



World Stroke
Organization

World Stroke
Organization (WSO)

Annual Report 2017



one voice

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one voice



Letter from the President

Werner Hacke, WSO president

Dear colleagues, partners and friends,

It is my pleasure to share the milestones we have reached, goals we have achieved, and progress we have made throughout the past year. This 2017 Annual Report was prepared with our utmost gratitude for your support of our cause and for your efforts, all of which have helped make this an exciting and successful year. I am delighted to note that the first year of my presidency has been very busy with a great number of achievements (and a few challenges)

We have made several updates to the World Stroke Academy. The platform now features regular updates of videos, podcasts and other learning materials. Educational quality and peer-review are being established by the WSO Education Committee. The WSA has also now joined forces with the European Stroke Organisation, who hold exciting lectures and have provided material from their 2017 Conference. We are delighted that the WSA will soon offer formal CME accredited education credits, rendering even greater importance to the study of stroke.

In line with our educational goals, WSO held teaching courses in China, Bolivia, and the Philippines. We also conducted sessions at the WSO-endorsed 28th Summer Stroke School titled "Healthy Lifestyle and Prevention of Stroke and Other Brain Impairment" in Dubrovnik, Croatia. In addition, working in partnership with the European Academy of Neurology and other partner academic societies, WSO joined the annual 4-day Regional Teaching Course in Stroke and Neurology in Africa, which took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in November.

Our Regional Stroke Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which was held in collaboration with the American Stroke Association and the Ibero-American Stroke Society, proved to be a highly successful pilot. This June 2017 event aimed to highlight the high burden of stroke in South America, emphasized the need to advocate for those affected by stroke, provided education to health professionals in best practice stroke care, and involved all relevant stakeholders, including policy makers, government agencies, healthcare practitioners, and lay people from all socio-economic levels. It was an honor to organize the symposium along with Professor Conrado Estol, who served as local chairperson in Buenos Aires.

In October, the first World Stroke Day Congress was held in Moscow, Russia. The Conference, the largest ever conference in Russia devoted to "stroke," was organized by Professor Eugene Gusev, President of the All-Russian Society of Neurologists, and Professor Alla Guekht, Secretary of the All-Russian Society of Neurologists and the World Stroke Organization. The Congress focused on the latest developments in stroke prevention, acute management and restorative care post-stroke, raising awareness about stroke and the need for better resources, sharing experiences in dealing with problems resulting from stroke, and providing relevant information to stroke survivors and their caregivers.

As a global organization, a highlight of our work every year is spreading stroke awareness all around the world."

We saw another successful World Stroke Day in October, organized as part of the World Stroke Campaign under the theme "Stroke is Preventable." The 2017 World Stroke Campaign, which provided a stroke awareness and advocacy focal point for members and partners throughout the year, was by far the most successful campaign ever, with almost 200 events registered across the globe and great visibility and engagement on social media. Stroke survivor testimonies, facilitated by our members, were a crucial part of the efforts.

We continue our close collaboration with WHO and recently submitted our three-year partnership plan which sets out key areas for collaboration. We were recently informed that we are again on the list of NGOs in official relations with WHO. In 2017, WSO was represented at many high-level meetings with the aim to put stroke at the forefront of the global health agenda. These include the Executive Board meetings in January, the World Health Assembly, several regional WHO meetings and the WHO Global Conference on Non-Communicable Diseases in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Our collaboration with the NCD Alliance has been strengthened and we participated in the "Stepping Up the Pace on NCDs: Making 2018 Count" seminar which was held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates in December. This was the first time that stroke was on the program at a large NCDA event.

Our collaboration with sister organizations such as World Heart Federation and the World Hypertension League have also been intensified and resulted in several joint projects that all aim to address the CVD-related risk factors for stroke.

We are delighted to report that we have broadened our society membership to now include international neurosurgical, neuroradiological, interventional neurology and neurocritical care societies. We have also established mutual memberships with the World Heart Federation and the World Hypertension League, which brings the number of scientists and medical professionals that we represent to far over 50,000 individuals.

Looking ahead to 2018, we will renew approximately 50% of our Board of Directors and we are taking measures to increase the number of women and younger professionals in our Board. We are also looking forward to our 2018 World Stroke Congress, which will be held in Montreal, Canada. I have no doubt that this congress will be a scientific and educational success. Furthermore, preparations have started for the World Stroke Congress 2020 in Vienna. This will be a joint Congress of the European Stroke Organisation (ESO) and WSO. With the growing success of both the ESO Committee and the World Stroke Committee, we predict that this will be the largest international stroke conference ever. The congress will be under the co-chairmanship of our current president-elect Michael Brainin, who will become WSO president during the Montreal Congress.

All of this is to say that we are proud of how far we have come and enthusiastic to see what the future holds for us. I would like to reiterate my gratitude to you, colleagues, partners, members, and supporters, for the value that you bring to our work. You are truly the driving force behind our success.

Sincerely,

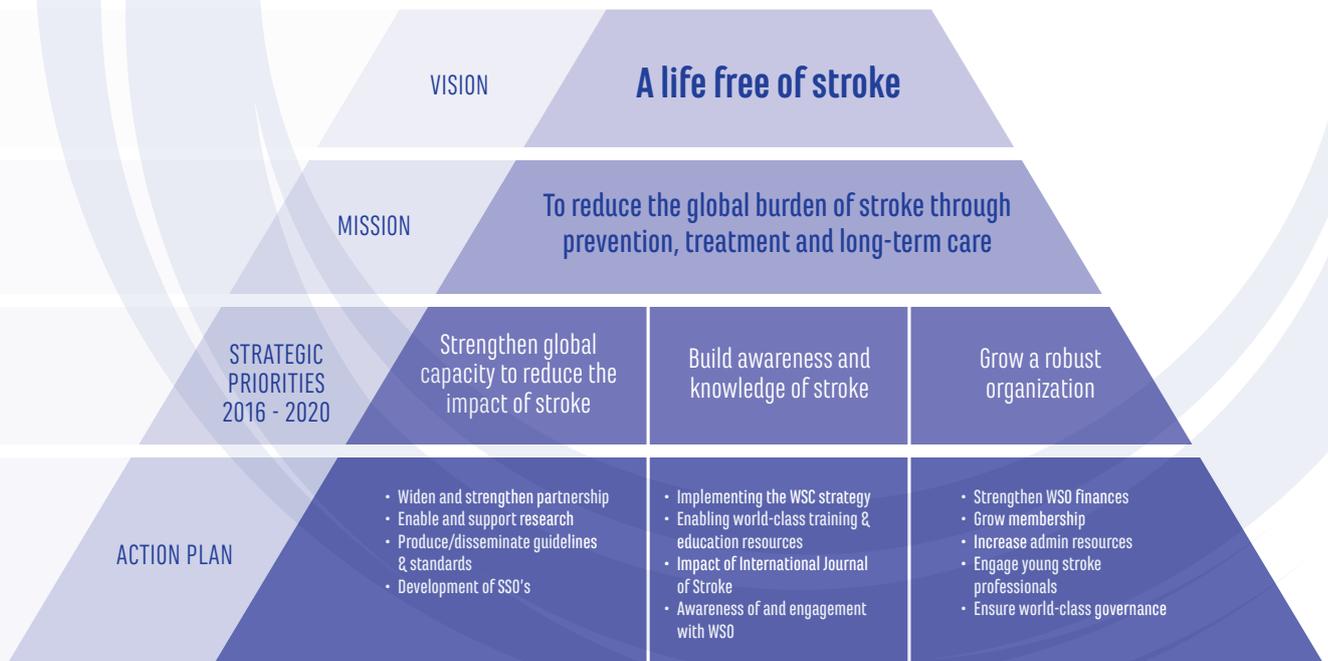


Werner Hacke
President

“Our members, collaborations with sister organizations, partners, and other supporters have been the driving force behind our successes this year.”

