

## How you can join the European Society of Endocrinology

► On 1 January 2006 the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) was officially launched, following a consultation process with members of the European Federation of Endocrine Societies (EFES). Its mission is to promote research, education and clinical practice in endocrinology for the public benefit by the organization of conferences, training courses and publications, by raising public awareness, liaison with national and international legislators, and by any other appropriate means. It also aims to stimulate educational exchange and liaise closely with the European Union on an ongoing basis to ensure that endocrinology is firmly on the research agenda.

### Categories of membership

Applications are now invited for membership of the European Society of Endocrinology. The ESE has a category for individual membership (Ordinary Members), an affiliated category of membership (Affiliated Societies), which includes all previous EFES full and affiliated members, and a corporate membership scheme.

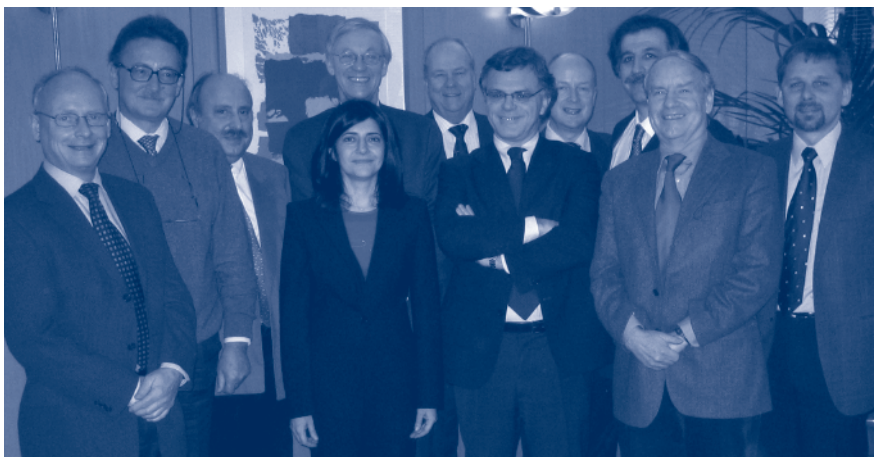
**Individual membership** is open to researchers, clinicians and students in the field of endocrinology and hormonal systems. These members will have full voting rights and can attend general meetings. Benefits include reduced rate registration at the European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE) and any other ESE events, a bi-annual newsletter and email alerts advising of news and grants. Members will also receive a reduced rate subscription to the ESE official journals *European Journal of Endocrinology* ([www.eje-online.org](http://www.eje-online.org)), *Journal of Endocrinology* ([www.joe.endocrinology-journals.org](http://www.joe.endocrinology-journals.org)), *Endocrine-Related Cancer* ([www.erc.endocrinology-journals.org](http://www.erc.endocrinology-journals.org)), and *Journal of Molecular Endocrinology* ([www.jme.endocrinology-journals.org](http://www.jme.endocrinology-journals.org)).

**Affiliated Society membership** is open to national endocrine societies and subspecialist endocrine societies in Europe. All previous Full and Affiliated Members of EFES automatically become Affiliated Societies of the ESE with one vote per society. Affiliated Societies can attend general meetings. Benefits include the ability to nominate ECE locations, voting rights, information on developments in Europe and access to representation in Brussels.

**Corporate membership** is open to companies working in the field of endocrinology. There are no voting rights associated with this category of membership, but representatives may attend general meetings. Benefits include priority booking and discounts when exhibiting at or sponsoring ECE congresses or other events, and access to Europe's opinion leaders.

For full information on the application process, fees and an application form visit the new ESE website at [www.euro-endo.org](http://www.euro-endo.org).

**All attendees at ECE 2006 in Glasgow, UK, 1-5 April are invited to become members of the ESE for free for 2006 - see website for details and register now at [www.ece2006.com](http://www.ece2006.com).**



INTRODUCING YOUR NEW ESE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SEE PAGE 2

## EDITORIAL

► Now is the time to become an individual member of the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE). If you plan to attend the ECE 2006 in Glasgow your membership for 2006 will be free.

This is also the time to consider why you should become a member. I would strongly suggest that you maintain your membership of your national society, where you regularly meet your fellow endocrinologists, colleagues and friends, discuss basic and clinical aspects of our specialty, discuss referrals, listen to scientific presentations by your fellows and hear about local developments concerning endocrinology in your country.

