VIIIth WORLD CONGRESS
OF I.S.D.E.
SEPTEMBER 1 - 4, 1998

LISTE DE PROVENANCE DES PARIERS

ARGENTINA  2  PERU  2
AUSTRALIA  11  POLAND  9
BELGIUM  16  PORTUGAL  9
BRASIL  45  ROMANIA  3
CANADA  14  RUSSIA  5
CHILE  2  SAUDI ARABIA  1
CHINA  25  SINGAPORE  1
CZECH REPUBLIC  2  SLOVAKIA  4
FINLAND  6  SOUTH AFRICA  1
FRANCE  16  SPAIN  11
GERMANY  41  SWITZERLAND  3
GREECE  5  TAIWAN  6
HUNGARY  14  THAILAND  2
INDIA  1  THE NETHERLANDS  13
IRAN  1  TURKEY  1
IRELAND  4  UK  13
ITALY  53  UKRAINE  2
JAPAN  149  USA  31
KOREA  5  YUGOSLAVIA  7
LATVIA  2  TOTAL  538

Andre Duranceau, M.D.
Professor of Surgery
Universite Montreal
Division of Thoracic Surgery
President, VIII World Congress ISDE
**SYMPOSIUM**

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**ACCOMODATING DOWNTOWN MONTREAL**

![Map of Montreal showing accommodation options]
Enjoy staying in Montreal!!

City Tour
Enjoy some of the secrets of Montreal! Comfortably seated in a deluxe motorcoach, you will visit Old Montreal, the top of Mount Royal which will offer a splendid view of the city, the St. Lawrence River, the site of the 1976 Olympics, the botanical Gardens and Others, the attractions in Montreal, a large multi-cultural city.

Walking Tour of Old Montreal
A qualified guide will take you for a walking tour to discover the historic beauty and vitality of Old Montreal. You will visit the sailors’ church, Notre-Dame-de-Bonsecours, the Old Port, Place Jacques-Cartier, Notre-Dame Basilica, the Palais de Justice and Hotel de Ville.

Montreal-Underground City
A guide will take you on a tour by Metro to the underground section of Montreal where you will be able to visit department stores, boutiques, restaurants, cafes, Place des Arts and other fascinating attractions all linked together without ever having to step outside.

A Montreal Cruise on the St. Lawrence
What could be more pleasant than a tranquil boat ride on the St. Lawrence River to admire the city and its old port, the historic buildings of old Montreal, and the high-rise buildings sparkling against the backdrop of Mount Royal. A commentator will share the history of Montreal and describe the various areas of interest as the cruise boat glides silently by...

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts was founded in 1860 and is the oldest in Canada. Its collections include sculptures, water-colours, oil paintings, porcelain, stained glass and many other fascinating works of art. Ancient and modern Canadian and Quebec art, including Inuit and Indian artifacts, occupy an important place in the Museum’s collection.
**VIDEO-LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

Prof. Alberto Peracchia
Department of General Surgery and Surgical Oncology
University of Milan

The ISDE Video-Library is preparing its catalogue. Thanks to a grant from "GLAXO-WELLCOME Italy", the first two Video (see last issue of the Newsletter) are now available. Members of the Society interested in receiving the videos must order them directly writing to the ISDE Video-Library office in Milan. We are looking for new sponsors that will invest in this activity with an educational grant. Only with major economical contributions a growth of the Video-Library will be possible, maintaining the possibility to have free videos for ISDE members.

Future titles will be selected by videos that will be submitted and accepted for presentation at the forthcoming World Congress in Montreal.

