World Gastroenterology Organisation Announces New Hepatology Training Center

Milwaukee, USA – January 15, 2013 – The World Gastroenterology Organisation is pleased to announce the opening of its 15th Training Center, the first dedicated to Hepatology, in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Under the leadership of Dr. Mário Reis Álvares-da-Silva, (Brazil), the Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center was inaugurated on 30 November, 2012. Among the ceremony attendees were Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center faculty members Professors Federico Villamil (Hospital Britânico de Buenos Aires), Flair Carrilho (Universidade de São Paulo), and Professor Henry Cohen, President of the WGO, who unveiled the inauguration plaque. Also supporting the new Training Center was Dr. José Galvão-Alves, President of the Federação Brasileira de Gastroenterologia (FBG). WGO Training Centers are located in 14 countries around the world and provide both local and international trainees with the hands-on training experience necessary to provide the best patient care within and surrounding their regions, in the areas of gastroenterology, hepatology, oncology, endoscopy, and digestive surgery.

About the Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center

The Porto Alegre Training Center is the only Center dedicated solely to Hepatology. This innovative Training Center will offer to physicians from all over the world several educational courses including: Hepatology Inpatient Training, Viral Hepatitis, Protease Inhibitors, Co-infection, Non-viral Hepatitis, Care of End-Stage Liver Disease, Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC), Liver Transplant, Critical and Emergency Care in Hepatology, Metabolic Liver Disease, Tissue Elastography, Liver Pathology, and Hepatology for Non-medical Professionals. The Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center has partnered with the Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, a public hospital academically affiliated with the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) and the Brazilian Ministry of Education University Hospitals. “We are very excited about this new Training Center,” said Dr. Mário Reis Álvares-da-Silva, Training Center Director. “It will allow us to improve patient outcomes for those suffering from liver-related illnesses through education and training of physicians regionally in the diagnosis and treatment of liver disease.”
The mission of the Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center includes the following areas:

- Medical assistance, by increasing and improving the specialist liver care to SUS (the Brazilian Public Healthcare System) clients in Brazil;
- Teaching, by creating and offering innovative Liver Focused Medical Education Programming to Brazilian and foreign medical doctors;
- Research, by qualifying young doctors and working coordinately with Brazilian and/or foreign partners.

“The Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center is the second Training Center in Brazil, but the first to focus entirely on Hepatology,” WGO President Professor Henry Cohen stated. “It will be home to some of the region’s foremost physician educators, practitioners, and allied health personnel as well as international physicians and trainees in liver disease.” Faculty of the Porto Alegre Hepatology Training Center includes experts in Endoscopy, Hepatology, Pediatric GI/Hepatology, Liver Pathology, Bioethics, Liver Transplant/Surgery, and Genetics.

About WGO Training Centers

WGO Training Centers strive to promote the highest standards in training in gastroenterology, hepatology, oncology, endoscopy and digestive surgery in a selected region, develop a curriculum for training based on current science, ethical principles and relevance to local and regional healthcare needs, expose trainees to the most current knowledge in gastroenterology, foster interactions between international and regional experts in the field of gastroenterology, and promulgate best practice guidelines in the prevention, detection and management of digestive disorders. The mission of WGO Training Centers is 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.

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For more information on WGO and WGO Training Centers: