterology and Oncology.
- Hands-On Training in Diagnostic and Therapeutic Endoscopy, 3 levels of training were provided based on the level of each trainee.
- Ultrasound Course
- Endoscopic Ultra Sound (EUS)
- Motility
- Workshop for clinical cases

This year the program was limited to 70 doctors from the following 20 countries who had submitted their applications before 31 December 2010:

Algeria, Benin, Burundi, Burkina-Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo-Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Cost, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, Chad, Tanzania, Togo, and Tunisia.

Other activities of WGO-RTC

- Teleconference with Grenoble University:
- The WGO-RTC and the Gastroenterology Department organize a monthly multidisciplinary interactive discussion of IBD clinical cases



Participants of the 10th Course



Opening ceremony of the 3rd Conference of AMDCA



In celebrating the 10th course with all of the participants, this program ended with the 3rd African Middle East Congress on Digestive Cancer, which was held on 4-5 February, 2011 in Rabat.

The Bogotá Training Center

Director: Dr. Luis Sabbagh

The XV International Gastroenterology and Advanced Endoscopy course took place this past January 27–29, 2011 at the JW Marriot Convention Center in Bogota, Colombia. According to Dr. Luis Sabbagh, “the course was a real success!”

The course received 320 gastroenterologists from several Latin American countries including Venezuela, Peru, Uruguay, Brazil and Colombia.

The high quality faculty consisted of Todd Baron from USA, Manoel Galvao and Celso Ardengh from Brazil and Raul Montserrat and Roberto Fogel from Venezuela. Faculty and guest speakers gave many important lectures as well as Live Cases transmitted from the Reina Sofia Clinic to the hotel via satellite. Every trainee within the Bogotá Training Center, which consists of many various programs, actively participated in the Live Cases demonstrations.

The VI Gastrointestinal Endoscopy course for nurses as well as the Bogotá Training Center had over 500 participants. The Organizing Committee received very good feedback from the assistants.

Activities within the Training Center are also running well. Two physicians from Venezuela and Uruguay both recently completed six months of training in Endosonography.

Currently, four trainees have a fellowship in Gastroenterology and Endoscopy for a period of two years. In addition, trainees are expected to arrive soon from other universities for the duration of 2–3 months. The Center is happy to report that these trainees will receive complementary training.

The Ghana Initiative

Since there is currently no subspecialty training program in gastroenterology in Ghana, the goal of the Ghana Initiative is to develop a local GI curriculum and training program to meet the needs of patients within the developing region.

Along with WGO, the local partners currently working with this initiative include the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, and the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital in Kumasi.

This past December 2010, the Ghana Initiative committee held a teleconference to delegate teams of two, one from Ghana and one International, to begin drafting the learning objectives for the GI/Hepatology curriculum.

These objectives as well as the reading assignments are an integral component and will ultimately serve as the foundation of the curriculum.

The Ghanaian College plans to advertise the GI subspecialty training program while the curriculum is being finalized. The subspecialty training program will begin in January 2012. The process for developing specific learning objectives will be completed prior to the end of the 1st Quarter, before March 31, 2011.

The WGO Funding Timeline for Training Centers

All WGO Training Centers received correspondence regarding the new criteria for applying for 2012 funding. \$90,000 will be allocated to six Centers, in the amount of \$15,000 for each Center.

This page outlines the criteria each Center must meet in order to be considered for funding. In addition to each application, we had requested that each Training Center provide WGO with the following:

- Updated Information Package
- Annual Budget for the Calendar Year
- One page summary indicating how funds will be allocated

For your reference, the following timeline will be in effect to apply for 2012 funding.

February 2011:	All Training Center reports will be due to the WGO Executive Secretariat
Mid March, 2011:	Funding recommendations will be made to the Executive Committee
March 31, 2011:	Executive Committee will report a decision to Training Center Directors
Mid April, 2011:	Training Center Director's decision to Executive Committee is due
April 31, 2011:	Determination of unallocated Training Center funds
DDW, 2011:	Discussions on reallocation of available Training Center budget
June 31, 2011:	Reallocation of funds to Training Centers

We hope that all Training Centers will adhere to this new policy change and kindly ask for the cooperation from all directors at this time.