The ESE will become the platform that will launch our specialty at the European level with high-class state-of-the-art yearly scientific meetings, and with easily accessible postgraduate training courses in the new member states of the European Union and beyond. It will be an open democratic Society where your vote will count; it will put endocrinology more strongly on the European research agenda and will stimulate exchange, especially for the most gifted and promising young endocrinologists.

European endocrinology is very much alive. More than 13 000 endocrinologists are working on this continent. Let's make endocrinology even stronger together.

STEVEN WJ LAMBERTS

**The ESE is now inviting bids to host the 2010 and 2011 European Congresses of Endocrinology**  
*see inside for details*

### EUROPEAN CONGRESSES OF ENDOCRINOLOGY

#### SAVE THE DATES

**9th European Congress of Endocrinology**  
Budapest, Hungary, 28 April - 2 May 2007

**10th European Congress of Endocrinology**  
Dresden, Germany, 3-7 May 2008

**11th European Congress of Endocrinology**  
Istanbul, Turkey, 25-29 April 2009

## A new website

Familiarize yourself with ESE activities on the new redesigned website at [www.euro-endo.org](http://www.euro-endo.org). The website will be kept up-to-date with details of forthcoming meetings and training courses, news from Europe, grants available and links to the ESE official journals. A members section is also planned that will enable members to update their details online and to facilitate communication with other members in similar specialties.



## A free service for testing plasma levels of mitotane

**HRA-Pharma have recently launched LYSOSAFE, a service that enables physicians to monitor mitotane plasma levels in patients treated with Lysodren (mitotane, 500 mg tablets).**

Monitoring of mitotane plasma levels during treatment is particularly desirable as the correlation between the patient's daily dose and mitotane plasma levels is not fully understood, and also because of the narrow therapeutic window of mitotane (14-20 mg/l). Monitoring is aimed at optimising efficacy of treatment and avoiding the severe undesirable effects produced by levels above 20 mg/l.

LYSOSAFE provides physicians with the ability to adjust the patient's daily dose and to obtain test results within one week, using a validated assay method at a centralized bioanalytical centre. For more information, please see [www.lysodren-europe.com](http://www.lysodren-europe.com).

## Stay in touch

The ESE Secretariat would be pleased to hear from you regarding any aspect of ESE activities. Contact Helen Gregson or Andrea Davis at [info@euro-endo.org](mailto:info@euro-endo.org) or on +44-1454-642247.

# Introducing your new ESE Executive Committee



**Steven Lamberts** (President)

Steven Willem Jan Lamberts is Professor of Medicine at Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He has broad interests in endocrinology and the application of new developments in basic endocrinology to general medicine - his main topics of research include neuroendocrinology, endocrine tumours, neuroendocrine-immunology and population epidemiology.

He has served on previous EFES Executive Committees, was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Society of Endocrinology and has served on the editorial board of more than ten journals. Since December 2004 he has been Rector Magnificus of Erasmus University, Rotterdam.

**Ezio Ghigo** (Vice President)

Ezio Ghigo graduated in medicine from the University of Turin, Italy, in 1979 and received his postgraduate qualification in endocrinology and metabolism in 1982. He became Professor of Endocrinology and Metabolism in 1999 and has been Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Turin since 2002.

His research interests include the neural control of anterior pituitary function, diagnosis and treatment of GH deficiency in childhood and in adulthood, synthetic GH secretagogues and ghrelin, control of the HPA axis, and the endocrinology of aging, of obesity and of anorexia nervosa.



**Philippe Bouchard** (Secretary)

Philippe Bouchard is Professor and Chair of the Service d'Endocrinologie and Director of the Laboratory of Reproductive Genetics at Hospital Saint Antoine and the University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France.

He is also President of the French Endocrine Society (2005-2007) and a Senior Consultant to the Population Council, New York, USA. In 2001 he was awarded the title Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur and also Doctor Honoris Causa, at the University of Liège, Belgium.

