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# EDTNA | ERCA News

European Dialysis and Transplant Nurses Association/  
European Renal Care Association

Summer Edition • 2006

## President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

It will be my pleasure to welcome you, in a couple of days, to the great city of Madrid for our Association's 35<sup>th</sup> International Conference.



This year's programme includes an outstanding panel of scientific sessions, advanced skills workshops, corporate education presentations and many networking opportunities. The event will also include an exhibition showcasing the latest drugs, treatments and technology in renal care.

Thank you to the Scientific Programme Committee, Maria Cruz Casal, Local Organising Committee Chair and her team for their dedication and hard work over these last few months.

After 2 years, my term as President of EDTNA/ERCA is coming to an end and I would like to thank the Association for giving me the opportunity to lead this great organisation which has seen challenging times and some wonderful new developments. I would like to thank the Executive Committee and all the volunteers for their support over the last two years and in particular Maria Cruz Casal, Alois Gorke, Andre Stragier and Anne Keogh. I would like to wish Jitka Pancirová all the best taking over the leadership of the Association.

I look forward to meeting you all in Madrid!

*Althea Mahon*

Althea Mahon

President EDTNA/ERCA 2004-2006

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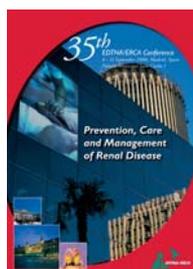
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## Prevention, Care and Management of Renal Disease

**Only a few days remain before the 35<sup>th</sup> International Conference takes place in Madrid, Spain, from 8-11 September 2006. For this year's event, EDTNA/ERCA has selected Madrid, the dynamic Capital of Spain, to host an outstanding programme and delegates**



**from across Europe and beyond are expected to attend.**

The Association prides itself on being a multidisciplinary, multilingual, and multicultural Association and, as such, will offer

translation into 7 languages (Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, and Spanish) in the main hall throughout the conference. The sessions are aimed at the renal multidisciplinary team including technicians, dietitians, renal social workers, transplant co-ordinators, nurses, and nephrologists.

### Prevention – a Worldwide Concern?

The conference theme: Prevention, Care and Management of Renal Disease will be reflected through all the sessions. As medical science advances, our care of the ever increasing number of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) patients may be curtailed through financial constraints.

The conference theme will address the dilemma facing all healthcare workers today. The rise in detection of CKD will impact on the quality of care provided unless well planned and managed. In third world countries a further crisis will occur due to limited resources and the inability to treat End Stage Renal Failure. Unless the onset of CKD can be prevented or delayed, mortality rates will continue to rise. Abstracts this year will demonstrate that prevention is a worldwide concern with many countries contributing their different perspectives.

Many renowned international guest speakers have agreed to speak at the conference including Professor Luis Miguel Ruilope, President of the Spanish Society of Hypertension, Professor Guisepppe Remuzzi, Council Member of International Society of Nephrology and Chair of the ISN Research and Prevention Committee focusing on worldwide prevention of CKD, Professor Suhail Ahmad who has just been awarded the James W. Haviland Award for Outstanding Achievement in Nephrology in the U.S.A. and Professor Claudio Ronco among others.

### An Inspiring Programme

Renal disease cannot be cured; therefore care is crucial for our patients. Care of the person with chronic illness is specialised and the speakers in the conference will explore how changes in treatment through technology, science and quality initiatives with standard setting have altered that care.

Professor Guisepppe Remuzzi will give the opening plenary lecture entitled: "Kidney failure stabilises after an increase in two decades: the impact on global (renal and cardiovascular) health", reflecting the theme of the conference and setting the scene for the rest of our speakers.



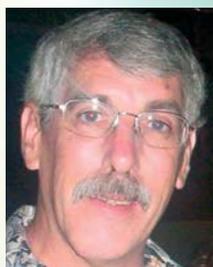
Consultant Nurses Althea Mahon and Karen Jenkins with Dr. Charlie Tomson will discuss the merits of very early diagnosis and planning, and its effects on the delay of onset of CKD. Dr. Manuel Praga will discuss the management of long-term care.