The ACG Education Universe Program

As reported in November's newsletter, in an effort to promote GI education globally, three centers were selected to pilot the ACG Education Universe program. This program will serve as a web based teaching resource for trainees around the world.

The ACG GI Core Curriculum continues to serve as the foundation for developing trainee homework assignments. One of the wonderful elements to this program is that Training Center directors can incorporate assignments from the Core Curriculum into their own to reflect the needs of patients locally.

WGO is currently in the process of finalizing the mid-year evaluation report, which illustrates the importance this program has had on our three centers. According to this report, trainees from all three Centers gave the assignments a content rating 4 out of 5, with 1 being very poor and 5 very good.

Training Center directors are also very pleased with the program's development. Dr. Sabbagh, director of the Bogotá Training Center reports that, "ACG Universe is wonderful and is one of the most important components in this training and one of the most important tools in our TC." During the most recent evaluation, trainees also reported that the quality of presentations and papers as well as the evaluations test are very good and that the overall program is excellent.

Dr. Valdovinos, director of the Mexico City Training Center confirmed that, "it is a very friendly and complete program" and "it provides trainee information about time spent on homework, overdue homework, test questions incorrect/correct, and evaluation by trainees."

One trainee from the Mexico City Training Center reports that, "content can clearly be put into practice in the patients we see every day."

According to feedback from the evaluations section of the Education Universe program, one trainee from the Rabat Training Center wrote that, "I'll recommend this homework for other fellows because of the quality of the presentation and its content, and also because of the frequency of this pathology" while another stated that they are "very lucky to see this conference and of course will recommend this program to all gastroenterologists."

Overall, while the ACG Education Universe program has proven successful thus far, our next steps are to develop and refine a WGO Core Curriculum that can serve as the foundation for the WGO Training Centers and the developing world.

The WGO Global Guidelines

How are your Training Centers using the WGO Global Guidelines? With 23 guidelines in six different languages you can provide your trainees with resource-sensitive guidelines that provide a brief and point-by-point overview of current practice recommendations for the diagnosis and management/treatment of the main GE conditions, taking into account the needs and limitations of the third world. The WGO has recently updated the Hepatocellular Carcinoma and Helicobacter Pylori guidelines and have updated, now with cascades, the Constipation guideline. To view and distribute these important resources, visit www.worldgastroenterology.org/global-guidelines.



A Resource Sensitive Solution

Have a minute? Please send your answers to the following questions, to info@worldgastroenterology.org or visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3LLRWXS> to begin taking the survey online. Your feedback is helpful and greatly appreciated!

- 1- Have you personally used WGO guidelines? Why or why not?
- 2- Have you disseminated the guidelines to your trainees? Why or why not?
- 3- In what way and form could the WGO Guideline publications help support the work of the Training Centers?
- 4- Is there something we should change or add in our Guidelines to make them more useful in the Training Center setting?

WDHD

The WGO is excited to announce the 2011 theme for World Digestive Health Day (WDHD): *Enteric Infections: Prevention and Management; Clean Water, Clean Food, Clean Environment*. Soon you will receive tools and resources for you, your trainees and the general public, along with information on how your Training Center can begin exploring ways to promote this year's theme. Plan a lecture, a meeting, or a public campaign, or create a press release to be published in your local newsletter. Your participation in this important campaign is crucial! Please contact info@worldgastroenterology.org for more information.



Training Center Meeting at DDW

The Training Center's meeting will be held during Digestive Diseases Week (DDW) in Chicago, Illinois, USA, 7-10 May.