**Jens Sandahl Christiansen** (Treasurer)

Jens Sandahl Christiansen is Professor of Medicine and Consultant Endocrinologist at Aarhus University Hospital, Kommunehospitalet, Aarhus, Denmark. His research interests focus on endocrinology and diabetes, in particular diabetic nephropathy, glucose monitoring and the clinical and metabolic aspects of GH deficiency.

He is a founding member and the acting Secretary of the Growth Hormone Research Society (GRS), Editor-in-chief of *GH & IGF Research* and serves on the editorial board of *Clinical Endocrinology*.



**Paolo Beck-Peccoz** (Chief Editor, *European Journal of Endocrinology*)

Paolo Beck-Peccoz graduated in medicine at the University of Turin and is Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Milan, Italy. He is also Director of the Institute of Endocrine Sciences, Fondazione Policlinico IRCCS. His major research interest is the pathophysiology of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid axis.

**Michael Sheppard**

Michael Sheppard is the William Withering Professor of Medicine and Vice Dean of the University of Birmingham Medical School, UK. His undergraduate training was at the University of Cape Town and he returned there to undertake a PhD on the physiology of hypothalamic somatostatin release. He was Chairman of the Program Organizing Committee for the European Congress of Endocrinology 2005, and is Clinical Committee Chair of the Society for Endocrinology UK and Board Chair of the *European Journal of Endocrinology*.

His clinical and research interests are in pituitary disease, in particular acromegaly, and in thyroid disease.



The remaining members of the ESE Executive Committee will be featured in the next issue of *ESE News*.



# ECE 2006

1-5 April 2006, Glasgow, UK

Over 1100 abstracts have been received for the upcoming European Congress of Endocrinology in Glasgow and delegate participation is expected from all corners of Europe. The meeting is being hosted by the UK Society for Endocrinology at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre.

The scientific programme is varied and plentiful, including a series of prestigious plenary lectures by the winners of the Geoffrey Harris Prize and the European Journal of Endocrinology Medal that launch the meeting on Saturday 1 April.

The programme spans all disciplines from basic science to purely clinical. In addition to symposia, clinical management workshops and oral communications, there will be a series of expert sessions in which experts will present interesting cases for the audience to comment on. Each will run twice so that delegates may attend more than one concurrent session. Symposia topic highlights include the endocrinology of psychiatric disease, thyroid and the heart, steroid hormone receptors and many more.

Support from industry has been excellent. The organizers would particularly like to thank gold sponsors Ipsen, Novartis and Pfizer and bronze sponsors Lilly, Novo Nordisk and Roche, without whom this meeting would not be possible.

The congress also promises to be very active socially. There are a series of sporting events planned, including five-a-side football, tennis and a golf tournament on Saturday 1 April. In the evenings there will be both a formal and an informal event, as well as a welcome reception at the stunning Glasgow Science Centre on the Saturday. The Congress dinner will give all delegates a true flavour of Scotland! Get dressed up on Tuesday evening to be served a three course meal, followed by whisky tasting and a lively celidh band at the luxurious Hilton Hotel Glasgow. The informal evening will take place at Tiger Tiger, a city-centre bar where delegates will have a choice of three rooms in which to relax, socialize or dance the night away.

For information on the meeting content, registration, accommodation or travel please visit [www.ece2006.com](http://www.ece2006.com) or contact Liz Brookes or Shirine Borbor at the UK Society for Endocrinology (Tel: +44-1454-642210; Email: [conferences@endocrinology.org](mailto:conferences@endocrinology.org)).

#### Programme Organizing Committee

Co-Chairs:

Professor Pierre Bouloux  
(London, UK)

Professor Josef Köhrle  
(Berlin, Germany)

#### Local Organising Chairman:

Professor John Connell

THE SECC IS NEXT TO THE RIVER CLYDE, GLASGOW



## ESE AGM

The first ESE AGM will be held at ECE 2006 on Tuesday 4 April at 12.20 in the Clyde Auditorium at the SECC.

**All delegates who have requested membership of the ESE when registering for the meeting or have completed a membership form on the web are invited to the AGM.**

All new member applications will be voted in at this meeting.