(A. Peracchia)

**REGIONAL & NATION'S ACTIVITY**

**West Europe**

A. H. Holscher, M.D.,
Professor & Chairman
Chairman of the Department
Medizinische Einrichtungen
der Universität zu Köln
(Lindenthal), GERMANY

From 13th to 14th of June 1997, Prof. Patrick Lozac'H has organized an international meeting in Brest, France entitled: "Cancers of the Stomach and of the Cardia". Numerous international renown esophageal surgeons were invited guests of this important symposium among them Prof. Akiyama from Tokyo, Prof. Fekete from Paris, Prof. Bardini from Padova, Prof. Launois from Rennes, Prof. Peracchia from Milan, Prof. Sasaki from Tokyo, and Prof. Steichen from New York. The Symposium comprised all aspects of the cancers of the lower esophagus and the cardia as well as the stomach. The discussion included especially epidemiology, carcinogenesis and pathology, technical aspects of gastrectomy and esophagectomy, and especially the extent and quality of lymphadenectomy. These issues were addressed in oral presentations as well as video sessions and panel discussion. The high standard of this meeting concerning research as well as practical surgery is the merit of the President, Prof. Lozac'H, who prepared the sessions in detail and stimulated the discussions with all his efforts. Although Brest in the far west of France is a windy city, the hospitality of the host of this meeting was outstanding and ended up with the special highlight of a "Gourmet Dinner" in a romantic chateau in the lovely landscape of the Bretagne.

Prof. Siewert from Munich has been elected President of the German Cancer Congress which will be held in Berlin from 8 - 12th of June 1998. This congress will cover a aspects of cancer research and topical aspects of diagnostic and treatment of all kinds of cancer, especially cancer of the gastrointestinal tract.

(A. H. Holscher)
**Regional & Nation’s Activity**

Robert GIULI, M.D., FACS  
Professor of Surgery  
Scientific director of  
O.E.S.O., Paris FRANCE

1996 was the year of the 5th O.E.S.O. World Congress which, as usual, dealt with a single topic.  
The Esophagogastric Junction.

This Congress took place in Paris, once again in the emblematic setting of the U.N.E.S.C.O. Headquarters, under the patronage of its Director General and that of the President of France.

In 7 different auditoriums functioning simultaneously 10 hours per day, 1500 participants benefitted from the total involvement of the most important experts in the world. The attendees participated in essential updates, in the form of answers to 300 questions on the esophagogastric junction, and controversial debates or faceoffs in 18 disciplines. Several organizations officially participated: British Society of Gastroenterology, Pasteur Institute, Gastroenterology Societies of Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay, World Organization of Gastroenterology, World Organization of Digestive Endoscopy.

Moreover, a world premiere took place at U.N.E.S.C.O: 21 international experts, representing prominent universities, contributed to the first attempt at a worldwide evaluation of the laparoscopic Nissen technique, thus giving shape to what could soon become the University of the Future.

Nine Centers spread out over Europe, North America, and Australia, participated in this evaluation. This marked a milestone in the worlds of esophagology, of surgery and in the vision, thus rendered concrete, of globe-encompassing education.

**South America**

Professor Henrique Walter Pinotti and his group, organized in Sao Paulo, Brazil, for the first time, an International Symposium dedicated exclusively to Esophageal Diseases, under the sponsorship of ISDE, Brazilian section.

This event, which was held in Reboucas Convention Center on 29th and 30th July, 1997 has as special guest speakers distinguished members of ISDE, as prof. Andre Durancéau (Canada), President of the next World Congress, Prof. Robert GIULI (France) and Prof. Francisco Castro e Souza (Portugal), besides leaders in the field in Latin America, like Prof. Attila Csendes, Prof. Italo Braghetto (Chile), Prof. Adolfo Badaloni, Prof. Semi Scinfeldin (Argentina) and Prof. Manuel Husman (Peru).

A dense scientific program, with panels round tables and conferences covering topics of benign and malignant diseases in depth, was attended by approximately 450 assistants from Brazil and South America.

The success obtained was inspiring and prompted the Organizing Committee, which is already working in the organizations of ISDE World Congress of 2001, to be held in Sao Paulo.

