



# DANUBE NEUROLOGY NEWSLETTER

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INTERNATIONAL DANUBE NEUROLOGY SYMPOSIUM FOR  
NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

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**International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and  
Continuing Education:**

**<http://danubeneurology.eu>**

**Head Office:** University of Szeged, Department of Neurology ✉ H-6725 Szeged, Semmelweis u. 6., Hungary ★ **Tel.:** + 36 62 545-348 ★ **Fax:** + 36 62 545-597 ★ **E-mail:** vecsei.laszlo@med.u-szeged.hu ★ International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education: **<http://danubeneurology.eu>**

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## **1. Short report about the activity of the Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis (SMS) under the Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences** (by Professor László Vécsei and Anett Járdánházy)

We would like to inform you about the activity of the Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis (SMS) under the Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences. The first step was to organize survey at national levels related to (1) MS Registry in different countries (altogether around 107 million people). The first data has been published in PLoS One (see the link below):

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0264328>

We are currently working on publishing the international data. The next two steps will be the (2) MRI imaging and (3) CSF analysis and special molecular biomarkers surveys.

### **Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

#### **Austrian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Professor Thomas Berger: MS Registry, Molecular Biomarkers [thomas.berger@meduniwien.ac.at](mailto:thomas.berger@meduniwien.ac.at)

Dr Gabriel Bsteh: Registry [gabriel.bsteh@meduniwien.ac.at](mailto:gabriel.bsteh@meduniwien.ac.at)

Dr Harald Hegen: Molecular Biomarkers [harald.hegen@i-med.ac.at](mailto:harald.hegen@i-med.ac.at)

#### **Croatian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Professor Vanja Basic Kes: MS Registry [kesvanja@gmail.com](mailto:kesvanja@gmail.com)

Professor Mario Habek: Molecular Biomarkers [mario.habek@mef.hr](mailto:mario.habek@mef.hr)

Dr Lucija Zadro Matovina: MRI imaging [lucija.zadro@gmail.com](mailto:lucija.zadro@gmail.com)

#### **Czech Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Contributors to the programme: Professor Eva Kubala Havrdova and Associate Professor Dana Horakova

Dr Jan Kolcava: MS Registry [kolcava.jan@fnbrno.cz](mailto:kolcava.jan@fnbrno.cz)

Dr Pavel Stourac: Molecular Biomarkers [Stourac.Pavel@fnbrno.cz](mailto:Stourac.Pavel@fnbrno.cz)

Dr Jan Kocica: MRI imaging [kocica.jan@fnbrno.cz](mailto:kocica.jan@fnbrno.cz)

#### **Hungarian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Associate Professor Krisztina Bencsik: MS Registry [bencsik.krisztina@med.u-szeged.hu](mailto:bencsik.krisztina@med.u-szeged.hu)

Professor László Vécsei: Molecular Biomarkers [vecsei.laszlo@med.u-szeged.hu](mailto:vecsei.laszlo@med.u-szeged.hu)

Associate Professor Tamás Zsigmond Kincses: MRI imaging [kincses.zsigmond.tamas@szte.hu](mailto:kincses.zsigmond.tamas@szte.hu)

#### **Polish Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Contributor to the programme: Professor Halina Bartosik-Psujek

Professor Waldemar Broła: MS Registry [wbrola@wp.pl](mailto:wbrola@wp.pl)

Professor Konrad Rejdak: Molecular Biomarkers [k.rejdak@umlub.pl](mailto:k.rejdak@umlub.pl)

Dr Malgorzata Siger: MRI imaging [gosia\\_siger@yahoo.com](mailto:gosia_siger@yahoo.com)

#### **Romanian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Professor Cristina Tiu: MS Registry [cristinatieu@yahoo.com](mailto:cristinatieu@yahoo.com)

Professor Rodica Balasa: Molecular Biomarkers [rodica.balasa@umftgm.ro](mailto:rodica.balasa@umftgm.ro)

Dr Simona Petrescu: MRI imaging [simonapetrescu@yahoo.com](mailto:simonapetrescu@yahoo.com)

**Serbian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Professor Tatjana Pekmezovic: MS Registry [pekmezovic@sezampro.rs](mailto:pekmezovic@sezampro.rs)