Vision, Mission and Strategic Priorities 2016 - 2020

The World Stroke Organization (WSO) is recognized as the lead global organization for stroke by the World Health Organization. It was established in October 2006 through the merger of the International Stroke Society and the World Stroke Federation with the purpose of constituting one world voice for stroke. The aims of the WSO are to foster the best standards of practice, increase stroke awareness, influence policies for prevention of stroke and vascular dementia, improve health services, provide education through collaboration with private and public organizations, facilitate stroke research, and advocate and foster systems for long-term support of stroke survivors and their families.



STROKE DEVASTATES LIVES AROUND THE WORLD.¹

 **17M**
strokes

 **6.5M**
deaths

 **26M**
survivors

1. Feigin et al 2014 -2015



Awareness and Advocacy - A Global Voice for Stroke

World Stroke Campaign

We all have good reason to prevent stroke - World Stroke Day 2018

World Stroke Day on the 29th of October is the focal point of the campaigning year for WSO.

In 2017 the theme for the campaign was stroke prevention, with a focus on raising awareness of the 10 key risk factors for stroke and the steps we can all take to reduce our risk.

The theme created a real opportunity to scale up the campaign on social media to raise public awareness of stroke risks and the reasons we all have to prevent it. The campaign working group oversaw the development of a strong campaign concept 'What's your reason for preventing stroke?' And the development of resources including video, infographics and a social media programme that focused on key stroke risks and personal stories of prevention and survival. These stories were posted on a revamped WSO blog platform which was listed as one of the top ten stroke blogs by WebMD in 2017. Infographics highlighting the top ten stroke risks and how to address them were shared and proved incredibly popular on Facebook and twitter. Global NGO partners with an interest in addressing many of the risk factors for stroke e.g. World Heart Federation, the NCD Alliance, World Hypertension League and the World Economic Forum were contacted to co-author and host content about stroke prevention and World Stroke Day on their digital platforms. This helped to take the stroke message to new audiences and to reinforce our messaging around the role of stroke prevention in achieving global development goals.

Members around the world engaged with the campaign theme, translating the materials into additional local languages, masterminding viral social media campaigns and delivering local activities and events that included blood pressure monitoring drives, community stroke risk assessments, city runs and rural information and screening events.

Numbers from the day indicate that we had the most successful World Stroke Day since commemorations started in 2006.

- Highest number of World Stroke Day events on record - 208 events registered in 62 countries
- Over 10,000 document downloads (brochure, poster, infographic, web banner, news release)
- 20,000 additional downloads of the Stroke Riskometer app which provides individual lifetime risk assessment via your mobile phone
- 110,000 Facebook reach on World Stroke Day
- 180 sign ups and 740,000 twitter reach for our World Stroke Day Twitter Thunderclap
- 20,000 views of campaign promo video on Facebook and YouTube channels
- 7,500 views of 'My reason' stroke survivor stories on WSO blog platform
- World Stroke Campaign twitter and Facebook following up 25% and 20% respectively since November 2016

Of course, the numbers only tell part of the story. The best indicators of World Stroke Day success were the individual stories and conversations on the streets, in community halls, in the media and on social media around the globe. Social media was alive with very personal stories sharing sad and triumphant stories of stroke and the profound reasons that we all have to prevent it.

Over
208
 WORLD STROKE DAY EVENTS
 in **62** countries
10,000
 campaign toolkit
 downloads
 World Stroke Campaign
 Facebook reach on World
 Stroke Day was
110,000
180 Twitter Thunderclap attracted
 sign ups and achieved direct
 reach of
740,000
20,000
 World Stroke Day campaign
 video views
7,500 prevention focused
 blog views

Global Policy

This year brought several positive advancements in global policy for both stroke and noncommunicable diseases.

//

The ICD 11 is expected to be adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2018 with subsequent introduction across the various member states."

ICD-11

A major landmark for WSO was the decision made by the WHO Statistics and Informatics Department responsible for the ICD11 database to place Cerebrovascular Diseases under Diseases of the Nervous System in the upcoming ICD 11. The decision reverses the erroneous placement of cerebrovascular diseases in Diseases of the Circulatory System held for 62 years since 1955, long felt to be incorrect and of disadvantage for stroke. The ICD 11 is expected to be adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2018 with subsequent introduction across the various member states.

This is the end of a very long process and hard work which started in 2009 with the formation of the different Topical Advisory Groups (TAGs) for the different chapters in the ICD classification. The Neurology TAG was chaired by Raad Shakir, and included a separate working group on Cerebrovascular Diseases chaired by Bo Norrvig. On December 21, 2016 Raad Shakir and Bo Norrvig met with the WHO Statistics and Informatics Department in Geneva to discuss the arguments of where to best place Cerebrovascular Diseases, taking several viewpoints into account. The final decision of the WHO Statistics and Informatics Department has been met with much acclaim from all relevant parties.

Lancet Neurology Commission on Stroke in Low and Middle-Income Countries

The Lancet Neurology Commission on Stroke in the Developing World, a collaboration between the World Stroke Organization (WSO) and WHO, was launched in 2017. The goal of this Commission is to identify and possibly mitigate against barriers to stroke prevention, acute care and rehabilitation, and develop practical, resource-stratified and cost-effective acute and long-term stroke intervention, rehabilitation and prevention strategies, with a focus on low- and middle-income countries.

As part of the development of the Commission, health professionals and Ministry of Health associates completed questionnaires about stroke incidence, outcomes, and services provided in their regions. There was strong interest in the questionnaire, with over 340 responses from health professionals in 88 countries. There were 91 responses from Ministry of Health officials or representatives from 56 countries. The data is currently being analyzed by the National Institute for Stroke and Applied Neurosciences in Auckland, New Zealand, under the lead of Professor Valery Feigin. The Lancet Neurology Commission on Stroke in Low and Middle-Income Countries is chaired by Professor Mayowa Owolabi in Nigeria.



World Health Assembly

WSO attended the Seventieth World Health Assembly held on May 22, 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Assembly devoted sessions to the examination of noncommunicable diseases, preparing particularly for the 2018 UN High Level Meeting, and updating Appendix 3 of the WHO Global Action Plan for NCDs to now include acute stroke care therapy. This is a welcome addition to a list of recommended practices that already lists stroke unit care and core secondary preventative therapies.



Government officials speaking at the conference



WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the opening ceremony

WHO Regional Meetings

WHO 67th Europe Meeting: The annual meeting of WHO’s regional committee for Europe took place in Budapest from September 11 – 14 2017, where WSO was represented by Professor Patrik Michel. In this annual meeting, health ministers and delegates of the European countries worked on the implementation of WHO decisions in European countries. WSO participated together with other non-governmental organizations to increase visibility and awareness of stroke.

WHO 68th Western Pacific Meeting: The 68th session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific took place in Brisbane from October 9 – 13 2017. WSO was represented at this meeting by Professor Julie Bernhardt. Major themes of the meeting included the threat of climate change to health in the area, pertinent especially because of the large number of islands in the region, pollution and unhealthy cities in the cases of some of the represented countries, and the challenge of addressing mental health needs.

WHO Global Conference on Noncommunicable Diseases

The WHO Global Conference on Noncommunicable Diseases was held in Montevideo, Uruguay, on October 18 to October 20. WSO was represented by Professor Sheila Martins. The conference was organized in conjunction with the Government of Uruguay and the host of the meeting was the President of Uruguay, the oncologist Tabaré Vázquez. Health ministers, heads of states, and governments, together with delegates from several countries, discussed the management of NCDs around the world.



Meeting discussions focused primarily on strategies to prevent NCDs with the focus on the risk factors, which include reducing salt intake, consuming less sugar, treating high blood pressure, and increasing coverage for mental health disorders, among others. The other topics presented were investments on NCDs, access to medicines, government programs and health coverage.