### ESE POSTGRADUATE COURSES

#### SAVE THE DATE

2nd ESE Postgraduate Course  
in Clinical Endocrinology  
Košice, Slovakia,  
12-14 October 2006

Contact: Ivica Lazurova, 1st Department  
of Internal Medicine, Medical Faculty,  
University Košice, Trieda SNP 1, 040 01  
Košice, Slovakia (Tel: +421-55-6403516;  
Email: [lazurova@central.medic.upjs.sk](mailto:lazurova@central.medic.upjs.sk);  
Web: [www.ece-slovakia2006.sk](http://www.ece-slovakia2006.sk)).

## ESE invites bids to host the European Congress of Endocrinology in 2010 and 2011

The European Congress of Endocrinology will be organized centrally by the ESE from 2010 onwards, in partnership with the host country. The host country will no longer be required to take on the financial responsibility of the meeting, but will still have a share in any surplus funds generated. The anticipated role of the host country and local organizing committee is:

► To propose the local details, including the scientific venue, hotels, transport and social venues

► To liaise with the venue on costs etc and to provide an outline budget for these items

► To assist with appointing a local agent to work with the ESE on local arrangements and staffing

► To assist in any liaison with local or national authorities, for example obtaining support from the city or state, VAT issues etc

► To work with the ESE to recruit exhibitors, sponsors and satellite bookings, especially with regard to national or regional contacts

► To work with the ESE on promotion of the meeting to potential delegates in the host country and region

Full details are available on the new ESE website at [www.euro-endo.org](http://www.euro-endo.org)

National societies wishing to bid for the 2010 and 2011 meetings should initially submit an expression of interest by 24 March 2006 to Dr Philippe Bouchard, Secretary of ESE, at [info@euro-endo.org](mailto:info@euro-endo.org). The letter should be from the President of the host national society.

Applicants should note that they will need to establish that their chosen venue has availability in late April/early May, and that it has the capacity to hold a major meeting.

Host national societies should also confirm that they will not hold their national meeting that year if their bid is successful.

Full applications should be received by 1 August 2006 using the format outlined on the website. See [www.euro-endo.org/meetings\\_conferences\\_proposals.htm](http://www.euro-endo.org/meetings_conferences_proposals.htm) for details. The ESE Executive Committee may wish to make a site visit and they will be responsible for the final decision on the chosen venue.

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**ESE is offering a year's free membership to the European Society of Endocrinology to those who register to attend ECE 2006.**



## What's hot in EJE?

### Efficacy of 12-month treatment with the GH receptor antagonist pegvisomant in patients with acromegaly resistant to long-term, high-dose somatostatin analog treatment: effect on IGF-I levels, tumor mass, hypertension and glucose tolerance

A COLAO, R PIVONELLO, RS AURIEMMA, MC DE MARTINO, M BIDLINGMAIER, F BRIGANTI, F TORTORA, P BURMAN, IA KOURIDES, CJ STRASBURGER AND G LOMBARDI

*European Journal of Endocrinology* 154(3) pp 467-477

Treatment of acromegaly resulting from GH-secreting tumors is often successful, but commonly fails in larger, more invasive tumours. Alternative treatments include pharmacotherapy using somatostatin analogs and radiotherapy, both recommended only for those patients in whom both surgery and standard pharmacotherapy have failed. Somatostatin analogs have been found to normalize insulin-like growth factor (IGF)-I levels in only two-thirds of patients.

A new pharmacological approach is the use of the GH receptor blocker pegvisomant, which inhibits IGF-I production. Little data exists on the efficacy of this treatment in patients in whom surgery, radiotherapy and current drugs have previously been unsuccessful. Here, Colao and colleagues present the results of pegvisomant treatment in 16 such patients.

They report normalization of age- and sex-appropriate IGF-I levels in over three-quarters of patients after 12 months of treatment with pegvisomant. In the remaining patients IGF-I, although not normalized, was greatly reduced. Additionally, patients showed reduced total/high density lipoprotein cholesterol ratio and improved insulin sensitivity and blood pressure control.

This study by Colao and colleagues provides a valuable addition to the currently sparse pool of data regarding pegvisomant treatment, confirming its efficacy in normalizing IGF-I levels and controlling haemodynamic and metabolic disturbances in the majority of acromegaly patients for whom alternative treatments have failed.

