



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ADDICTION MEDICINE

ISAM Newsletter

Feb 2013

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Message from the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

This year ISAM's 15th annual meeting will convene in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, under the theme of ***Managing Addiction through Evidence-Based Medical & Psychological Interventions***. Organizers include the University Malaya, the national Anti-Drug Agency of Malaysia, the Ministry of Health of Malaysia, the Malaysian AIDS Council, the Department of Prison of Malaysia, and the University of Malay Center of Addiction Sciences.

As per previous ISAM meetings, the annual meeting will be a unique opportunity for social interaction and networking among colleagues, as well as giving rise to a forum conducive to sharing of information in the field. The highlights for the 2013 annual meeting will offer a special time to share and enjoy the beauty and hospitality of Malaysia.

This meeting will mark a milestone as the first ISAM annual meeting to be held in Asia and we hope that it will be a positive opportunity to connect with our colleagues in this corner of the globe.

I am very enthusiastic in welcoming you all to Kuala Lumpur, our host city for the 15th ISAM annual meeting.

Registration and abstract submission are now open and we invite you to come and participate.

Best wishes, see you all in November

Hannu Alho, ISAM President

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ADDICTION MEDICINE RECOGNITION AS MEDICAL SPECIALTY – NORWAY

Happy news from Norway: The Minister of Health and Care Services has decided to establish a full medical speciality in Addiction Medicine

On June 22nd 2012, the Norwegian Minister of Health and Care Services Anne-Grete Strøm-Erichsen put forward a Governmental White Paper on “Drug and Alcohol Policy”. One of the decisions in this paper is to establish a full medical speciality in Addiction Medicine.

This has been a long struggle for Norwegian doctors involved in the treatment of addictions. The first proposal was turned down by the Norwegian Medical Association in 1999. The second proposal was considered positive, but was turned down in 2003 by the Norwegian Council for Specialities and Specialist Education. In 2004 the “Drug Reform” was launched by the government giving the Specialised Health Care System the responsibility for the treatment of Drug and Alcohol patients. The Multidisciplinary Specialised Treatment was established for the treatment of patients with problems with alcohol, prescribed drugs and/or illegal drugs.

The Norwegian Association of Addiction Medicine (NFRAM) is one of 60 specialty branches (associations of physicians with shared scientific interests) in the Norwegian Medical Association. In 2008, NFRAM made a report commissioned by the Norwegian Medical Association: Evaluation of a New Speciality in Addiction Medicine. This report was approved by the Medical Association in 2009. The report was then further developed and approved by the Norwegian Council for Specialities and Specialist training and the Norwegian Directorate of Health in 2010. Finally, last Friday the decision was taken by the Ministry of Health and Care Services to establish a full medical speciality in Addiction Medicine.

The time frame for the new Addiction Speciality is 5 years. The suggested internship in accredited institutions includes three years in different part of Addiction treatment (in-patient, out-patient, detoxification, rehabilitation and opioid maintenance treatment), one year in psychiatry and an unspecified year in for example research or working as a GP. The candidates should have individualised learning plans, clinical supervision, hospital based internship teaching and specified national addiction medicine courses.

What is left to do? The suggested speciality rules have to be further developed, a speciality board has to be appointed and teaching hospitals have to be appointed and accredited. We have to develop transition speciality rules/interim regulations for medical doctors who have the necessary competence in Addiction medicine to ensure clinical supervision for the new specialist candidates. There is a lot of work ahead, but we are happy to go on with this work for the benefit of our patients. More competent doctors mean better treatment for our patients.

Submitted by Dr. G. Welle-Strand

NEW ISAM COMMITTEES

In its continuing efforts to improve the ongoing running of ISAM, the ISAM Board of Directors established five committees to support the functions of the Society in key areas:

- Executive Committee (Chair H. Alho as President of ISAM with the President Elect and immediate Past-President)
- Education and Training Committee (Chair G. Welle-Strand)
- Membership Committee (Chair S. Higuchi)
- Public Relations Committee (Chair J. Reimer)
- Financial Committee (Chair K. Bardy)

These committees are now seeking active members, if you are interested please contact the Committee Chair or the ISAM office (isam.mdorozio@gmail.com).

MEMBER SURVEY ON ISAM PUBLICATIONS

Member input is being sought in regards to ISAM communications/publications (Web page, Newsletter, Proceedings and Journal). An email notice will be sent out with a link inviting participation in providing feedback through a brief survey on "Survey Monkey". We hope to compile the responses and utilize this essential information to guide future decisions regarding the various communication tools ISAM maintains.