The culmination of the conference was the Montevideo Roadmap, a political document framed around the 2030 target focusing on NCDs as a development challenge that drives poverty and inequalities. The document makes several general recommendations, including prioritizing the most cost effective, equitable and evidence-based interventions in accordance with national context and priorities, and ensuring the availability of resources and the capacity to respond more effectively and equitably to NCDs.



Bo Norrving presenting at the Second Global NCD Alliance Forum in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Global Coalition for Circulatory Health

WSO became a member of the Global Coalition for Circulatory Health which was launched at the WHO Global Conference on Noncommunicable Diseases in Uruguay. The Coalition brings together civil society organizations of all levels and provides a platform for the launch of international campaigns that aim to raise awareness about NCDs. Several initiatives have already been planned for 2018.



The Second Global NCD Alliance Forum

WSO was represented by Bo Norrving and Maria Fredin Grupper at the second Global NCD Alliance Forum, which took place in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, from December 9 to 11. The forum, which was titled “Stepping Up the Pace on NCDs: Making 2018 Count,” was organized in partnership with local host organization, Friends of Cancer Patients (FoCP). The conference was held under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Jawaher bint Mohammed Al Qasimi, Wife of the Ruler of Sharjah, and Founder and Royal Patron of FoCP, International Ambassador for Childhood Cancer for UICC.

At the Forum, WSO joined 350 delegates from 68 countries as well as representatives of all major NGOs that focus on NCDs. The Forum focused specifically on three points: “advocating for NCD prevention and control, breaking down silos and building synergies in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) era, and sharing tools and strategies for NCD advocacy and mobilization.”

The issues were tackled through panels, workshops, and networking sessions. Bo Norrving took part in two panel discussions, “Using Research to Advance Evidence-Based Advocacy & Policymaking and Strengthening Health Systems for NCD Co-morbidities. This successful event resulted in the Sharjah Declaration on Joint Action and insights on the 2018 UN high-level meeting on NCDs.

In summary, the advocacy work performed during 2017 sets the foundation for the important year 2018, which will see several governmental reports on the progress of the actions on NCDs based on the 2011 declaration, the 2014 review, and the 2015 release of the Sustainable Development Goals, one of which is related to health and the NCDs. In September 2018, the UN high level meeting on NCDs will take place.

Education, Professional Development, and Research

Regional Congress in Argentina

WSO held a regional symposium in Buenos Aires, Argentina on June 11 and 12, 2017. The symposium was co-sponsored by the WSO and the American Stroke Association (ASA) and was supported by the Sociedad Iberoamericana de Enfermedad Cerebrovascular (SIECV). The organizers of the event were Professor Conrado Estol of Buenos Aires and Professor Werner Hacke, WSO President.

The aims of the symposium were to highlight the high burden of stroke in South America, the need to increase advocacy for people affected by stroke, educate health professionals in best practice in stroke care, and to involve all relevant stakeholders in the congress, including policy makers and government agencies. The meeting was run very economically enabling all levels of health professionals and other relevant people to attend.

The first day was dedicated to patients and relatives, during which the audience heard impressive testimonials by patients and informative lectures about stroke basics, and participated in a practical session of blood pressure taking, blood glucose measurements, and Carotid Ultrasound tests.



Buenos Aires conference hall



Patients and families measuring their blood pressure

The second day covered the situation regarding stroke medicine in Argentina and South America, looking at the basics of stroke care and strategies to advance this care in the country and region. Finally, the third part of the conference was devoted to updates on new stroke prevention and treatment strategies, including lectures from international, regional, and local faculty about stroke prevention through lifestyle choices, rehabilitation, and treating acute stroke, among other topics. This made for a productive and informative end to a very successful conference.



World Stroke Day Congress in Moscow

The 2017 World Stroke Day Congress, which took place from October 25 to October 27, was attended by more than 2,800 neurologists and physicians involved in stroke care.

The attendees included individuals from more than 60 regions of Russia and 10 other countries. Representatives of stroke support groups also attended the Congress. The meeting was organized by Professor Eugene Gusev, President of the All-Russian Society of Neurologists, and Professor Alla Guekht, Secretary of the All-Russian Society of Neurologists and the World Stroke Organization. A number of Russian national institutions, including the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow Healthcare Department, Pirogov Russian National Research Medical University, All-Russian Society of Neurologists, and the Moscow Research and Clinical Center for Neuropsychiatry, supported the Congress. Additionally, the conference was supported by representatives from major international stroke and neurological organizations, such as the World Federation of Neurology, European Academy of Neurology, American Academy of Neurology, European Stroke Organisation, and the International League against epilepsy.

The Congress focused on the latest developments in stroke prevention, acute management and restorative care after stroke, as well as on raising awareness about stroke and the need for better resources, sharing experiences in dealing with problems resulting from stroke, providing relevant information to stroke survivors and their caregivers.



Prof A. Guekht addressing the Congress



Minister of Health V Skvortsova addressing the Congress

The programme included sessions on stroke in the young, rehabilitation after stroke, the management of stroke, a series of expert talks covering a wide variety of issues on current stroke care in the region, and a ceremony celebrating the awarding of diplomas to foreign members of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The Congress also included several visits to centers such as the Moscow Research and Clinical Center for Neuropsychiatry, the Clinical Medical Center of the Moscow University of Medicine & Dentistry, Buyanov Moscow City Hospital of the Healthcare Department of Moscow and others. This was an excellent opportunity for scientific exchange and discussion.

International Journal of Stroke

International Journal of Stroke has been a success from the start, but only because of the people that have contributed to this important global resource. We have a very small team, with excellent support from our current publisher SAGE who are very professional and determined to support the development of the product, IJS, the best that they can. The Production Editor, Sarah Larkin is the best we've ever worked with, and this means we know our authors are getting the best service and support possible when their papers leave our office and head off for final layout, online early view and final publication. Our editorial team is made up of some of the world's top stroke people, Ayrton Massaro from Brazil, Michael Hill, Canada; Patrick Lyden, USA, Julie Bernhardt, Australia, Jong Kim, South Korea and Thorsten Steiner from Germany, all these diverse locations from around the world punch above their weight in our field and are supplemented by our wonderful Editorial Board. And of course, our Editor-in-Chief, Geoffrey Donnan, who has steered IJS so deftly in the successful direction it sails today.

In 2017 we engaged in a series of strategic events, aimed to further our impact globally and to continue our work towards increasing the quality of our content, and it's delivery. Key relationships in this process are of course with our publisher, within our team and with our most important focus, our readers.

We commissioned and developed a 'Focus on China' themed edition with Chinese and English language podcasts and a targeted marketing campaign in conjunction with our publisher SAGE, which included social media sites in both Chinese and English. This resulted in an increase in downloads and higher potential for citations and broadening readability.

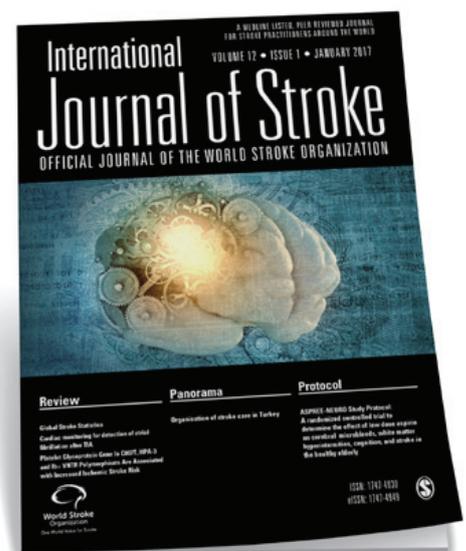
In May we held a brainstorming session with a broad collection of our top expert and experienced contributors, from our Editorial Board, the WSO executive our Associate Editors and our publisher SAGE. We discussed our direction for the next 12 months and will repeat this exercise at the World Stroke Congress in Montreal, Canada in 2018.