Ivan Ceconello, M.D.  
Professor of Surgery  
Medical School  
of University of San Paulo  
San Paulo, BRAZIL

(R. GIULI)
REGIONAL & NATION'S ACTIVITY

*Thailand

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Songkla province, Southern Thailand has the highest incidence of esophageal cancer in Thailand, with an age-standardized rate of 9.7 per 100,000 in males and 3.1 per 100,000 in females. More than 90% of cases with histological diagnosis were squamous cell carcinoma. A geographical influence was also demonstrated in a survey study in southern Thailand; the incidence rate is higher in the lower provinces than the upper ones in the southern region. The known risk factors for esophageal cancer are alcohol consumption, tobacco consumption, betel chewing, and particular local southern diet. The recent case-control study revealed that past consumption of two species of bean, Archidendron jiringa (Luk Nieng) and Parkia timoriania (Luk Rieng) increased risk. This has also been supported by animal experiment conducted last year. The Esophageal Cancer Research Program (ECRP) was originated in 1989, under Dr. Apinop Chanvitan the Director of Research Program, Department of surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University. There are 80-100 cases per years enrolled for treatment and clinical trials protocols at Department of Surgery, Prince of Songkla University. The Royal College of Surgery of Surgeons of Thailand has the responsibility of providing the knowledge and research grant for the training of young staff. During the last meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand (22nd annual meeting 18-21 July 1997 at Pattaya city, Thailand ) the topics were: Etiology and Early Detection of Gastric Cancer and Esophageal Cancer. These topics were presented by Prof. Kiiichi Maruyama from Japan and Dr. Apinop Chanvitan from Thailand.

Theres each team at ECRP received the support of the top specialist in the world. Research about surgical treatment and chemotherapy clinical trials was provided by Prof. Hiroshi Akiyama of Toranomon Hospital, Japan, Prof. John Wong of Queen Mary Hospital, University of Hong Kong and Prof. Rudiger Siewert of Technical University of Munich, Germany. The research about early detection and screening Programs was provided by the Cancer Institute, Cancer Hospital, Beijing People Republic of China, which sends a Chinese doctor for collaboration work at Prince of Songkla University yearly. The research about molecular biology and carcinogenesis was provided by the International Agency Research for Cancer, (IARC) WHO, Lyon, France (Dr. Ruggero Montaseno and Dr. Pierre Hainaut of IARC) Prof. Alan Casson of Birmingham Heartland Hospital, UK, Prof. Shih Hsin Lu of Cancer Institute, Beijing, PRC. The fresh specimens which have operated in the past 5 years were analyzed for oncogene. The research in this field has progressed immensly in ECRP, thus I have concluded that squamous cell carcinoma of esophageal cancer from Southern Thailand shows a distinctive spectrum of mutation which may represent “DNA fingerprints” of environmental carcinogens. I plan to present this topic in the next VIIIth World Congress of ISDE, meeting at Montreal, Canada.

*The Netherlands

H. Obertop, M.D.
Professor of Surgery
Academic Medical Center
University of Amsterdam
The Netherlands

“TRANSHiatal ESOPHAGECTOMy versus TRANSThoracic ESOPHAGECTOMy WITH TWO-FIELDS LYMPHADENECTOMy: A RANDOMIZED STUDY

World-wide, different techniques are advocated for the surgical treatment of esophageal carcinoma. Although non-randomized studies suggest that an extended lymphadenectomy with wide local excision of the primary tumor provides a beneficial effect on long-term postoperative survival, randomized data are not available. In 1994, a randomized multicenter trial has been initiated in the Netherlands comparing transhiatal esophagectomy without thoracotomy versus transsthoracic esophagectomy with two-field lymph node dissection for patients with a potentially curable adenocarcinoma of the esophagus and/or esophagogastric junction. The primary end point of the study is the overall survival, which will be analyzed after inclusion of 220 patients with a minimal follow-up of two years. A recent interim analysis of 110 patients showed that the transsthoracic resection was associated with increased pulmonary complications and prolonged ICU - and hospital stay, as compared to the transhiatal resection without thoracotomy. In-hospital mortality did not differ significantly between the two groups. The final data analysis needs to be awaited to answer the question whether the extended procedure sufficiently improves long-term prognosis to compensate for the (expected) increase in early postoperative morbidity. (H. Obertop)
REGIONAL & NATION'S ACTIVITY

*P. R. China

Kun Liu, M.D.
Professor of Surgery
Dept. of Thoracic Surgery
The 4th Military Medical University
Tang Da Hospital
Xian [710038], P.R.China

“The First Chinese Symposium on Thoracic Surgery”

The first Chinese Symposium on thoracic surgery was held in Beijing through Nov. 6-8 1997. The participants, more than 350 altogether, came from various parts of China. Nearly all of the outstanding chest surgeons update in China presented, including Professor Y.K.Wu, Professor G.J.Huang, the world-wide well known chest surgeons, and Prof. D.W.Zhang, Prof. R.G.Zhang (ISDE members). Professor G.J. Huang delivered an address reviewing the history of development of thoracic surgery in China since the second decade of this century. The thoracic surgery has gained a brilliant development in the past 50 years in this country.

