

ICLAM E-Newsletter November 2011

1. Message from the President:

Dear Colleague,

Here comes the fourth issue of the ICLAM E-letter.

Since the summer issue, a number of scientific meetings have been held gathering our colleagues of different countries. We've been in the USA to attend the 120th annual meeting of the American Academy of Insurance medicine in Chicago. As usual, the meeting was perfectly organized, including two pre-conference courses (introduction to insurance medicine and Basic Mortality Methodology), an outstanding scientific program mixing lectures and workshop. The AAIM President, Dr Clifford Hale and his Bureau organized a splendid meeting and the attendees were lucky enough to have wonderful weather, not too windy in spite of Chicago's nickname: the Windy city.

The next AAIM meeting will take place in 2012 in San Diego, California, Oct. 13-18, 2012. (<http://www.aaimedicine.org/meetings-and-conferences/aim-annual-meeting.asp>).

We have been honored to be invited by Dr Tomohito Shirouzu, President of the Japanese Assurance Medical Society (ALIMJ), to give a lecture at the occasion of the annual meeting of the society, held in Tokyo, Oct.15-17. This annual meeting gathers the medical directors of the Japanese insurance and reinsurance companies. Though the meeting is held in Japanese, we appreciated the warm welcome of our Japanese colleagues and the perfect organization as well as the high scientific level of the discussed topics.

The Asian area is very active in terms of meetings as we were invited to Shanghai to give a lecture at the AIMA VIII (8th meeting of the Academy of insurance medicine of Asia). Thanks to Dr Jenny Zhou (chairman of the Meeting) and Dr Fajah Peshi (President of AIMA), this meeting gathered some 500 attendees, Medical officers and medical underwriters from Asia. The high level of the scientific program and of the speakers made a great event from this 8th edition of the AIMA biennial meeting (<http://www.aimaconference.com/aimavi.html>). This meeting was a good opportunity for meeting our colleagues from the Asian area and to discuss the needs and specificities of the Asian market.

Talking about ICLAM... the Spanish organizing and scientific committee of the 2013 Congress in Madrid is working hard to provide us an excellent meeting in Madrid. We're closely working with Javier Aparicio, Chairman of the meeting and his subcommittees. We expect an outstanding scientific program and Madrid, as a venue doesn't need to be praised... In the next few months, the congress website will be opened for registration (<https://congress.iclam.org/>) and you're all invited to join us for this unique occasion of an international meeting focusing on Life Insurance Medicine and giving us an opportunity to meet, discuss and exchange experience and views with colleagues from all parts of the world.

As we're now not far from the end of the Year, I wish you all some wonderful holidays and a healthy and happy new year.



**Dr Fabrice
CHOUTY**

ICLAM President

2. **Progress ICLAM2013 Madrid**

Ana Villanueva

Herewith an update from the Organizing Committee.

Business plan

- Current confirmed sponsors: Platinum : Mapfre
Gold : Swiss Re, Munich Re
Silver : Scor, Gen Re, HSBC and Mutuelles des Sportifs
Other : Generali

Committees

- **Organizing Committee:** The next meeting with the executive Bureau members is to be held in Paris next 2nd of December. The following topics will be discussed:
 - An updated budget including new prices for 2013 and expenses directly related to speakers and Conference organization
 - Translation of the final letter of invitation to speakers
 - List of speakers with verbal acceptance to participate
 - One-day Seminar approach
 - Suggestions for open spots
 - Programme for next Bureau meeting in Madrid in May 2012.
- The next Bureau meeting will be held in Madrid from 24th to 27th of May. Bureau members will meet all members of the scientific and organization committees.
- **Scientific committee:** A personalized letter to all proposed speakers has been prepared including an invitation to visit our webpage, and the objectives of the Conference with the final goal of achieving conclusions useful to all professionals working in the field of Insurance Medicine.

Keynote speech

Dr Fuster has accepted to be the keynote speaker. Final topic to be confirmed by next May 2012.