We re-launched our Russian language edition in October 2018, published by SAGE, with a renewed Editorial Board representing the top stroke physicians and researchers in the Russian speaking world. This has been a huge success, publishing 4 compilations of the translated English publication. Our Editor-in-Chief, Professor Geoffrey Donnan was invited to attend the Editorial Board meeting in Russia, giving him a chance to meet and collaborate with the Russian speaking world's finest stroke practitioners face to face.

We developed for publication in 2018, the 'Research series' in collaboration with the World Stroke Academy, which will be published online in 2018. This series commissioned by Professor Peter Sandercock will be an important resource for clinicians moving into research, Young Stroke Professionals, and as a guide for all groups heading into research projects.



International Journal of Stroke has been a success from the start, but only because of the people that have contributed to this important global resource."



World Stroke Academy



Stroke is a unique field that values multidisciplinary approaches to research. We identify that access to the latest research, and proven clinical comprehension is of great importance for low, middle, and high-income countries. To address this need, the World Stroke Organization has a dynamic education committee, chaired by Professor Peter Sandercock, that facilitates the development of our online World Stroke Academy. Peter is also the author of our most popular module on Transient Ischemic Attack. Read the article here: https://world-stroke-academy.org/wso/2015/elearning/150371/peter.sandercock.tia.html?f=label=12359*media=23

The academy, led by Professor Michael Brainin, is hosted on an award-winning platform and is designed by the world's foremost experts in every area of stroke. In 2018, we will be presenting content fortnightly for the first time! Also for the first time, we will be offering newly developed premium content with EACCME accreditation (transferrable to ACCME) on 10 high quality modules exploring TIA, rehabilitation and recovery, and more. The academy now has an app that you can use while on the go, making it even easier to keep in touch with expert led clinical training, go step by step through case studies, and learn how experts on the clinical front-line deal with the day to day!

Over the past 12 months, we have doubled our user uptake and continue to innovate and increase the usability, production value, and interactivity of our service. This year, we are posting expert educational content on Mobile Stroke Units, Dysphagia, our Research series on designing and developing high quality research, mechanical thrombectomy, blood pressure management, why the IQ-code important and how to use it, the three most important things to consider when running a clinical trial, an entire Spanish language series and much, much more.



Organización de las redes asistenciales de Ataque CerebroVascular

https://world-stroke-academy.org/wso/2015/elearning/203255/sheila.c.o.martins.26.daissy.liliana.mora.cuervo.organizacin.de.las.redes.html?f=label=12359*media=23

Epidemiología del Ataque Cerebrovascular: Panorama Latinoamericano

https://world-stroke-academy.org/wso/2015/elearning/198864/pablo.lavados.epidemiologa.del.ataque.cerebrovascular.panorama.latinoamericano.html?f=label=12359*media=23

Protocolo de atención del Ataque Cerebrovascular Agudo y Unidad de ACV agudo

https://world-stroke-academy.org/wso/2015/elearning/198959/sheila.martins.protocolo.de.atencin.del.ataque.cerebrovascular.agudo.y.unidad.html?f=label=12359*media=23

www.world-stroke-academy.org



Course faculty

Teaching Courses

Teaching Courses in China



Tianfu Stroke Research Methodology Training Workshop in Chengdu, China

The Tianfu Stroke Research Methodology workshop held in Chengdu, China on May 26 focused on epidemiological and clinical research. It was organized by Professors Ming Liu and Shihong Zhang and their team from the West China Hospital. It took place the day before the Tianfu Stroke Conference and attracted 56 clinicians, all of whom were in the early stage of their research careers and were interested in clinical stroke research.

Participating WSO Faculty members included Professor Ming Liu and Professor Craig Anderson, who joined local professors Hisatomi Arima, Shihong Zhang, and Jie Yang.

Some of the topics discussed at the workshop were: 'Common methods in stroke clinical research', 'How to enhance the quality of clinical registries', 'Propensity score analysis', 'How to write a scientific paper and get it published,' and 'Real-world evidence': how to apply in practice.'

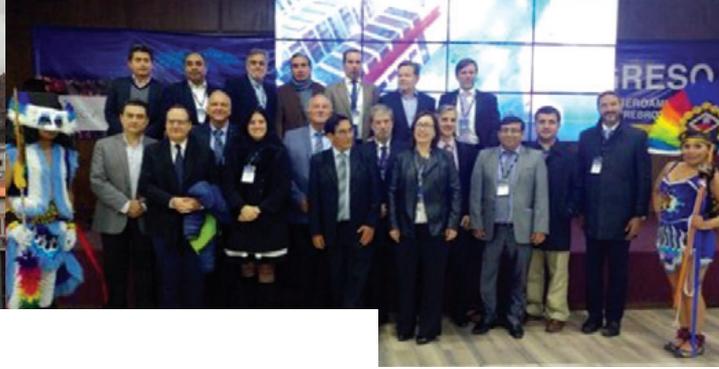
The workshop involved interactive activities and discussions about each topic. Attendees engaged with faculty members during the breaks, asking supplementary questions and exhibiting great enthusiasm. We were delighted with the overwhelming positive feedback on the course.

WSO-CSA (Chinese Stroke Association) -AHA (American Heart Association) Joint Session in Beijing, China

During the International Stroke Conference, 23rd June 2017, the WSO-CSA-AHA Joint Session attracted 80 attendees comprised of early career neurology trainees and junior neurologists who had an interest in stroke medicine. The objectives of the session were to provide the most up to date information regarding acute stroke treatment (ischemic stroke and intracerebral hemorrhage, neuroprotection, secondary prevention and strategies to expedite neurological recovery).

WSO President, Werner Hacke gave a lecture on the utility of critical care for acute stroke, and Marc Fisher discussed the revised role of neuroprotection in the setting of reperfusion. Lawrence Wong gave an update of the use of anticoagulation in patients with intracranial arterial stenosis. Bernard Yan gave an update regarding the current hot topics in the field of mechanical thrombectomy. Guohua Xi spoke about treatment of intracerebral haemorrhage and Wuwei Feng gave an interesting talk on brain stimulation and its use in promoting neurological recovery.

We are grateful for the support of the Chinese Stroke Association and Tiantan Capital Medical University for this session.



Faculty members

Teaching Courses in Bolivia

Stroke Teaching Course in La Paz, Bolivia

As part of The Iberoamerican Stroke Organization’s 20th Annual Congress, WSO held its traditional Stroke Teaching Course on June 7th. The course was dedicated to general doctors and non-neurologists, and gathered more than 300 participants and lecturers from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru. Canadian WSO representative, Professor David Spence, also attended.

Activities included workshops on Neurosonology and Vascular Cognitive Impairment, as well as discussions with regional faculty about state of the art strategies for stroke care and about regionally relevant topics, like Neurological Diseases and Altitude Sickness.

We left Bolivia confident in our efforts to help to the development of stroke care in the country, and very impressed by the existing initiatives for stroke care, both in the private and in the public system. We are grateful for the warmth and hospitality of Dr. Juan Carlos Duran, the leader of the organizing committee, and the people of Bolivia.



Professor Michael Brainin with Dumaguete Medical Center residents receiving their diplomas

Teaching Course in the Philippines

World Stroke Organization and Philippine Stroke Society Joint Education Project

The 18th Annual Congress of the Philippines Stroke Society was held from August 17-19, 2017 in Dumaguete, Philippines.

This meeting witnessed the launch of the joint WSO – Philippine Stroke Society (PSS) education project, titled, “Cardinal Principles of Stroke Care and Management.” After the event, over 200 diplomas were awarded to the attendees by Professor Michael Brainin (WSO President Elect), Dr. Epiphania Collantes (President, Philippines Stroke Society), and Professor Rhomy Esagunde (President, Philippine Neurological Society). Among the awardees was a resident of St. Lukes Medical Center and eight residents of Dumaguete Medical Center. The session provided attendees with valuable information that will facilitate their efforts of expanding and developing stroke care in the Philippines.