ESE thanks the following organizations for providing unrestricted grants to support the setting up of the new Society: **Aventis, Eli Lilly, Ferring, GSK, Ipsen, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Serono**

## ESE News

This document is available on the ESE website at [www.euro-endo.org/news/news.htm](http://www.euro-endo.org/news/news.htm).

The address lists used to mail this issue of *ESE News* were supplied by the member societies of ESE and are stored on BioScientifica's computer for future use. If you do not wish to receive further mailings, please advise [editorial@endocrinology.org](mailto:editorial@endocrinology.org)

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The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of ESE.

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### ESE web site

[www.euro-endo.org](http://www.euro-endo.org)

### Newsletter

Designed by **subLine**

 Published by BioScientifica Ltd  
Euro House, 22 Apex Court, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 4JT, UK  
[www.bioscientifica.com](http://www.bioscientifica.com)

BioScientifica is a subsidiary of the Society for Endocrinology

ESE News is produced with an educational grant from Pfizer.

## Forthcoming Meetings and Courses

### 33rd European Symposium on Calcified Tissues

Prague, Czech Republic, 10-14 May 2006

Contact: Amanda Sherwood, PO Box 337, Patchway, Bristol, BS32 4ZR, UK.  
(Tel: +44-1454-610255; Fax: +44-1454-610255; Email: [admin@ectsoc.org](mailto:admin@ectsoc.org);  
Web: <http://www.ectsoc.org>).

### The International Neuroendocrine Federation 6th International Congress of Neuroendocrinology

Pittsburgh, USA, 19-22 June 2006

Contact: Tony Platt. (Tel: +1-412-6489395; Email: [plant1@pitt.edu](mailto:plant1@pitt.edu);  
Web: <http://ccee.upmc.edu/course2/187b/>).

### ENDO 2006

Boston, USA, 24-27 June 2006

Contact: The Endocrine Society, 8401 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 900, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815-5817, USA.  
(Tel: +1-301-9410200; Fax: +1-301-9410259; Email: [endostaff@endo-society.org](mailto:endostaff@endo-society.org);  
Web: <http://www.endo-society.org/scimeetings>).

### 45th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology

Rotterdam, The Netherlands,

30 June 2006-3 July 2006

Contact: Britta Sjöblom. (Tel: +46-8-4596650; Email: [britta.sjoblom@congrex.se](mailto:britta.sjoblom@congrex.se);  
Web: <http://www.espe2006.org/>).

### Summer School on Endocrinology

Bregenz, Austria, 30 July 2006-3 August 2006

Contact: Elke Abdel-Karim.  
(Fax: +49-30-450524922; Email: [elke.abdel-karim@charite.de](mailto:elke.abdel-karim@charite.de);  
Web: <http://www.charite.de/expendo>).

### 10th International Congress on Obesity

Sydney, Australia, 3-8 September 2006

Contact: ICO 2006 Secretariat, GPO Box 2609, Sydney 2001, Australia.  
(Tel: +61-2-92411478; Fax: +61-2-92513552; Email: [enquiries@ico2006.com](mailto:enquiries@ico2006.com);  
Web: <http://www.ico2006.com/>).

### 5th International Symposium on Hormonal Carcinogenesis

Montpellier, France, 10-13 September 2006

Contact: Tandria Price, Univ. of Kansas Medical Center, Mail Stop 1018, 3901 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, Kansas 66160, USA. (Tel: +1-913-5884744; Fax: +1-913-5884740; Email: [tprice@kumc.edu](mailto:tprice@kumc.edu);  
Web: <http://www.kumc.edu/hormonecancers>).

### 12th International Congress on Hormonal Steroids and Hormones and Cancer

Athens, Greece, 13-17 September 2006

Contact: Congress Organizing Bureau, Erasmus Conferences Tours & Travel S.A., 1 Kolofontos & Evridikis Street, 161 21 Athens, Greece.  
(Tel: +30-210-7257693; Fax: +30-210-7257532; Email: [info@erasmus.gr](mailto:info@erasmus.gr);  
Web: <http://www.erasmus.gr/web/pages.asp?lang=2&page=1073>).

### 77th Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association (ATA)

Phoenix, USA, 12-15 October 2006

Contact: Patrice Dickens.  
(Tel: +1-703-998-8890; Fax: +1-703-9988893; Web: <http://www.thyroid.org>).