Professor Jelena Drulovic: Molecular Biomarkers [drulovicjelena@gmail.com](mailto:drulovicjelena@gmail.com)

Professor Sarlota Mesaros: MRI imaging [sharlotam@gmail.com](mailto:sharlotam@gmail.com)

**Slovakian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Professor Peter Turcani: MS Registry [turcani1@gmail.com](mailto:turcani1@gmail.com)

Associate Professor Jarmila Szilasiová: Molecular Biomarkers [szilasiovaj@gmail.com](mailto:szilasiovaj@gmail.com)

Associate Professor Nora Klimová MRI imaging [klimova@fnspresov.sk](mailto:klimova@fnspresov.sk)

**Slovenian Symposium for Multiple Sclerosis**

Dr Alenka Horvat Ledinek: MS Registry [alenka.horvat@kclj.si](mailto:alenka.horvat@kclj.si)

Associate Professor Uros Rot: Molecular Biomarkers [uros.rot@kclj.si](mailto:uros.rot@kclj.si)

Dr Jozef Magdic: MRI imaging [jozef\\_magdic@yahoo.com](mailto:jozef_magdic@yahoo.com)

**Collaborating European MS Centers**Collaborating MS Registry Center

Professor Melinda Magyari

Danish Multiple Sclerosis Center,

Department of Neurology,

Head of the Danish Multiple Sclerosis Registry,

Copenhagen University Hospital, Rigshospitalet

Copenhagen, Denmark

Collaborating MS Molecular Biomarker Center

Professor Bernhard Hemmer

Past-President ofECTRIMS

Head of Department of Neurology

Professor Achim Berthele

Technical University

Munich, Germany

Collaborating MS MRI Imaging Center

Professor Christian Enzinger

Co-Chair of MAGNISM

Department of Neurology Medical University of Graz

Graz, Austria

**2. Danube Neuroscience Research Laboratory (by Professor László Vécsei)**

During the last year we started to establish the "Danube Neuroscience Research Laboratory" in Szeged, Hungary. We focus on the pathomechanisms of neurological disorders in animal and clinical studies (such as the role of excitotoxins, mitochondrial disturbances, neuropeptides, kynurenines, biomarkers of neurological disorders, etc.). We suggest to organize a "Network of Danube Neuroscience Research Laboratories" and foster the collaboration between different research activities.

**3. On behalf of the Managing Board of Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences great salutation to Professor Peter Riederer on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday (by Professor László Vécsei)**

Professor Peter Riederer gets his bachelor's and doctorate degrees in Technical Chemistry from the Technical University of Vienna. At the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute in Vienna his boss was Walther Birkmayer, who introduced him to the field of neurochemistry and neuroscience. From 1971 to 1986 Dr Riederer was the Chief of Clinical Neurochemistry at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute. He guided several studies on postmortem brains of patients with neurological and psychiatric diseases. In 1986 Helmut Beckmann invited him to join Psychiatry and Psychotherapy Clinic of the Medical School of the University of Würzburg, Germany. He became as a chief of Neurochemistry Laboratory at the Clinic. Dr Riederer's main topics were the neurotransmitters/receptors analysis and gene profiling of various neuropsychiatric diseases (depression, schizophrenia, neurodegenerative disorders such as

Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease), neuroprotection, treatment of neuropsychiatric disorders etc. He has been as President of the European Association for Clinical Neuropharmacology, President of the German Society of Biological Psychiatry, Board Member of Research Committee of the World Federation of Neurology on Parkinsonism and Related Disorders, President of the German Association of Biological Psychiatry, President of the German Parkinson's Association, Vice President of the German Society of Biological Psychiatry, Vice President of the German Parkinson Society, and many other positions.

He chaired in the Organization of the International Biological Psychiatry Conference (Berlin, 2001), in the 16<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Parkinson's disease and Related Disorders (Berlin, 2005), in the 39<sup>th</sup> International Danubian Symposium on Neuroscience (Würzburg, 2007), and in the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD, Würzburg, 2007).