Since the inception of this program last year more than 1100 participants have completed the program which is scheduled to continue for another 3 years.





Course opening ceremony

African Teaching Courses

9th Regional Teaching Course (RTC) on Neurology in Sub-Saharan Africa

The 9th RTC took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on November 8 – 11, 2017. The meeting was hosted by Professor Jean Kabore, Head of the Neurological Department of the Yalgado Ouedrago Hospital of Ouagadougou, Professor Athanase Milogo, Head of the Neurology Department of the Sanou Sourou hospital in Bo Bo Dialasso, and Professor Christian Napon, head of the Neurology Department of the District Hospital of Bogodogo, Ouagadougou. The RTC took place at the National Hospital “Blaise Compaore”.

The RTC, organized by the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) was supported by a consortium of African and international scientific societies:

- University of Ougadougou, Burkina Faso
- WSO - World Stroke Organisation
- AFAN –African Academy of Neurology
- WFN - World Federation of Neurology
- AAN - American Academy of Neurology
- IBRO - International Brain Research Organisation
- International PD and Movement Disorder Society

Thanks to the funding received from the sponsoring scientific societies, 27 residents from 19 Sub-Saharan countries who represent some of the best neurological trainees across Africa could attend the RTC. Additional trainees from the local area attended, bring the total attendance to 75 people.

The 2017 RTC addressed four topics of major interest for Sub-Saharan Africa: stroke, movement disorders and dementia, neuromuscular diseases, and spinal cord diseases.

Faculty from Africa, Europe, and the Americas attended the RTC. The high international reputation for academic excellence of the course is underlined by the wide range of learned societies and institutions that support the session each year.

In addition to lectures on the topics at hand, daily discussions provided attendees with a forum to discuss various topics and ask questions that arose from their daily practice.

The success of the course is evidenced by the high level of international and regional support, attendee engagement, and positive feedback received after its culmination. We are excited to witness the outcome of this investment which will help develop a cadre of stroke neurologists in Africa to tackle the emerging epidemic of non-communicable diseases in the region.



KERALA



Teaching Courses in India

Comprehensive Nursing Management of Stroke Conference in Kerala, India

As part of World Stroke Day, a state-level conference on Comprehensive Nursing Management of Stroke was held in October at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology in Kerala, India. The conference highlighted the important role that nurses play in stroke care, and aimed to increase knowledge among nurse practitioners about stroke management. Through lectures, sessions, and panels that included physicians, stroke care nurses, physiotherapists, and speech therapists, the conference aided in raising awareness about stroke care to enhance the capabilities of facilities across the country



Course Participants attending a session



Course faculty

Establishment of Research Priorities

In 2017, the WSO Research Committee made some changes, welcoming Julie Bernhardt as the new Chair. The new committee actively worked to identify strategic areas of activity that will support the goals of WSO, which include growing the research workforce and culture in WSO member organizations.

One such activity was the drafting of a policy concerning the awarding of WSO endorsement to research initiatives and projects. This endorsement particularly aims to help members from low and middle-income countries obtain funding to support research in their countries. Other efforts to support research included a series of five 'how to do research' papers that were published in the International Journal of Stroke, and which provided information and resources to new researchers. The Committee will be working to develop an activity plan for the next few years that will seek strategic partnerships to advance the WSO research agenda

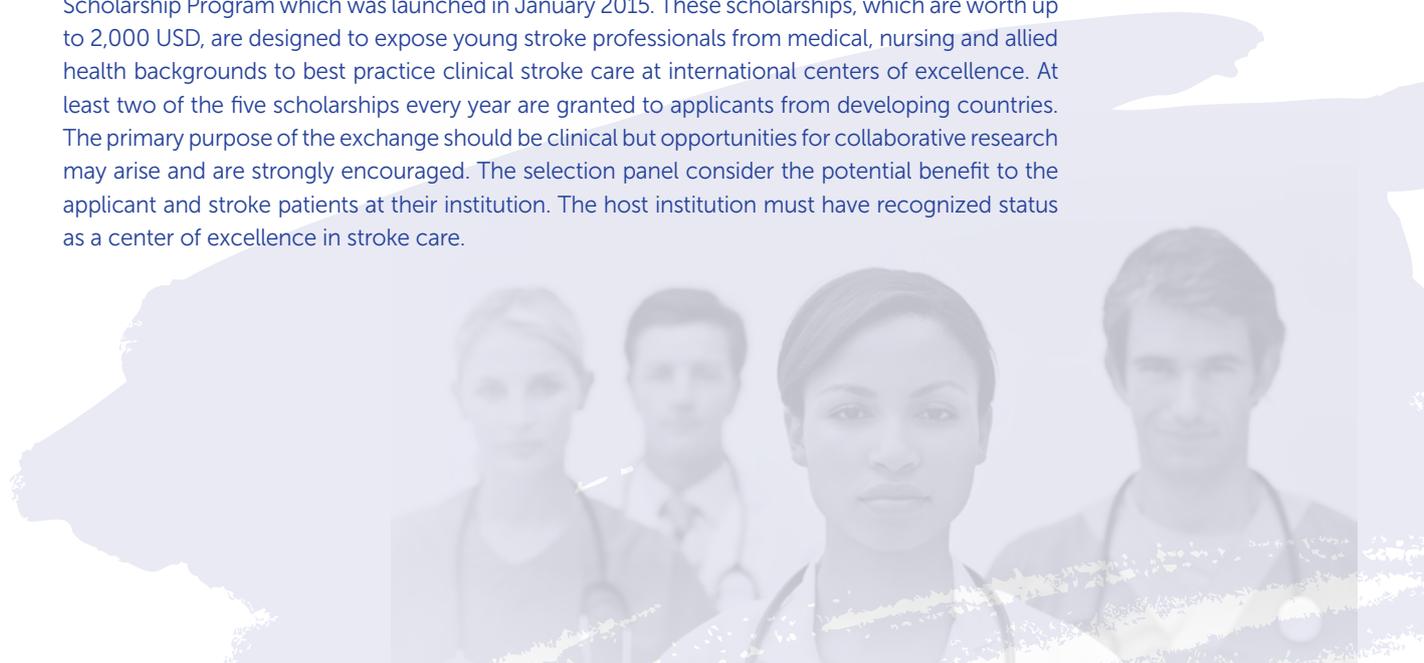
Scholarships

The Young Stroke Professionals committee was established in 2014 to support and promote best practices among young stroke professionals. Its main objective is to establish networks for the education and recruitment of young members.

In 2017, IJS published an article titled "Stroke Doctors: Who Are We? A World Stroke Organization Survey," presenting the findings of a survey conducted by the Young Stroke Professionals Committee. The study sought to answer three questions: 1) Which specialties do doctors treating stroke patients represent? 2) How are they being trained? 3) Do they have scientific organizations to ensure quality in continuous medical education? The main finding of the study was that the background specialties of stroke doctors vary significantly from country to country, ranging, for example, from 5% to 95% neurology for ischemic stroke and 5% to 79% neurosurgery for intracerebral hemorrhage. Neurology and neurosurgery resources per stroke patient varied by more than 100-fold between countries. Most studied countries had their own stroke organizations, but most of these were not yet WSO members.

In addition, the Young Stroke Professionals committee established the WSO Brief Clinical Exchange Scholarship Program which was launched in January 2015. These scholarships, which are worth up to 2,000 USD, are designed to expose young stroke professionals from medical, nursing and allied health backgrounds to best practice clinical stroke care at international centers of excellence. At least two of the five scholarships every year are granted to applicants from developing countries. The primary purpose of the exchange should be clinical but opportunities for collaborative research may arise and are strongly encouraged. The selection panel consider the potential benefit to the applicant and stroke patients at their institution. The host institution must have recognized status as a center of excellence in stroke care.