The Training Centers Committee meeting has been scheduled for:

Date: **Monday, 9 May 2011**

Time: **12.00-15.00**

Location: **Astoria Room, 3rd Floor,**
Chicago Hilton

The Hilton Chicago is located at:
720 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605

Certificates of Recognition

As mentioned in the last newsletter, a Certificate of Recognition has been developed for existing Training Center Partners as well as Certificates of Recognition for Trainers. If you wish to acknowledge those societies and/or trainers who support your Center, please email the WGO Executive Secretariat a list so that certificates may be produced and distributed during the meeting at DDW.

WGO Website/Email Updates

We encourage all directors to upload the courses and activities scheduled for this year to the Calendar of Events section on the WGO website. To view and submit a Training Center event or activity, please visit: www.worldgastroenterology.org/submit-tc-event.html

We also request your cooperation in providing the WGO Secretariat with your contact information for both the Training Center updates as well as for display on the WGO website. It is imperative that WGO be notified of any changes in address as all of our notifications are sent via electronic mail.

Please also inform the WGO Secretariat of any scholarships that are available for trainees so that the Scholarship page can be updated accordingly.



WGO Training Center Mission:

To establish and nurture core training centers for primary and advanced GI training in locations of need, thereby, improving the standard of training at a grass roots level while ensuring a focus on regionally-relevant diseases.

Letter from the WGO Core Education and Training Committee Chair, James Toouli, MD

It is so very pleasing to see the progress in the WGO Training Centers, since the idea evolved more than 10 years ago. We are now in a position where all of the Centers have an identity and are fulfilling their stated mission as well as that of WGO.

I am particularly delighted to see the emerging partnerships with National Societies as these contributions are not only providing much needed resources, but also ongoing significant links which ultimately shall benefit our trainees, patients and the societies in which we live. As always the benefits are not only to the recipients but of equal significance to those who provide their expertise.

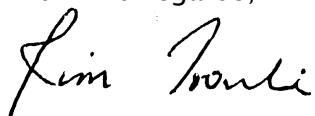
I would like to acknowledge the major contribution made by the American College of Gastroenterology through the Education Universe Pilot Program. As indicated previously, the pilot program has been running at three of the Centers under evaluation. I am looking forward to the results of this evaluation and to see how we may apply what has been learned to other Centers.

I also acknowledge with gratitude the very generous offer by the ASGE to propose their Ambassador programme to WGO for our Training Centers. A very successful event at the Cairo Center has been reported in this newsletter. I look forward to the next and subsequent workshops.

Other National Societies have assisted the WGO Training Centers in their various activities and I am very grateful for this support. It is one of my aims that over the next year or so all of the Centers shall in one way or another have meaningful partnerships with one or more contributing National Society. This will not only provide resources but more importantly the necessary links which, as indicated above, shall provide benefits to all. In order to achieve the necessary links and be accountable, we need to have transparent structures and clear educational objectives.

The initiatives led by Des Leddin in developing a timely budget report as well as providing evaluation for the Training Center performance shall go a long way in assisting this process. Developing a structure that is open, transparent, and evaluable shall help in providing the best possible environment for training and trainers. It will also assist in providing the much needed support for our Centers.

With kind regards,



James Toouli, MD
WGO Training & Education Coordinator

Letter from the WGO Training Center Team Leader, Desmond Leddin, MD

This newsletter summarizes the achievements of the Training Centers. Only a small fraction of the Center's work is highlighted but even this small window into the Center's activities show how much is being achieved. The Centers continue to be both a point of delivery of direct healthcare and the training ground for future generations of digestive disease specialists.

This is all the more remarkable given the political and environmental challenges, which many of the Centers have endured over the last year. Despite these challenges the Centers carry on, rebuild, and continue their mission of providing health care to those in need.

The WGO is very proud to be able to help the Centers in their activities. We look forward to meeting with representatives from the Centers at Digestive Disease Week in Chicago. At that meeting we will acknowledge the huge amount of work which has been done in the last year and make plans for both the shorter and longer term, to ensure Centers continue this excellent work.

Look forward to seeing you in Chicago.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Desmond Leddin".

Des Leddin, MD
WGO Training Center Team Leader