Your willingness to give a few minutes to help set the future direction of ISAM communication/publications would be greatly appreciated.

Webpages changes and Online registration for 2013 Dues

- A new online membership registration for First time members, Renewal membership and Affiliate Society dues will soon be available on the ISAM webpages www.isamweb.org
- ISAM accepts both VISA and Mastercard
- Multi-year registration for 3 or 5 years will also be available
- A notice will be sent to the membership once the online registration is operating
- We are currently updating out webpages and will soon have a 'new look'

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS

ISAM 2014 Yokohama, Japan
www.isam2014.com

ISAM 2015 Dundee, Scotland

ISAM 2016 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Anyone interested to host an ISAM Annual meeting is invited to inform the Head Office of their intention and be prepared to bring a brief presentaiton to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION 2013

- ISAM Annual Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Wednesday, Nov 20th, 2013
- CSAM [Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine] Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada Wednesday, Sep 25, 2013
- Additional sittings may be available, depending on demand and a critical number of 8 applicants for the sitting
- All pertinent information and application form can be downloaded from the ISAM website: www.isamweb.org on the left hand sidebar under *International Certification*.

ONWARD TO ISAM 2013 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Managing Addiction through Evidence Based Medical & Psychological Interventions

Happy greeting from Kuala Lumpur!!!

It is an honour for me to invite all delegates from various parts of the world to converge to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the ISAM's 15th Annual Meeting. It is for the first time it will be held in the Asia Pacific region.

As the field of addiction develops rapidly it is necessary for us to keep updated to enable us providing comprehensive services to our patients. As more and more evidence supporting medical treatment for addiction becomes available, it is vital for us to critically examine the choices of treatment. The theme of the meeting is "Managing Addiction through Evidence Based Medical and Psychosocial Interventions". In this meeting experts in the field will give updates on the latest development in the area of addiction. Since amphetamines use is a growing problem the meeting will also emphasise on it and subsequently, it will try to discuss critically scientific evidence on this type of drug use. As we know there are also emerging new behavioural addictions such as internet addiction which will also be the focus of this meeting.

Apart from attending the scientific programs delegates will have opportunities to visit interesting attractions in Malaysia. As widely known Malaysia is also known for its truly Asia culture. Food heaven is also synonymously attached to Kuala Lumpur.

Your participation in the 15th Annual Meeting for ISAM in Kuala Lumpur from 21st till 23rd November 2013 will definitely make this meeting more exciting.

"*Selamat Datang*" and Welcome to Kuala Lumpur

Dr Muhammad Muhsin Ahmad Zahari

*Chair, Local Organising Committee for ISAM's 15th Annual Meeting 2013
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.*

DATES: November 21-23, 2013

VENUE: Menara Tekekom (TM) Convention Centre

VISA INFORMATION: <http://www.imi.gov.my/index.php/en/main-services/syarat-kemasukan-ke-malaysia>
(please check if you require a VISA for entry into Malaysia)

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: Deadline June 15, 2013

REGISTRATION: Registration is open for ISAM 2013 Kuala Lumpur – Early Registration ends July 31st, 2013. A preliminary program and information are available at: www.ISAM2013.org

CONFERENCE INFORMATION: isam2013kl@gmail.com

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS: Details on several hotels (from 5 Stars to 3 Stars) can be found on the ISAM2013 webpages under GENERAL INFORMATION along with other very useful items for those traveling to Malaysia.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM: Detailed Conference information is available: www.isam2013.org

PLENARY Speakers:

- Prof. Icro Maremanni
- Dr. Robert Ali
- Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman
- Dr. Stefano Pallanti
- Prof. Dr. Mohamad Hussain Habil
- Dr. Eliot Gardner

REGISTRATION

In US dollars for Foreign Delegates	Early – till Jul 31 st	Aug 1 – Oct 31 st	Nov 1 onward & on site
ISAM Members	\$520	\$600	\$680
Affiliated Society Members*	\$585	\$675	\$765
Non ISAM Members	\$650	\$750	\$850
Students, Low and Lower Middle Income Economies (World Bank Categories)	\$250	\$300	\$400
Accompanying Persons	\$150	\$200	\$300
Workshops	\$100	\$150	\$150
In MYR for Malaysian Nationals			
Conference Registration - Nationals	MYR600	MYR700	MYR800
Workshop (fee for Nationals)	MYR300	MYR350	MYR350

ISAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICE

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