“The Young Stroke Professionals committee was established in 2014 to support and promote best practices among young stroke professionals.”



In 2017, a total of five scholarships were awarded:

Dr. Cheng Xin, China, Huashan Hospital, Fudan University, visited the Massachusetts State Hospital, USA. Dr. Xin studied cutting-edge technologies and participated in various clinical activities, including morning report, ward rounds, grand rounds, outpatient clinic and lectures with a focus on stroke. In addition, Dr. Xin attended the MSH stroke service conference to study current acute stroke protocol, patient selection for endovascular treatment and post-procedure management.

Dr. Gina Hadley, UK, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, visited the University of Calgary, Canada. The main objective of her exchange was to observe how neuroradiological interventions, namely mechanical thrombectomy are provided on a routine basis. She was also interested in finding out more about clinical trials occurring at the time of her exchange and how they furthered stroke research.

Dr. Oluwatosin Olorunmoteni, Nigeria, Paediatric Neurology Unit, Department of Paediatrics, Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospitals Complex, visited the Alder Hey Children's Hospital, UK. His primary goal was to learn more about the best practices for acute phase and long-term management of paediatric stroke. Dr. Olorunmoteni found out more about co-morbid conditions in paediatric stroke and how to effectively carry out rehabilitation to ensure optimal outcomes of stroke patients.

Dr. Soaham Desai, India, Pramukshwami Medical College, Charutar Arogya Mandal, Shree Krishna Hospital, visited the University of Massachusetts Medical School, USA. He embarked on the program with the aim to improve stroke care in his community. During his exchange, Dr. Desai visited and observed comprehensive stroke care at an established stroke centre. He gained a comprehensive understanding of the overall stroke care organization by reviewing protocols and stroke checklists used in acute stroke management.

Dr. Vinit Banga, India, Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, visited the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia. During his exchange, he learnt more about acute stroke care with regards to thrombolysis and mechanical thrombectomy under multidisciplinary comprehensive care by stroke, emergency and radiology teams. Dr. Banga was introduced to the concept of Mobile stroke unit and attended various teaching programs, lectures, academic seminars and research meetings.

one voice

Promoting Best Practice through Global Guidelines and Tools

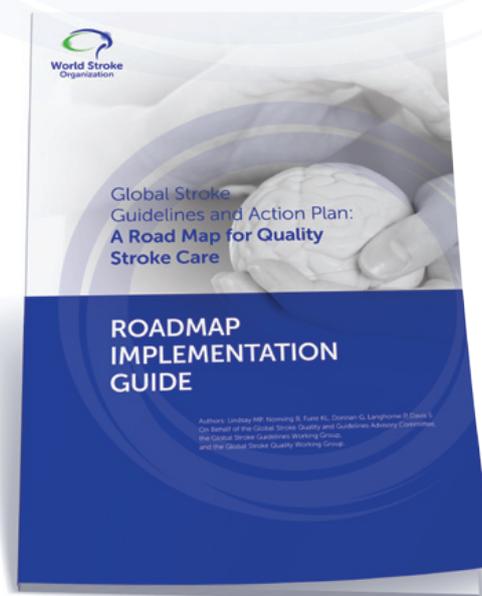
Roadmap to Delivering Quality Stroke Care

A year after the launch of the *Roadmap to Delivering Quality Stroke Care* in 2016, the Roadmap has been translated into five languages: Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian, Portuguese, and Spanish. We are excited about this opportunity to make the Roadmap accessible to more people and consequently contribute to the enhancement of stroke care in various regions.

WSO is also in the process of producing a video explaining the Roadmap and ways in which it can be used. This is another opportunity to augment accessibility.

The *Roadmap to Delivering Quality Stroke Care* presents a prioritized model for basic, essential, and advanced stroke care in different income level areas. It covers a wide range of topics and provides a step-by-step guide to reviewing current stroke care resources, as well as tools for the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of stroke services globally.

Despite differences in resource availability, the message the WSO wishes to convey is that stroke is treatable and life can improve with better awareness, access and action.





Blood pressure monitoring with the Helderberg Stroke Support Group, South Africa

Supporting and Building Capacity of Stroke Support Organizations

Development of Stroke Support Organizations (SSOs)

In 2017 the SSO Committee and International Development Manager continued its work to establish, support and strengthen SSOs and the global network, particularly in low and middle-income countries.

International Development

SSO membership of WSO is growing. In 2016 there were 23 SSO members, by the end of 2017 there were 36 SSO members a 56% increase.

The International Development Manager continued to act as a focal point for SSO enquiries from across the world. During 2017, 49 new individual and organization contacts were established, with ongoing engagement with contacts from previous years. In some cases, more intensive support was possible, including guidance and advice to establish SSOs in China, Sri Lanka and Jamaica.

The increasing SSO membership contributed to the success of the World Stroke Campaign, with the largest number of events registered and the prominence of stroke survivor stories.

SSO Promotion

The International Development Manager delivered SSO presentations at the Chinese Stroke Conference and SAFE Conference, and remotely at the Nepalese Stroke Conference. SSOs in India, Brazil, Sri Lanka and Nepal were connected with national NCD Alliances where previously there were no stroke organizations in these national forums. SSOs in Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria engaged in NCD Alliance activities.



Thanks so much for your comprehensive feedback and for the planning tools you shared. We're very excited about the prospects and WSO will be an important resource for us as we navigate."

Hilary Wehby,
National Stroke Foundation of Jamaica



Thank you for your determination to see us living a better life after stroke. Our Association needs a lot of these opportunities in order to achieve our goals. We sincerely thank you for your continued concern for the stroke family in Kenya and the East Africa region."

Evans Nyambega,
Stroke Association of Kenya

红手环之夜

主办：中国卒中学会
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2017年6月23日



Professor Wang ShaoShi, Red Bracelet SSO Celebration, China



First Argentinian Walk for Stroke: "Por una vida libre de ACV" World Stroke Day 2018, Buenos Aires



Thank you again for your effort for our stroke support organization, we are able to promote our Chinese stroke association, with the help from WSO and the International Development Manager."

Professor Wang ShaoShi,
Red Bracelet Movement, China



Thank you for all your help in supporting our small SSO, Cameroon Stroke Association. We really do appreciate every effort you're putting in to help us progress with the WSO."

Ekima Mbango,
Cameroon Stroke Association



We are very excited to become a member of World Stroke Organization. We believe that its mission and vision align very well with ours. We have started collaborating in creating podcasts. By helping World Stroke Organization expand its network, a lot of survivors and caregivers will gain. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity to work together."

Daniel Jing Gu,
StrokeFocus (Wohaula), USA

A new SSO Newsletter 'One Voice' has been distributed to SSO members and the wider SSO network, focusing on stroke support stories, resources and the World Stroke Campaign. An SSO Spotlight Series is now available on the WSO website; offering visibility and shared learning for SSOs. There were 56 stroke survivor and family blogs in 2017, including the Campaign 'My Reason', with 20,343 views.

WSO SSO Committee

The SSO Committee approved a new SSO Linking Initiative that will be implemented in 2018 to encourage connection across the SSO membership and to enable smaller SSOs to become WSO members.

The SSO Committee has spent time planning the inclusion of SSO topics, workshops and a testimonial exhibition at the 2018 World Stroke Congress in Montreal, aimed at further supporting and strengthening the global SSO network.