The symposium has received 377 scientific papers reflecting the recent advances on thoracic surgery during the past three years in China. The 4th international Symposium on Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery will be held through Nov. 9-11, 1997 in Beijing also.

(Kun Liu)

There are currently more than 50 articles relating to esophageal cancer research in international publications. The most recent field for research by ECPR deals with early feeding in esophagectomy. This research has been taking place during the last two months and is being conducted by Prof. Douglas W. Wilmore of Harvard Medical School, USA who visited ECPR in early November 97. The ECPR research team invites all interested person in the field to join in the research. ECPR also plans to provide all gathered data to all who are interested.

(A. Chanvitan)

*Japan

Hiroshi Watanabe, M.D.
Department of Surgery
National Cancer Center
Tokyo, JAPAN

“REPORT ON THE 51ST ESOPHAGEAL DISEASE RESEARCH GROUP”

This is one of the most historical Japanese medical societies, founded by Dr. Komei Nakayama (Honorary President of the ISDE). It is also highly regarded by those in the field of esophageal diseases in Japan as a forum of ardent discussion where one can speak frankly and without reservation.

Recently, however, in Japan there is a tendency to convert research groups into Societies and to start putting unneeded effort into social programs, while the scientific portions of the meetings consist of succession of 3-4 minute presentations. Because of my apprehension concerning the above tendencies in Japanese medical societies, and believing our Research Group should be devoted to the education of professional specialists in esophageal diseases, I ensured that there was only one hall for presentations and selected topics concerning which there is as yet no consensus but which will in the near future occupy a central position in the study of esophageal cancer in Japan, that is Barrett's esophagus and multifocal cancer. A call for free papers were made and for chairpersons I asked the participation of those who are actually dealing with esophageal diseases in the clinic, that is at the assistant professorial level. A total of 170 abstracts were submitted and all presentations were made in workshop style over a period of 2 days, with extremely lively discussion.

As a result there were many more reports than anticipated on Barrett's esophagus, which had been thought to have a low incidence rate in Japan and there was much animated discussion on its pathological origins. Multicentric cancer has exhibited a rapid rise in the past 5 years (30-40% of resected cases), and it became clear that there was a high frequency of esophageal and head and neck carcinoma, which has the same squamous epithelial background as esophageal cancer. Furthermore it was noted both of these entities represent high risk groups in terms of prevention of carcinogenesis.

(H. Watanabe)
CONGRESS NEWS

1998
* 6th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery *
Site: Rome, Italy
Date: June 3-6, 1998
President: Alberto Montori

* 17th International Cancer Congress *
Site: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Date: August 24-28, 1998
President: Marcos F. Moraes

* 7th World Congress of I.S.D.F. *
Site: Montreal, Canada
Date: September 1-4, 1998
Congress Chairman: Andre Duranceau

* 11th World Congress of Gastroenterology *
Site: Vienna, Austria
Date: September 6-11

* 9th World Congress of Digestive Endoscopy *
Site: Vienna, Austria
Date: September 6-13

* 16th CIGD *
Site: Madrid, Spain
Date: September 18-19

* ACS Annual Meeting *
Site: Date: October 25-30, 1998

* 31st Biennial Congress of ICS *
Site: Buenos Aires - ARGENTINA
Date: November 15-19, 1998
Congress President: R. Almasque Dedeu

* 38th SIC *
International Surgical Week ISW99-
Site: Vienna, Austria
Date: August 15-21, 1999
Organizer: E. Moreno-Gonzalez

* 8th World Congress of I.S.D.E. *
Site: Sao Paulo, Brazil
Date: 2001
Congress Chairman: H. W. Pinotti

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   - R.O.C.: Kun Liu
   - Japan: H. Watanabe
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(1998)

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