

ISVH – A multi-disciplinary society

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The International Society for Vascular Health (ISVH) was established in June 2005 as a non-profit making society under French Law (1901). Publication of ISVH by-laws and establishment of the Executive Committee were achieved in August 2005.

The first question posed by the Board was: “Why yet another International Society?” The unanimous conclusion of the ISVH Board was that there exists an urgent need for a society dedicated to the improvement of vascular health in patients worldwide. Our first step was to contact national and international societies of cardiology, diabetes, thrombosis, and atherosclerosis. We were aware of the excellent role of these vital societies in their research into the causes and consequences of their respective diseases. We received a positive response and confirmation of the need for a clinical-based society which can bring together the patient-oriented aspects in the management of vascular health globally.

At the same time, the Society Journal *Vascular Health and Risk Management* was created. The journal is now indexed in MedLine and PubMed, and ISVH will encourage the production of manuscripts in the field of vascular health management.

ISVH membership has grown worldwide, not only from areas such as cardiology, diabetes, thrombosis, and atherosclerosis, but also notably in nephrology, rheumatology, neurology, and diet/nutrition.

ISVH acknowledges support from founding sponsors: Servier, Microlife, Omron, and Atcor Medical. Further sponsorships have been received and will be thanked in the next edition of *ISVH Society News*.

ISVH in action

ISVH in China

In June 2006, ISVH held its first Asian-Pacific Congress in Beijing, China. The congress attracted over 1200 specialists from China and the Asia-Pacific region. A special edition of *Vascular Health and Risk Management* was distributed to all attendees.

The Congress was opened by the Chinese Minister of Health, and endorsed by all the major Chinese medical societies. Chairman, Prof. Wang Hong Yu of the Peoples Hospital, Beijing, praised the excellent co-operation between ISVH and the Chinese medical community.

A Chinese Regional Council of ISVH has been inaugurated, and will hold a second ISVH Congress in Beijing in June 2007.

ISVH at ESH

ISVH participated at the European Society of Hypertension meeting in Madrid in June 2006.

The ISVH exhibition stand distributed over 5000 invitations to the First ISVH International Congress, to be held in Paris, April 20–21 2007.

ISVH Honorary Council – USA and Europe

The ISVH Committee wished to bestow two Honorary Council positions to eminent Professors in the USA and Europe. These were accepted by Prof. William C Roberts, Baylor University, Texas, USA and by Prof. Alberto Zanchetti, Milan, Italy.

In order to continue to update members and sponsors, ISVH will publish this regular section in each issue of *Vascular Health and Risk Management*; it will also be available on the ISVH website: www.isvh.net.

ISVH Workshop, Paris, November 17–18 2006

The multi-disciplinary coverage of ISVH was demonstrated at the round-table debates on November 17–18 2006 in Paris.

The first round-table debated the subject: “Do we need vascular biomarkers in cardiology, hypertension, lipidology, diabetes, nephrology, neurology and rheumatology?” Presentations were made for and against this motion.

The second debate addressed the question “Pressure Wave Analysis or Aortic Stiffness: which one is ready for clinical use?”.

The presentation in favor of Pressure Wave Analysis was made by Prof. Daniel Duprez (USA) and for Aortic Stiffness by Prof. James Cameron (Australia).

An extremely active and significant round-table debate followed. The proceedings will be published in *Vascular Health and Risk Management*.

First ISVH International Congress, Paris, April 20–21 2007.

The first ISVH International Congress will be held in Paris from April 20–21 2007. This congress expects over 250 specialists from the multi-disciplinary ISVH membership.

As with an international congress, this first ISVH congress will feature plenary sessions, debates, meet-the-experts, poster sessions, and sponsor’s exhibition area. There will be a young investigator award, plus other bursaries and foundations. We expect a very exciting scientific programme, currently in the final stages of planning, which

will be published in forthcoming issues of *Vascular Health and Risk Management* and on the ISVH website.

ISVH Regional Committees

ISVH is in the process of establishing four regional councils:

1. ISVH China

Established in September 2006, ISVH China will be based at the Peoples Hospital, Beijing, China. The Chairman of ISVH China is Prof. Wang Hong Yu of Beijing.

2. ISVH Australia/New Zealand

In the process of being established, this ISVH Council will be chaired by Prof. James Cameron of Melbourne, Australia.

3. ISVH Portugal/South America

This regional council is in the process of finalization.

4. ISVH Africa

This ISVH regional committee will be established in 2006.

ISVH membership survey

We will shortly be carrying out a survey into the main clinical aspects of vascular health research among our members and subscribers. This should provide interesting information on the key areas of vascular health research on-going around the world. Results will be published in a future issue of *Vascular Health and Risk Management*.

If you would like more information or wish to join ISVH, please contact our website details below.

Finally and most importantly, ISVH welcomes comments and suggestions from everyone involved in vascular health worldwide.

You can contact ISVH:

- Via its website www.isvh.net,
- By email to isvh@icv.org.

Telephone and fax contact can be made to ISVH Paris office on:

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