Speakers

- The committee has received from most speakers a verbal confirmation of their interest in participating in the Conference
- New speakers for open symposiums. Scor has expressed their interest in including Dr. Gael Deplanque, oncologist, in the Haematology Symposium.
- There are still some open positions in Haematology and Cardiology

One-day seminar

The issue regarding English as the official language of the one-day seminar is still a big concern.

ICEA, a Non-profit organization dedicated to research and training in insurance has already started a course for Life & Health underwriters where some of the scientific committee members are lectures. They are also very involved in promoting Insurance medicine in our local market and some conferences have already been taken place.

Conference Organization

- The Technical Secretary (Carlson Wagonlits Travel) is working on the budget with the prices for 2013 and on a proposal for exhibition stands and floor plan.
- The Royal House of Spain has been approached (for patronage and address at the conference), and answered that it is too early for the invitation. They have suggested us to get back to them in the second half of next year. We should not take it as a turn down but as an issue of timing.
- Half day tour, gala dinner and other social events will be presented to the Bureau in our next meeting in Madrid.

Pending actions

- First brochure of the Conference
- Letter of invitation to Medical advisors and Associate Doctors from South America with the preliminary confirmed programme
- Work on the One-day seminar, both budget and organization.

APD accreditation certificate will be handled with SEAFORMEC and applied for as soon as the programme is closed and all required documents are put together.

Next meeting: Third week in December at Mapfre Re

3. **ICLAM2016 Maastricht:** Robert Kneepkens

Maastricht is a beautiful old city in the very south of the Netherlands and is the birthplace of the Euro. The population is well known for their hospitality and their love for good food and wine. For a first impression, please visit www.iclam.org/activities and open or download the two promotion movies (please login first). The first movie gives special attention to the MECC (Maastricht Exhibition and Conference Center). The second movie gives you a good impression of social and cultural activities we will be offering to participants during the congress.

We hope to see you in Maastricht in 2016!

4. **New items on ICLAM website:** Robert Kneepkens

ICLAM has two websites: www.iclam.org and congress.iclam.org, the latter being the website of the next congress in 2013 in Madrd, Spain. The two sites are not

interconnected. You will have to register twice, one time for each website to have full access to all information.

Registration at www.iclam.org: access to the forum and the international community page, access to more information on ICLAM, and you will be sent this E-Newsletter.

Registration at congress.iclam.org will give you access to special congress information as soon as this is published, and it entitles you to subscribe (and unsubscribe) to special newsletters from the Organizing Committee or Sponsors.

All participants of the ICLAM Congresses of 2007 in Berlin and 2010 in Cape Town are already registered at both websites. But they will not know their passwords. You can login at www.iclam.org/user/password and congress.iclam.org/user/password.

The next two ICLAM Congresses will take place in Europe: 2013 in Madrid Spain, and 2016 in Maastricht Netherlands. Some of you might need visa to visit the congresses. At www.iclam.org/congresses you will find links to webpages of the Spanish and Dutch Governments, where you can find all necessary information.

5. **International News**

5.1 **AIMA (Asia)**:

Fajah Peshi

The Eighth Scientific Conference of the Academy of Insurance Medicine of Asia (AIMA VIII) was held at Shanghai from 16–19 October 2011.

Four hundred and sixty six delegates from one hundred and forty different life and health insurance companies from the Asia Pacific region attended this conference.

Twenty six papers that were related to both underwriting as well as claims aspects of insurance medicine were presented at this conference by speakers who came from various parts of the world including USA, UK, Sweden, Germany, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Australia, South Africa and France.

The next AIMA conference (**AIMA – IX**) will be held at Taipei, Taiwan in September/October 2013. Further details with regards to this conference will be made available on the AIMA website at <http://www.aimaconference.com>.

5.2 **CLIMOA (Canada)**:

Charles Jones

Nothing to report at his stage.