Dr Riederer was /is working in the editorial and advisory boards of various peer-reviewed scientific journals including Journal of Neural Transmission, Amino Acid, New Trends in Clinical Neuropharmacology, Biogenic Amines, Functional Neurology, International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology, Neurology Psychiatry and Brain Research, Neuropsychobiologie, Parkinsonism & Related Disorders. In 2007, he received the Honorary Membership of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and in 2008 Honoris Causa Doctorate form the International University of Catalonia. (source: Wikipedia)

László Vécsei

General Secretary of Danube Symposium of Neurological Sciences



Professor László Vécsei and Professor Peter Riederer (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 2007)

#### **4. WFN News**

(WFN President: Professor Wolfgang Grisold)

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Education in Headache to Healthcare Providers in Africa (EHHPA) 2022**

Saturday, May 14, 2022 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM (All times are in Central Africa Time (CAT))

EHHPA is a free virtual program that provides world-class headache and migraine training to providers in Africa.

<https://ihs-headache.org/en/news/2nd-annual-education-in-headache-to-healthcare-providers-in-africa/>



Exciting topics: Distinguishing Primary & Secondary Headaches, Migraine, Management of Migraine, Case Based Approach - Acute Treatment, Primary Headache Disorders in Children, Tension Type Headache, Medication Overuse Headache, Nonpharmacologic Management of Headache, Behavioural Approaches to the Management of Headache, Strategies for Advocacy in Headache, Live Panel Discussion with EHPHA Leadership from AFAN, WFN, GPAC and IHS.

## 5. Neurology News

### Serbian Neurology News (by Professor Jelena Drulovic)

The most important news which occurred in the field of neurology in Serbia last year were related to the improvement in the care of patients with multiple sclerosis (MS), ischemic stroke, and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). Several centers for thrombectomy have been established in Serbia, the first one in the University Clinical Center of Serbia in Belgrade. The treatment for patients with SMA with Spinraza is reimbursed by the Health Insurance Fund of Serbia and drug is already provided for these patients. Additionally, recently in 2021, patients with movement disorders (Parkinson's disease, dystonia) started to be treated with deep brain stimulation (DBS).

Significant improvement occurred related to the care of patients with MS. The strategy "Brain Health. Time matters in MS" has been widely endorsed by MS clinics and neurologists in Serbia. Ministry of Health supported this project. The crucial point was related to the recommendations on how to minimize delays in diagnosis of MS and in the time to treatment initiation, set goals for treatment and ongoing management that will optimize outcomes for every person with MS. Numerous educational lectures have been performed for neurologists in Serbia in order to implement this concept. At present, there is standardized use of the latest revised McDonald criteria 2017, across Serbia. The great majority of disease modifying therapies (DMTs) approved in European Union and the USA are now available in Serbia. Additionally, significant increase in the number of treated MS patients occurred from 2020. Thus, in 2022, about 40% of patients with MS are treated with DMTs.



## 6. Future congresses in chronological order

### 6.1. 12<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Pain Federation (EFIC)

<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/efic-2022-congress/>



### 6.2. XVIII International Danube Teaching Course (by Professor Konrad Rejdak)

Announcement for XVIII International Danube Teaching Course will take place on 19-20<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 in Zamość, Poland



Dear Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to inform that **XVIII International Danube Teaching Course** will take place on 19-20<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 in Zamość. The Symposium will be organized by the Department of Neurology Medical University of Lublin and Lublin Branch of Polish Neurological Society under the auspices of the International Danube Symposium for Continuing Education in Neurological Sciences and Rector of Medical University of Lublin. The scientific program will focus on the new developments in multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, headache, movement disorder, stroke and other disciplines. The highest educative and scientific level of this conference will be guaranteed by the attendance of internationally recognised experts.