Uniting the Stroke Community

Membership

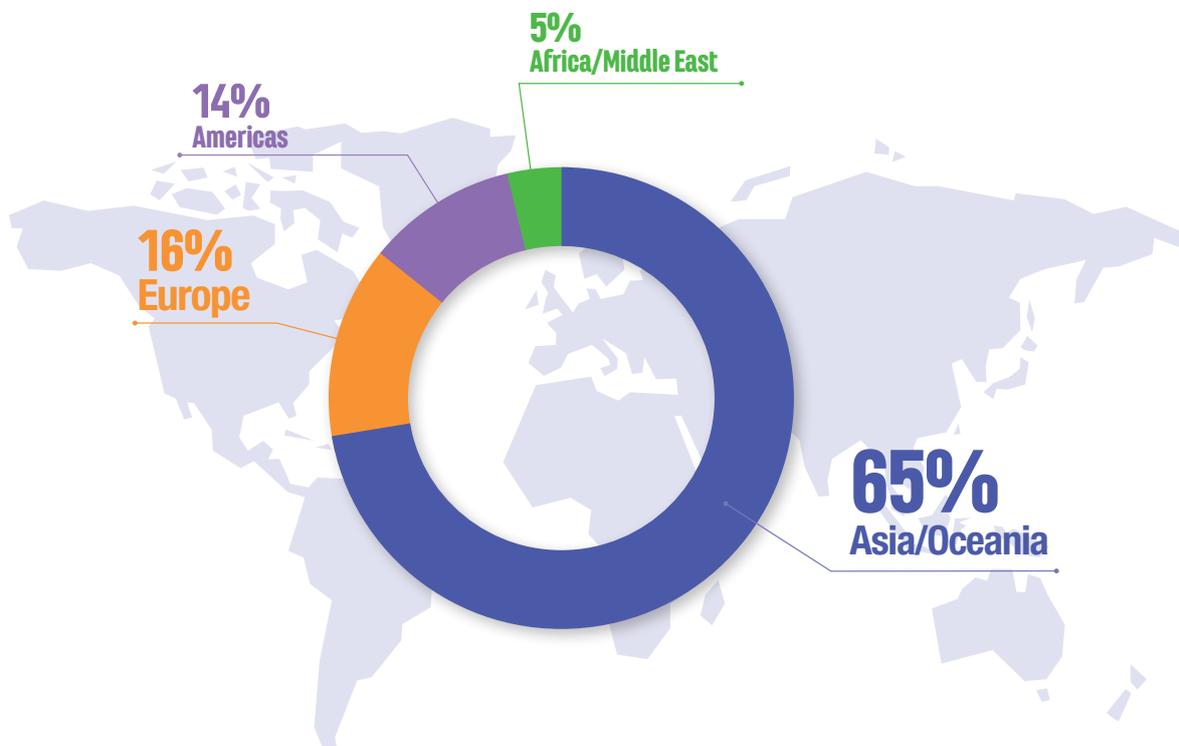
We are extremely proud and fortunate to count among our members some of the world's eminent stroke clinicians, researchers and the major stroke societies, research institutes, and patient groups.

WSO has worked diligently throughout 2017 on member engagement and recruitment. As of December 31st, 2017, we had 3,109 individual members and 65 society members from 93 countries. This marked the concrete and healthy advance of WSO's global influence. We thank you our members for your continuous trust and support.

2018 will see major member involvement as we build up to the 11th World Stroke Congress which acts as a biennial 'hub' for face to face member engagement and networking.

3,109
members
65
societies
93
countries

WSO Membership by Regions



Scientific Societies

Stroke Society of Australasia – Australia
Austrian Stroke Society – Austria
Brazilian Stroke Network – Brazil
Brazilian Stroke Society – Brazil
Canadian Stroke Consortium – Canada
University of British Columbia – Canada
Chinese Stroke Association (CSA) – China
Central and Eastern European Stroke Society – Croatia
German Stroke Society – Germany
Neurosciences Research Center (NSRC)-Tabriz – Iran
ISO THE ITALIAN STROKE ORGANIZATION – Italy
Japan Stroke Society – Japan
Kazakhstan National Association of Neurologists “Neuroscience” – Kazakhstan
Korean Stroke Society – Korea, South
Malaysian Society of Neurosciences – Malaysia
Sociedade Portuguesa do Acidente Vascular Cerebral – Portugal
Romanian National Stroke Association – Romania
Spanish Society of Neurology (SEN)-GEECV – Spain
National Stroke Association of Sri Lanka – Sri Lanka
European Society of Neuroradiology - Diagnostic and Interventional – Switzerland
European Stroke Organization – Switzerland
Swiss Stroke Society SHG - Schweizerische Hirnschlaggesellschaft – Switzerland
Taiwan Stroke Society – Taiwan
Turk Beyin Damar Hastalıkları Derneği/Turkish Cerebrovascular Disease Society – Turkey
British Association of Stroke Physicians (BASP) – United Kingdom
American Stroke Association – United States of America
Intermountain Stroke Center – United States of America
Neurocritical Care Society (NCS) – United States of America
Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology – United States of America

Support Organizations

National Stroke Foundation - Australia
Bangladesh Stroke Association (BSA) – Bangladesh
Acao AVC – Brazil
Azur Vigilance Cameroun/Cameroon Stroke Association – Cameroon
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada – Canada
March of Dimes – Canada
Luck Medicare International Group – China
Finnish Brain Association – Finland
Stroke Association Support Network-Ghana – Ghana
Indian Stroke Association – India
Stroke Foundation of Bengal, India – India
Stroke Support Organization- East Azerbaijan (SSO-EA) – Iran
Neeman Association for Stroke Survivors Israel – Israel
Alice Italia Onlus - The Italian Stroke Association – Italy
Japan Stroke Association (JSA) - Japan
Stroke Association of Kenya - Kenya
Nepal Stroke Association – Nepal
Stroke Foundation of NZ Limited – New Zealand
Acha Memorial Foundation – Nigeria
Michael and Francisca Foundation – Nigeria
Stroke Action Nigeria – Nigeria
Stroke care International Initiative – Nigeria
The Norwegian Association for Stroke Survivors – Norway
The Singapore National Stroke Association – Singapore
Porazka.sk – Slovakia (Slovak Republic)
Slovenian Stroke Support Organization – Slovenia
Helderberg Stroke Support Group – South Africa
Stroke Support Group (Pretoria)/ Beroerte Ondersteuningsgroep (Pretoria) – South Africa
The Heart and Stroke Foundation South Africa – South Africa
The Stroke Survivors Foundation – South Africa
Stroke Support Organization for Sri Lankans – Sri Lanka
Stroke Alliance for Europe – United Kingdom
The Stroke Association – United Kingdom
YoungStroke, Inc. – United States of America
International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke – United States of America
Stroke Organisation Zimbabwe - Zimbabwe

Partnerships

Achieving our vision of a life free of stroke is a task that WSO cannot achieve alone. We are committed to building our partnerships at global, regional and national level to scale up and deliver improvements in prevention, treatment and support to reduce the burden of stroke at global, regional and national level.

In 2017 we signed our joint implementation plan with WHO for the year ahead which will see us collaborate on the delivery of the HEARTS programme. We also continued to work closely with our partners in the NCD Alliance coordinating our policy advocacy efforts to ensure that the voices of stroke experts, survivors and caregivers were heard in global and regional fora. This year our Board members and national representatives were invited to contribute to the NCD Alliance Global meeting in Sharjah aimed at informing and influencing the development policy agenda.

We are also members of the Global Coalition for Circulatory Health Leadership Group, which launched in 2017. The Coalition is focused on advancing the principles and commitments outlined in the Mexico Declaration and through this partnership we are building collaborative and innovative approaches to address CVD and stroke prevention.

Of course, our engagement in these external organizations is informed and driven by our partnerships with Member Associations who contribute their expertise and work with us to raise awareness and advocate around key issues in stroke treatment, prevention and support.

World Stroke Day is a key date in our year where we work closely with our members and in collaboration with our partners to raise global awareness of key issues and that action to improve awareness and treatment of stroke is crucial. The World Stroke Day focus on prevention enabled us to engage a much broader partnership; the World Economic Forum, World Hypertension League, Obesity Federation all helped to disseminate the message, growing the audience for our key messages and building the foundations for future awareness work. We owe our thanks to our supportive industry partners who enable us to continue our work to tackle stroke globally.