5.3 **AAIM (USA)**:

Charles Jones

The last AAIM conference was held recently from October 1 to 5 in Chicago. It was well attended, and topics covered included an update on aging in America, treatment of heart failure in the elderly, bladder- and thyroid cancer, MS, NASH, benign brain tumours, CAD, cutaneous lymphoma and e-GFR. Two interactive workshops were also hosted on ECG's and echocardiograms.

AAIM's 2012 meeting will be in Dan Diego, California, 13-18 October, 2012 at the Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines Resort (terrific golf course nearby). It will be AAIM's triennial meeting, which is designed as a broad review of Insurance Medicine.

5.4 **AMUS (UK)**:

Ray Gill

The summer has been a quiet period for the academic side of Insurance Medicine in the UK.

The feedback from colleagues at a recent meeting of our Society, AMUS, was that the Lucid 2 conference, held over two days in Cardiff, Wales, was well received and hopefully was a financial success.

We had a meeting at the RAF Club in Piccadilly, London, starting, obviously, with the drinks bar opening at 5.30pm and followed by a very good lecture. It was a great pleasure to greet Fabrice Chouty and Dr Camus who came over from Paris on Eurostar.

The address was on "Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms - A Silent Killer: Recent Developments and their Implications". Essentially, a national ultra-sound screening programme for the detection of abdominal aortic aneurysms is being introduced next year for 65 year old men, women do not have the same risk. Treatment, for a better prognosis, is for open surgery in "fit" patients. The "unfit" patients, patients with vascular disease elsewhere, diabetes, obesity, hypertension, raised cholesterol, etc, have endovascular sleeves inserted, sometimes wire loops to cause the aneurysmal sac to thrombose, leaving enough blood to keep the circulation in the legs intact. It was clear from Professor Chris Imray, a very experienced surgeon and speaker, that endovascular treatments were prone to more complications, which is not surprising as they are worse risk patients and clearly not a good insurance risk at any time! It was stressed that endovascular treatments are very expensive, something for medical expenses insurers to consider!

Interestingly, it is evident from data from the UK and relevant to Insurance Medicine, there has been interest shown by underwriters and actuaries in large case underwriting to request ultrasound examination of the abdomen to exclude abdominal aneurysm formation. In Insurance Medicine terms we have been able to use good quality scientific data to show that in the UK aneurysms do not really start to be a problem under the age of 65, and about 5 years earlier for the smoking population. A normal ultrasound examination at 65 means that no other screen for aneurysm is required.

As ultrasound examinations are expensive and inconvenient to proposers we have not included this in high value cases as a routine.

Our next meetings are in March 2012 for the AGM, May, September and November.

5.5 **AMCAP:** Fabrice Chouty

There'll be on December 2, the annual cocktail party of the society, held in Paris and gathering the AMCAP members and some personalities from Life insurance and reinsurance business, and from the world of Law and medical science.

The next scientific meeting (held in French) will take place in Paris on June 8th 2012 and the final program will be set until the next few weeks and available on the website of the society (<http://amcap.blogspot.com/>).

As every year, AMCAP will provide volunteers as a teaching support for the Life Insurance Medicine diploma of the University of Marseille.

5.6 **ASISA and SASIMU (South Africa):** Pieter Coetzer

Two successful SASIMU meetings were held recently. The Johannesburg branch was addressed by an actuary on the topic of mortality, and the Cape Town chapter received feedback on the last AHOI conference in Las Vegas in the USA. Both were well attended by underwriters and medical advisors.

5.7 **ANZIMA (Australia):** Detloff Rump

This time, there is nothing to report on IMOK (India), ANZIMA (Aus/NZ), or from elsewhere in Asia-Pacific. AIMA staged a very successful conference in Shanghai recently.

ANZIMA appears to be in winding down mode, which is regrettable.

5.8 **AIMAV (Italy)**

Don Capurro

As usual since four years now, Aimav held their annual meeting in Milan on 11 October with the participation of physicians, actuaries, underwriters and liquidators.

