



# DANUBE NEUROLOGY NEWSLETTER

## Newsletter No. 35. March, 2023

INTERNATIONAL DANUBE NEUROLOGY SYMPOSIUM FOR  
NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

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**International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and  
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**<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 Professors László Vécsei and Tamás Zsigmond Kincses)

We 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 MS Registry in different countries (altogether around 107 million people). The Hungarian data has been published in PLoS One (see the link below):

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

The publication about the international data is available in Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, 2023 Jan;69:104406. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2022.104406.

(The link of the abstract: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36413917/>).

## **Neuroimaging programme (by Professor Tamás Zsigmond Kincses)**

The Departments of Neurology and Radiology of the University of Szeged, Albert Szent-Györgyi Medical School along with the Duna Symposium Multiple Sclerosis National Symposium has initiated an assessment. We aim to assess the fulfilment and implementation of goals laid out in the 2017 revised diagnostic criteria (Thomson et al. 2018) and the 2021 MAGNIMS-CMSC-NAIMS consensus in terms of MRI diagnostics of multiple sclerosis and its follow up, in national and European MS centers. This is a continuation of our previous assessment (Kokas et al., 2022 and Kokas et al., 2023) on multiple sclerosis covering 107 million inhabitants. Our hope is that this survey will aid discussion between radiologists and neurologists, and it can be a great starting point in developing standardized protocols and patient pathways, while also help facilitate the training of neuroradiologists. As a first step the link to the on-line questioner were sent out to 31 Hungarian MS center several of those centers already answered the questions. The invitation email to the European MS centers will be rolled out in the first week of March. Those who would like to participate in the survey, please contact us via [study.radio@szte.hu](mailto:study.radio@szte.hu)

The next step will be the 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)  
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 [cristinatiu@yahoo.com](mailto:cristinatiu@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@fnsppresov.sk](mailto:klimova@fnsppresov.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. The Department Visit Program of the World Federation of Neurology**

**(by Professors Wolfgang Grisold (WFN President) and Steven L. Lewis (WFN Secretary General))**

The World Federation of Neurology's (WFN's) neurological department visits have been taking place since 2014 and several European countries have participated, as well as Canada.

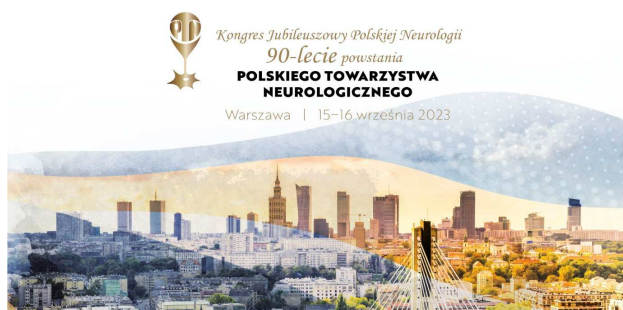
The concept of the WFN Department Visit program is to give an opportunity to young neurologists from low and lower-middle-income countries from Africa, Central, and South America to visit established neurology departments of other institutions for an observership for a timespan of four to six weeks. In addition to the current Department Visit program, the Indian Academy of Neurology has recently joined and there will also be department visits for two persons from the Asian regions to India starting within a year.

Young neurologists who have been participating in the department visit program are enthusiastic to see different health systems, different procedures, and different ways to act and communicate in neurology. The idea is to stimulate individuals to get acquainted to different practices of neurology, particularly in complex, cutting edge neurologic systems.

As an example, reports from recent (2022) department visits can be found in World Neurology Vol. 38 No. 1 January-February 2023: Medical University of Graz (page 9), Innsbruck Hospital (page 10), Austrian Neurology Department in Salzburg (page 11), Universitätsklinikum Leipzig (page 12). (<https://worldneurologyonline.com/>)

We want to remind the Danube group that an invitation to a young neurologist from a low-income country could also be an enrichment of exchange of education and we invite all Danube group members to consider establishing a WFN Department Visit program in their center and inviting a person from a low-income country for a department visit.

## **3. Jubilee congress of Polish Neurological Society (by Professor Konrad Rejdak)**



This is a special year for the Polish Neurological Society as 2023 marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the founding of this pivotal organization (1933-2023). 2023 is a special year for Polish neurology. This year we will celebrate 90 years anniversary of founding Polish Neurological Society.

It is the perfect opportunity to reflect on the past and map out the future of Polish Neurology, celebrate achievements and align our goals. This is a special opportunity to think about the past and future of Polish neurology, especially about achievements and accomplishments.

This congress will present the perfect opportunity to meet colleagues, exchange memories and tackle the issues most pertinent to our field. Combining the scientific conference programme with the celebration of our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. An opportunity to exchange both memories and current problems will be a congress combining a scientific conference and a solemn celebration of our jubilee.

The scientific part of the conference will take place at the Sheraton Hotel, and the jubilee gala will be held in the majestic surroundings of the halls of the Royal Castle in Warsaw.

Over 1,000 neurologists from all over Poland will participate in the celebrations and we look forward to welcoming you to participate. We have a wonderful celebration of Polish neurology ahead of us!



Prof. Konrad Rejdak, President of Polish Neurological Society

## 4. Neurology News

### 4.1. Croatian Neurology News (by Professor Vanja Bašić Kes, President of Croatian Neuroimmunology Society, Head of Department of Neuroimmunology, Neurogenetic and Pain, University Hospital Sestre Milosdnice, Zagreb, Croatia)

During 2022, there were a lot of professional and scientific events in the field of neurology in the Republic of Croatia. The Croatian Neurological Society organized the VII National Congress in Rijeka, where many neurologists from Croatia and the region gathered.

In addition, meetings on Covid and Post-covid as well as MS Academy in June were held in the organization of the Croatian Neuroimmunology Society.



Prof. Vanja Bašić Kes, Head of Croatian Neuroimmunological Society, Prof. Petar Kes, Croatian Medical Academy, Miss Dubravka Bede

The Congress of Emergency Conditions in Neurology was particularly noteworthy, attracting not only neurologists but also colleagues from other professions such as internists, general practitioners and anesthesiologists.



Ass. Prof. Hrvoje Budinčević, Prof. Vanja Bašić Kes, Prof. Petar Kes, Prim. Višnja Supanc, Prof. Tomislav Breitenfeld

Prof. Vanja Bašić Kes and Academician Vida Demarin published the university textbook Migraine.

The Croatian Neurological Society published guidelines for the treatment of multiple sclerosis, and in this way we provided the most modern therapy to all MS patients in Croatia.

On the first Saturday in December 2022, the Croatian Neuroimmunology Society organized the 22nd symposium "Where we are in neurology?", where the latest findings on the treatment of neurological diseases were presented, based on evidence-based medicine.

In addition to numerous symposia and congresses, fellow neurologists published numerous scientific and professional publications, organized public forums with the aim of raising awareness about migraine, multiple sclerosis, stroke, spinal muscular atrophy, dementia, Fabry's disease, etc.

## **5. Newsletter recommendations**

### **WFN Newsletter**

<https://worldneurologyonline.com/>

### **European Brain Council Newsletter**

<https://www.braincouncil.eu/ebc-newsletters/>

## **6. Future congresses in chronological order**

6.1. CONy 2023: <https://cony.comtecmed.com/>



6.2. EAN Congress 2023: <https://www.ean.org/congress2023>



### 6.3. EFIC Congress 2023: <https://europeanpainfederation.eu/efic2023/>



### 6.4. WCN 2023: <https://wfneurology.org/activities/world-congress-of-neurology-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.1-35)
- 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.