We welcome and actively seek new partners and in 2018 will continue to work to broaden our industry, NGO and philanthropic partners.



World Stroke Day is a key date in our year where we work closely with our members and in collaboration with our partners to raise global awareness of key issues and that action to improve awareness and treatment of stroke is crucial."

Our Corporate Sponsors



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Success Story

World Stroke Congress (WSC) 2016 and its impact on development of stroke care services in India

There was a tremendous participation of delegates from all over India. They were largely neurologists, neurosurgeons and physicians. In addition, more than 100 nurses and therapists were given scholarships to attend the conference. We had representation from policy makers from national non-communicable diseases programs, WHO and the Indian Council of Medical Research. WSC 2016 accelerated the ongoing stroke movement in the country. Currently two State Governments have implemented stroke units at a district level and medical college hospitals (~25 to the existing ~60 s). Two more States have started the process of developing stroke units in Government hospitals. Many regional meetings were held by stroke neurologists after the congress.

The number of young neurologists who are undergoing fellowship training in Neurointervention private neurointerventional centers is increasing. Centers offering endovascular treatment for stroke is increasing, currently about 35.

The most significant impact of WSC 2016 is the funding of the Indian Stroke Clinical Trial Network (INSTRUcT) with 27 centers to design and conduct stroke clinical trials which are relevant to the country. Currently there are two funded stroke trials in INSTRUcT. During the first week of December there was a policy meeting held in New Delhi under the India USA Science and Technology forum. Many Indian and USA stroke experts participated in the workshop. A policy document will be submitted to the government of India in mid-2018.

“The number of young neurologists who are undergoing fellowship training in Neurointervention private neurointerventional centers is increasing.”

Financial Report

WSO concluded the 2017 financial year in a positive position with a result of USD 189,489. This result has been added to the general reserve which now stands at USD 1'370,640. Total income by 5% to USD 1'082'362. This increase being principally due to the result of the congress of USD 133,000.

Total expenses increased by 3% to USD 892,873. Overall both project costs and administration costs were stable.

The detailed financial report for all WSO activities is shown below, this includes the operations of both WSO Switzerland and WSO USA.

World Stroke Organization Income and Expenses for the Year Ended December 31, 2017 (in United States Dollars)

	Total	
	2017	2016
Cash & Other Assets	1,743,222	1,506,157
Liabilities	372,582	325,006
Reserves	1,370,640	1,181,151
Income		
Donations	682,533	747,600
Membership Dues	117,780	133,960
Income on World Stroke Congress 2016	133,073	0
Interest	241	70
Journal royalties	28,450	40,606
Contribution IJS Editorial Office	101,345	104,868
Miscellaneous	18,940	3,318
Total	1,082,362	1,030,422
Expense		
WS Campaign	114,599	162,705
WS Academy	109,932	74,648
IJS Editorial office	103,016	119,556
WSO grants and scholarships	50,580	45,877
Marketing and promotion	14,291	24,675
Regional congress (net)	8,367	0
SSO development officer	32,670	0
Meetings	33,783	41,321
Journal fees	56,102	39,546
Staff and office costs	206,742	200,528
Administration costs	37,458	67,861
Special projects and grants	125,333	89,144
Total	892,873	865,861
Result for the year	189,489	164,561
Reserves brought forward	1,181,151	1,016,590
Reserves carried forward	1,370,640	1,181,151

Executive Committee and Board of Directors

This year, Professor Werner Hacke led WSO as President, a position he will continue to occupy until 2018, when Professor Michael Brainin will take over the role.

The 40 world renowned individuals that make up the WSO board represent all of the world's regions. They are stroke professionals as well as members of Scientific Organizations and Stroke Support Organizations.

We will be holding elections in 2018 and look forward to welcoming new additions. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors meet three times per year (February, May and September/October).

WSO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President – Werner Hacke (Germany)
President-Elect – Michael Brainin (Austria)
Vice President – Natan Bornstein (Israel)
Vice President – Marc Fisher (USA)
Immediate Past President – Stephen Davis (Australia)
Treasurer – Bernard Yan (Australia)
Secretary – Lawrence Wong (Hong Kong S.A.R.)
Member at large – Sheila Martins (Brazil)
Member at large – Peter Sandercock (UK)
Member at large – Patrice Lindsay (Canada)
Ex-officio Member – Bo Norrvig, Chair of Global Policy Committee
Ex-officio Member – Geoffrey Donnan, Editor of IJS

WSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Sub-Sahara Africa, Middle East/East Mediterranean

Foad Abd-Allah, Egypt
Gloria Ekeng, Nigeria
Mehdi Farhoudi, Iran
Abayomi Ogun, Nigeria

Americas

Marc Fisher, USA
Pooja Khatri, USA
Vladimir Hachinski, Canada
David Liebeskind, USA

Europe

Michael Brainin, Austria
Werner Hacke, Germany (President)
Philip Bath, UK
Peter Sandercock, UK

Asia/Oceania

Julie Bernhardt, Australia
Christopher Chen, Singapore
Graeme Hankey, Australia
Valery Feigin, New Zealand
Masayasu Matsumoto, Japan
Stephen Davis, Australia
Norihiro Suzuki, Japan
Ka Sing Lawrence Wong, Hong Kong

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

Craig Anderson, Asia Pacific Stroke Organisation
Jose Ferro, European Stroke Organization
Vida Demarin, Central and Eastern European Stroke Society
Patrik Michel, Swiss Stroke Society
Roland Veltkamp, German Stroke Society
Gord Gubitz, Canadian Stroke Consortium
Gabriel Rodriguez de Freitas, Brazilian Stroke Society
Ralph Sacco, American Stroke Association
Bernard Yan, Stroke Society of Australasia

STROKE SOCIETIES

Jon Barrick, The Stroke Association Stroke Alliance for Europe
Natan Bornstein, The Neeman Association for Stroke Survivors Israel
Amy Edmunds, YoungStroke.Inc
Juliet Bouverie, UK Stroke Association
George Scola, The Stroke Survivors Foundation
Patrice Lindsay, Heart and Stroke Foundation
Sharon McGowan, Stroke Foundation, Australia
Sheila Cristina Ouriques Martins, Brazilian Stroke Network
Kazuo Minematsu, Japan Stroke Association
Risto O. Roine, Finnish Brain Association

Co-opted members
Liping Liu, China



Join Us in the Fight Against Stroke Now!

Every six seconds someone somewhere will die of stroke.

One in six people will have a stroke at some time in their lives. Stroke is responsible for more deaths annually than those attributed to AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria combined, yet stroke remains a silent epidemic. Now is the time to act. Without coordinated effort on the part of the international community, stroke will claim the lives of up to **6.5 million people each year.**

ACT NOW

by using the WSO Advocacy Toolkit to support your local S
troke Advocacy Events
http://www.worldstrokecampaign.org/images/wso_advocacy_toolkit/2016-11_-_Advocacy_Toolkit_REVISION_Final.pdf

ACT NOW

by using the Global Stroke Guidelines and Action Plan to establish and implement
stroke systems of care globally.
http://www.world-stroke.org/images/GSGAAP/Global_Stroke_Guidelines_and_Action_Plan_All_in_one.pdf

ACT NOW

by becoming our members and joining our global team to fight against stroke.
<https://wso.multiregistration.com/>

ACT NOW

by learning and promoting the Global Stroke Bill of Rights to stroke care providers and
governments. <http://worldstrokecampaign.org/global-stroke-bill-of-rights.html>

ACT NOW

by marking your dates for World Stroke Congress 2018 in Montreal, Canada.
<http://worldstrokecongress.org/2018/Pages/default.aspx#.WQcmutLZtMw>



one voice
ONE WORLD VOICE FOR STROKE



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