Our meetings have replaced the Congresses, now too expensive in view of the current economic crisis, and have become "training days on risk assumption and claim management" in order to be more useful to the participants in the performance of their daily work.

The theme this year was "Long term care policy", which is popular currently in Italy, and it has been studied from a strictly insurance point of view (with papers by underwriters, actuaries and liquidators), and from a medical perspective, aimed to those pathologies (acute and chronic) which may involve the loss of autonomy, with the intervention of specialists in neurology and rehabilitation medicine.

The working day was a great success, with approximately a hundred registered people and with interventions aimed at improving the knowledge of the topic.

At the end of the working day we had the AIMAV Board Meeting, resulting in the reconstitution of the Board, the appointment of a new Chairman in place of the late Prof. Ferdinando Antoniotti, and the confirmation of the three Vice-Presidents (an actuary, a specialist in forensic medicine and a consultant at a leading Insurance Company), and the General Secretary.

The new Chairman of Aimav is Prof. Colomba Calcagni, Prof. Antoniotti's widow, who is Director of the Association by many years, and Professor of Forensic and Insurance Medicine at the University of Rome.

You may find all the above news, the name of the Directors and all the papers in the Association web-site www.aimav.it.

5.9 **GAV (Netherlands)**

Robert Kneepkens

The annual Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine (DICIM) 2011 was – again – a big success. DICIM is the joint congress of the NVVG (Dutch Society for Insurance Medicine; i.e. social security) and the GAV (Dutch Association of Medical Officers in Private Insurances).

DICIM 2012 will take place on in November on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th, with an opening evening programme on Wednesday 7th.

As in the years before, all lectures on Thursday will be in English. In a few months all information will be published on www.vgdagen.nl.

5.10 **EUMASS (Europe):**

Robert Kneepkens

The XIXth EUMASS Congress will take place from the 14th to the 16th of June 2012 in Padova. The city lies on the River Bacchiglione in the North-East of Italy and is linked to Venice by the River Brenta. Padova is internationally

known for its University, the second oldest in the world after Bologna. It was founded in 1222 as some professors left Bologna to find more freedom in teaching, and in 1250 the first School of Medicine was created.

The EUMASS Congress will be organised with the cooperation of the National Institutions of Social Security such as INAIL and INPS (Workers' Compensation Authority and Sickness and Invalidity Insurance Fund). The opening ceremony will take place in the Great Hall (Aula Magna) of the University and the other sessions will continue in the Conference Centre of the Town Hall.

The title of the Congress will be: "Social security challenges in Europe". The Scientific Committee, provisionally, proposes the following themes:

- Population and work force challenges in Europe.
- A healthy worker in a healthy workplace.
- Evidence based benefit decisions.
- Return to work: what works?
- The influence of e-health on healthcare.

6 Upcoming International Conferences on Insurance Medicine

- Austria: European Life & Health Underwriters' Association
April 25-27, 2012, Vienna, Austria
www.elhua.eu
- Canada: Canadian Life Insurance Medical Officers Association (CLIMOA)
67th Annual Scientific Meeting
June 3-6, 2012, Montreal
www.climoa.com
- UK: Assurance Medical Underwriting Society (UK)
www.amus.org.uk
- Italy: European Union of Medicine in Assurance and Social Security (EUMASS) XIX EUMASS Congress
June 14-16 2012, Padova, Italy
www.eumass.com
- Netherlands: Dutch International Congress on Insurance Medicine (DICIM)
November 7-9 2012, Almere (near Amsterdam), Netherlands
www.vgdagen.nl

7. Personal news

One of the ANZIMA members, a lady in the name of Dr Christine Weir, has sadly passed away this month.

Contributions written by authors as indicated.

E-newsletter compiled and edited by:

*Pieter Coetzer
General Secretary: ICLAM
pieter.coetzer@sanlam.co.za*