»»»» continued on page 2

## Member Spotlight

### Ray James

Technical Manager, Barts and The London NHS Trust, London, UK  
Member since 1999



#### When and why did you decide to join the EDTNA/ERCA?

Although I had been aware of the Association for some time through the Journal and Conferences, it was only in the late 1990's that I was in a position to join. As a multi-national, multi-professional body the EDTNA/ERCA represents a rare achievement of different cultures and languages being brought together with a common purpose. For someone with an interest in the broader perspectives, joining the Association is an ideal way of achieving this because of the opportunities that it affords.

#### What was the most interesting project you've been involved with for the Association?

I have contributed in a small way to several of the Collaborative Research Programme (CRP) projects such as the Water Treatment project, and each project has provided an opportunity to learn about different aspects of renal care. However, to me, the most significant has been the development of the Core Curriculum in Renal Technology.

Having had an interest in technical education for some time, this provided an opportunity for working with technologists from other countries. It has provided an insight into the different approaches taken by member countries in relation to renal technical education, and the problems encountered in trying to produce a piece of work which can be utilised by all.

#### How has EDTNA/ERCA helped you in your career?

Having joined the Association relatively late in my career, I think it is fair to say that membership has had little impact on my career prospects. However, I would like to believe that, by joining and participating in the Associations activities, this raises the profile of technologists and will encourage others, who may receive greater benefit, to follow suit.



The causes of renal failure – diabetes and cardio-vascular problems – will be explored with papers from Professor Magdi Yaqoob, Professor Luis Ruilope, Dr. George Melotte, and Specialist Diabetic Nurse Karen Marchant amongst others. Specialist information about the use of drugs in CKD and the reasons for patients being non-adherent with their drug regimes will be examined by Jean Hooper, Clinical Psychologist.

The latest advances in peritoneal and haemodialysis will also be examined throughout the Conference. Professor Edwina Brown will explore advancing technology for peritoneal dialysis, followed by a discussion into which system, APD, better maintains the patient. Haemodialysis sessions will include discussions on haemodiafiltration and other advanced procedures.

We are delighted that our colleagues from the U.S.A. will present findings from the Dialysis Outcomes Practices Patterns Study (DOPPS). EDTNA/ERCA currently co-ordinates the data collection in Europe for this study, which provides insight into clinical practice and has included evidence to encourage changes in future management aspects (e.g. access).

For the first time, EDTNA/ERCA will present a session on new technologies looking towards the future, giving delegates the very first opportunity to hear and understand the latest developments.

The conference will end with a futuristic talk from Professor Suhail Ahmad entitled "Replacing the Dialysis Machine with the Wearable/Implantable Kidney or Just a Capsule!"

### 135 Abstracts Selected

EDTNA/ERCA is truly proud of the number of abstract submissions from all over the world. It is further evidence of the outstanding reputation for quality accorded to EDTNA/ERCA Conferences. The Programme Committee received a record number of 221 abstracts from 32 different countries, of



which 135 are selected for presentation, orally or as posters. This is an exciting opportunity for delegates to provide information about their work, and a great occasion for everyone to learn and share experiences. Scholarships for both written manuscripts and best posters will be awarded during the Conference.

### Special Features

Building on our success of last year, the Programme Committee has decided to increase the number of Advanced Workshops. These Workshops will cover: CKD/Hypertension, Continuous Blood Volume Control, Diabetes and Infections. Workshops are especially useful to those workers who are already specialists but seek further information to assist in the provision of high-level care.

The Research Board will present updates of its latest projects. The focus will be on infections and differences in nursing practices and care throughout the world. Professor Dirk Vogelaers will discuss the significance of blood borne diseases, Dr. David Tovbin will focus on Hepatitis C and B, their diagnosis and prevention. An advanced workshop will offer more information into prevention and advanced treatment of infections.

The Education Board, which continues to accredit Renal courses throughout Europe, will review European education and the progression towards a unified policy for specialist education. Accreditation awards will be presented during the Conference.



