

## Regional Stroke Meeting in Buenos Aires



### WSO Regional Stroke Symposium 11-12 June 2017 Buenos Aires

**Background.** To extend the global reach of its educational work, the WSO is planning to hold Regional congresses in the year between the biennial World Stroke Conferences (WSC). The first of these Regional Congresses was held in Argentina in 2017 (the year between the 2016 WSC in Hyderabad India, and WSC 2018 in Montreal, Canada).

**The symposium** was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on June 11 and 12, 2017. The symposium was co-sponsored by the World Stroke Organization (WSO) and the American Stroke Association (ASA). It was supported by the Sociedad Iberoamericana de Enfermedad Cerebrovascular (SIECV) and organized by Professor Conrado Estol, Buenos Aires and Prof Werner Hacke, President of the WSO.

**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, and so only charged a very low registration fee for participants, to enable all levels of health professionals and other relevant people to attend. We succeeded in organizing the symposium with a budget of under US \$ 100,000.

**The programme.** The two days of the symposium were dedicated to each of the main aims. Half a day was dedicated to patients and relatives, half a day to the situation of stroke medicine in Argentina, and the third part was devoted to talks giving the latest news on Prevention and Therapy

of Stroke. The faculty comprised some excellent international and South American speakers and about the same number of specialists from Argentina. Day 1 was chiefly for stroke survivors, patient's relatives and the general public. On Day 2 the Scientific Program was aimed at Neurologists, Cardiologists, Intensivists, Specialists in Emergency Medicine and General Internal Medicine.

**Day 1: stroke survivors and relatives.** This was a huge success. On day one, more than 350 stroke survivors and relatives had registered, an unbelievably high number. The audience heard impressive testimonials by patients, very informative lectures about stroke basics by excellent speakers, news of the creation of the first Argentinian stroke support group ACEVE and a moving presentation by a choir of aphasic patients. This was followed by a practical session of blood pressure taking, blood glucose measurements and Carotid Ultrasound tests for patients and relatives.

### **Day 2 Part 1. The basics of stroke care the situation in South-America and Argentina**

A total of 260 Physicians registered for the scientific day and this was the educational programme they received:

**The basics:** Stroke Services (Werner Hacke). Clinical Practices to accelerate stroke care and treatment, Global Stroke Guidelines and Roadmap tools (Stephen Davis), Stroke networks (Salvador Cruz Flores), Building up a stroke system in South America (Sheila Martins), The ABC of Stroke (Michael Brainin).

**Advancing in Stroke Services in Argentina:** Stroke Units and Stroke Services in the public sector (María Martha Esnaola). Stroke Units and Stroke Services in the private sector, (María Cristina Zurru), The epidemiology of vascular disease (Adolfo Rubinstein), Are hospitals and payers prepared?; Medical perspective (Pablo Ioli), Are hospitals and payers prepared?; Business perspective (Alexis Hoffmann), Prehospital services: reaching the treatment window (Sheila Martins), Teleneurology in South America (Arnold Hoppe), Stroke ready hospitals in Argentina (Angels) (Conrado Estol), Comprehensive stroke centres in South America (Claudio Sacks).

### **Day 2, Part 2. Update on the state of the art of Stroke Prevention and treatment**

#### **What is new in stroke prevention and treatment**

- Lifestyle and inexpensive preventive approaches – Sebastián Ameriso
- Medical secondary prevention – Stephen Davis
- Atrial fibrillation associated stroke and anticoagulation – Fernando Botto
- News from carotid interventions – Conrado Estol
- Rehabilitation – Michael Brainin

#### **Acute treatment**

- Acute Imaging with multi slice CT and MRI – Ayrton Massaro
- Thrombectomy – Stephen Davis
- Critical care Neurology – Jorge Villacura
- Do's and Don't's of intraventricular hemorrhage – Fernando Goldenberg
- Do's and Don't's of intracerebral hemorrhage – Fernando Goldenberg
- History and Current Status of Thrombolysis – Werner Hacke