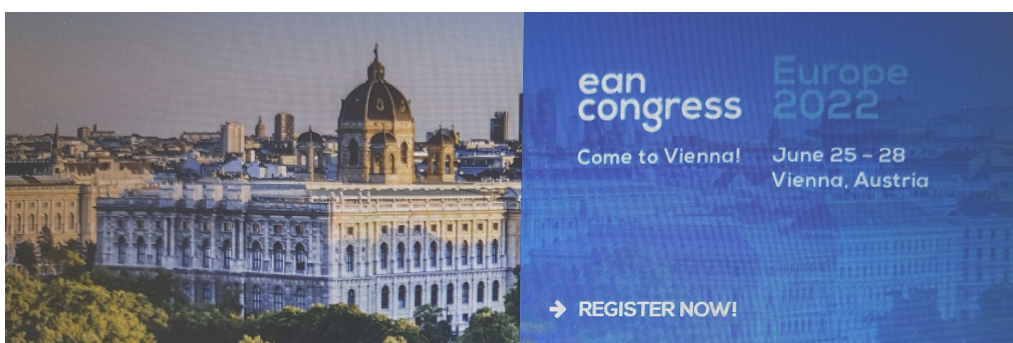


Prof. Konrad Rejdak, Chair of the Organizing Committee  
President of Polish Neurological Society

### 6.3. 8<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Academy of Neurology 2022

25-28 June 2022 in Vienna, Austria

<https://www.ean.org/congress2022>



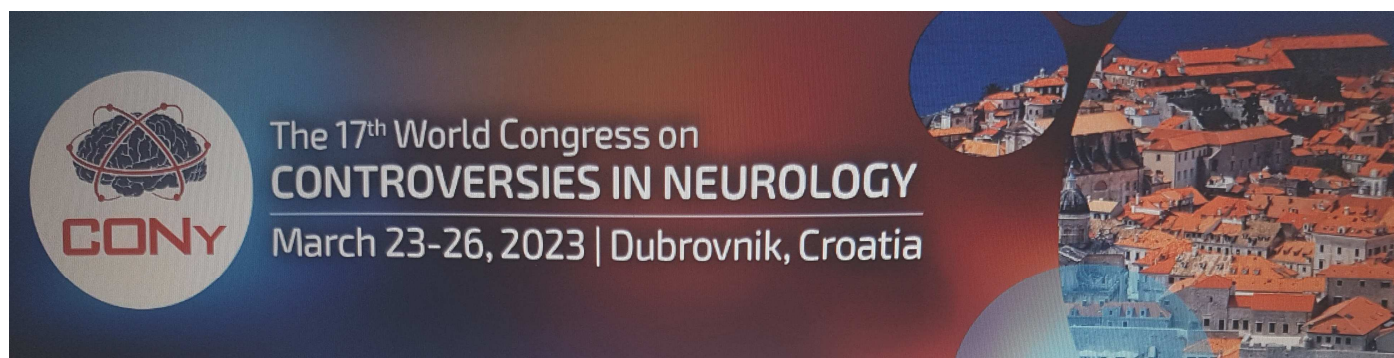
#### 6.4. 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Neurorehabilitation

14-17 December 2022 in Vienna, Austria

<https://www.wfnr-congress.org/programme/scientific-programme>

#### 6.5. CONy 2023

<https://cony2023.comtecmed.com/cony-2023/>



#### 7. Present and Future Activities of the International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education

- The **International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education** fosters and coordinates fellowship programs for young neurologists from Danube Countries
- Coordination of future **Danube Neurology Symposia**
- The **Danube Neurology Newsletter** is available free of charge (also downloadable) on Internet in electronic version
- Information about future events (**Calendar of events**)
- We also consider as our task to help with the activity of the **WFN** and **EAN** in the Danube-countries.

#### 8. Finances of the International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education

According to previous decision of the Danube Neurology Curatorium Meeting, the financial sources of the International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education from all kinds of symposia, conferences, meetings, teaching/training or other kinds of courses under the roof and auspices of our organization, are as follows:

According to a final report of the meetings, symposia, etc. to be handed in electronically to the Head Office in Szeged, Hungary, the financial surplus of all meetings should be divided 70:30 between the Local Organizers and the permanent International Danube Neurology Symposium Head Office in Szeged, Hungary. Or the amount of min. EUR 2,500 is to be transferred – together with the financial report – to the Head Office according to our invoice.

#### 9. Web-site of the International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education

The home-page of the International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education consists of:

- the contents of all Newsletter (Nr.1-33)
- Managing and Executive Board Members of the International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education
- Past and future Symposia, Conferences, Meetings
- Other further important information.