### A Forum on Practice Issues

The Association's 7 Interest Groups (Anaemia, Hypertension, Nutrition, Paediatric, Social Workers, Technicians, Transplantation) will run their own workshops providing forums for delegates to discuss practice issues. Discussion groups will have experts answering questions from delegates on their own specialist subjects in informal settings. These multilingual groups are successful in fostering the supportive atmosphere of EDTNA/ERCA conferences. People needing assistance with language find it from friends, colleagues and the Key Members, who represent 25 different countries.

## Meet the Industry



EDTNA/ERCA Corporate Members and Industry will have the opportunity to demonstrate their latest developments and showcase their products at the exhibition. Industry will also provide educational sessions, offering the latest information on new products and techniques.

## A Not-to-be Missed Event: the Opening Ceremony!

On Friday 8 September, starting at 18.30, delegates, spouses and exhibitors will get together for the Opening Ceremony in the main hall followed by the Welcome Cocktail in the Exhibition area. This unique evening event is the perfect opportunity to meet and greet colleagues in a fun and casual environment.

It is with great pride that we announce that TRH Crown Prince Felipe and Crown Princess Leticia of Asturias, Her Excellence Mrs Elena Salgado, Spanish Minister of Health and Consumer Affairs and Mrs

Esperanza Aguirre, President of Madrid Community have accepted to be our distinguished Committee of Honour.

All delegates will be provided with an abstract book which is an excellent resource tool. Papers with special interest will be selected to be written up for the Journal of Renal Care®, published four times annually in 7 languages. Full information on the Conference Programme, selected abstracts, corporate education sessions, guest speakers, and registration information are available at [www.edtna-erca.org](http://www.edtna-erca.org)



We look forward to this exciting and stimulating event in the cosmopolitan and welcoming city of Madrid, and encourage companies who would like to promote their products not only across Europe, but around the world, to attend.

See you in Madrid!

For more information and to register, visit [www.edtna-erca.org](http://www.edtna-erca.org) or contact  
E-mail: [madrid2006@edtna-erca.org](mailto:madrid2006@edtna-erca.org)

# A New Team for the Social workers Interest Group

A new team, including 3 Members, has just been nominated for the Social Workers Interest Group (Madelon Kleingeld, Chair, Nurith Blumenthal and Werner de Ruijter).



The Group will keep looking at the development of standards for renal social work, including educational standards and job descriptions, which are presently being developed in the format of a core curriculum.

The aim is to have the publication ready by the end of 2006.

This year's focus will be on developing a modular course for renal social workers / psycho social workers and to look at joint projects with other interest groups and contributing to initiatives like the "Violence and Aggression" topic currently being investigated by the Education Board.

For more information please contact  
Madelon Kleingeld  
([m.kleingeld@wkz.azu.nl](mailto:m.kleingeld@wkz.azu.nl))  
or visit [www.edtna-erca.org](http://www.edtna-erca.org).

## Conference Update

### EDTNA/ERCA 35<sup>th</sup> International Conference 8-11 September 2006 Madrid, Spain

Visit the Conference scientific and technical exhibition!

The following companies have already confirmed their participation (as per July 2006):

Acime Frame/Palex Medical SA  
Amgen  
Arbor Research Collaborative For Health (Formerly Urrea)  
Baxter  
Bionic Medizintechnik GmbH  
Biotene/Oral Balance  
Charles River Laboratories  
Federacion Nacional Alcer  
Gharden Balance  
National Kidney Foundation USA  
Nipro Europe  
Revista Rol  
Roche Pharmaceuticals  
Seden  
Shire Plc  
Syner-Med/Grupo Uriach/Vifor International  
Trusetal Verbandstoffwerk GmbH

Other local companies will also take part in the exhibition:

Adefrutas  
Heporgom  
Solana De Cabras



Visit [www.edtna-erca-madrid2006.com](http://www.edtna-erca-madrid2006.com) for up-to-date list of Exhibitors.

# DOPPS III Continues to Make Satisfactory Progresses



The project contracted by EDTNA/ERCA is to manage the collection of observational data from some 20 dialysis facilities in seven European countries.

## The role of EDTNA/ERCA

The role of EDTNA/ERCA is to work with the study coordinator in each facility and, where necessary, with the Medical Officer in charge to ensure the timely and accurate submission of data. The data are processed in the USA as part of a worldwide study by Arbor Research Collaborative for Health, the former University Renal Research and Education Association (URREA).

The two previous rounds of this research have produced some very useful data about the effectiveness of dialysis and treatment procedures. This third round (DOPPS III) is more extensive in its coverage and seeks more data than its predecessors.

## About DOPPS

The Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS) is an on-going observational study of haemodialysis patients in twelve countries, seeking to identify dialysis practices that contribute to improved mortality rates, hospitalisation rates, health related quality of life, and vascular access outcomes.

The DOPPS is coordinated by research scientists and staff of the Arbor Research and is supported by scientific grants from Amgen and Kirin.

The Project is managed by a Project Manager who works closely with Arbor Research and with the lead Clinical Research Associates (CRA) appointed to lead the data collection

process in each country. All the data submitted are passed directly by courier to Arbor Research. EDTNA/ERCA volunteers have taken on the role of Clinical Research Associates and co-ordinate the data collection with six European countries.

## Project Status

Acceptance packets have been sent to participating units in six of the seven European countries involved. France has recently appointed a CRA and has recruited 20 participating units. Belgium, Spain, Italy, Germany Sweden and the UK have all started completing Patient Questionnaires.

13 units in the UK have obtained Ethics Committee clearance and Germany has required external data collection in at least two facilities, which are now covered by one of the EDTNA/ERCA volunteers.

Belgium has suffered from withdrawal of two units but replacements have been selected and received start-up packages.

In total, 107 units have received Census forms and 90 have been returned. Those who have returned their Census forms have received Patient Assignment forms identifying the patients selected to participate. More than half the units in Spain and Belgium have now submitted their first Medical Questionnaires.

Although the setup workload seem to be causing difficulties in some units, DOPPS continues to make satisfactory progress and communications with the units and Arbor Research is being maintained effectively.

DOPPS III represents invaluable information for EDTNA/ERCA Members and demonstrates the Association's commitment to always improve the Renal Care.

For more information about DOPPS, please visit [www.dopps.org](http://www.dopps.org) or contact David Ashwanden, Project Manager, at E-mail: [david@ashwandens.demon.co.uk](mailto:david@ashwandens.demon.co.uk).

## Calendar of Events

- ▼ **EDTNA/ERCA 35<sup>th</sup> International Conference**  
8-11 September 2006  
Madrid, Spain
- ▼ **42<sup>nd</sup> EASD Meeting**  
14-17 September  
Copenhagen, Denmark
- ▼ **SEDEN Conference**  
1-4 October 2006  
Cordoba, Spain
- ▼ **The Bone and the Kidney – ISN Nexus Symposium**  
12-15 October 2006  
Copenhagen, Denmark
- ▼ **Nephrology Ibero-American Congress**  
18-21 October 2006  
Madrid, Spain
- ▼ **TNNA 16th Annual Congress**  
28 October - 1 November 2006  
Antalya, Turkey
- ▼ **6<sup>th</sup> Czech Multidisciplinary Nephrology Conference**  
11-12 November  
Brno, Czech Republic
- ▼ **EDTNA/ERCA UK Seminar**  
12-13 November 2006  
Nottingham, UK
- ▼ **5<sup>th</sup> 3-Country Conference (CH/G/A)**  
23-25 November 2006  
Konstanz, Germany
- ▼ **EDTNA/ERCA 36<sup>th</sup> International Conference**  
15-18 September 2007  
Florence, Italy



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EDTNA/ERCA News is published by:

EDTNA/ERCA Secretariat

24, rue Chauchat  
75009 Paris, France  
Tel: +33-1-53 85 82 69  
Fax : +33-1-53 85 82 83  
E-mail: [info@edtna-erca.org](mailto:info@edtna-erca.org)  
[www.edtna-erca.org](http://www.edtna-erca.org)

Would you like to contribute to the next issue? Please send your articles and pictures to Karine Desbant, EDTNA/ERCA Marketing and Communications Manager (E-mail: [karine.desbant@edtna-erca.org](mailto:karine.desbant@edtna-erca.org)).