



ICGP Newsletter

September 2015

Volume 2, Issue 1

Mission Statement of the ICGP

The mission of the International College of Geriatric Psychoneuropharmacology is to further clinical care, research, and education in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology by fostering cross-fertilization of scientific knowledge among clinical and preclinical scientists from different related disciplines

Defining and articulating clinical methodologies necessary for the proper study and subsequent large-scale application of interventions to prevent and treat neuropsychiatric disorders

Periodically developing consensus-based interpretations of available scientific data in order to recommend scientific and regulatory policies regarding the application of interventions to improve the health and well-being of the aging individuals with neuropsychiatric disorders who are residing in many culturally distinct societies worldwide.



A Message from the Chairman

Dear colleagues and friends,

In this the second newsletter of the ICGP, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you to the College. The ICGP is constituted by a selected group of clinicians and researchers dedicated to the advancement of neuropsychiatric care of older populations around the world. The mission of the ICGP is to further clinical care, research, and education in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology by fostering cross-fertilization of scientific knowledge among clinical and preclinical scientists from different related disciplines.

A key objective of the ICGP is to enhance communication

among clinicians and researchers internationally. We are always looking for ideas to increase the relevance of ICGP and improve its standing among the associations relating to neuropsychiatric disorders of the elderly.

The ICGP is now in its 15th year of existence, and will celebrate its XV annual meeting from October 7-10, 2015, at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California (USA). In our first newsletter, a summary of our 2012 Meeting in Sevilla (Spain) was published. Our meetings in 2013 at Pittsburgh University (USA) and 2014 at the University of Tsukuba (Japan) were also very successful, with a very high standard of scientific communications delivered by world-leading scientists and clinicians.

The International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry is the Official Journal of the ICGP and its editor Professor G Alexopoulos has written a piece on the journal's aims and outlook on page 5 of the

newsletter. The journal has recently published many of our junior awardees' research papers in a special issue, and we are deeply honored by this acknowledgement.

The ICGP has officially been invited to the World Congress of the CINP, and some of the ICGP Executive Council will act as ambassadors for this important event. We are very proud of this invitation and grateful to Professor Shigeto Yamawaki, President of the CINP, and past-president of the ICGP. To quote our learned colleague "the mission of ICGP and CINP are united".

I look forward to seeing you in Palo Alto. An outstanding program has been set up by the organising committee, led by Drs. Ruth O'Hara and Breno Satler, to whom we also are very thankful.

Warm regards and best wishes.

Ángel Moríño

President of the ICCP

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XIV ICGP Annual Meeting 2014 (Tsukuba, Japan) — Highlights

The 14th Annual Meeting of the ICGP, held in conjunction with the Japanese Neuropsychiatric Association, took place October 1–4, 2014 at the International Congress Center in Tsukuba Japan. Along with participants from national and regional associations, more than 150 registrants took part in the conference, many travelling long distances from Australia, North America and Europe. The program was chaired by Professor Takashi Asada of the University of Tsukuba and was organized under the general theme “Identifying Biological and Environmental Risk Factors for Dementia”.

The Program Committee organized a rich and provocative series of special invited lectures, peer-reviewed thematic symposia, individual paper and poster sessions.

In his Plenary Address, ICGP President Professor Perminder Sachdev described the development of new diagnostic criteria for vascular cognitive impairment (the VAS-COG criteria). Special lectures were presented on induced pluripotent stem cell approaches to CNS disorders (H. Inoue), molecular imaging (G. Smith), long-term pharmacotherapy (C. F. Reynolds III), the future of dementia treatment (P. Whitehouse), new genetics approaches (M. Yanagisawa), dopaminergic imaging (J. O’Brien), Lewy body dementia (T. Nishikawa), new directions in late life depression (B. Lebowitz), and the dementia prodrome (A. J. Thomas).

A rich array of panels and posters was presented. Topics included epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, and risk, clinical course, potential biomarkers, and safety and efficacy of treatments. Panels ranged from the promise of applications of induced pluripotent stem cell approaches and the Human Connectome Project to innovations in genomics, brain imaging, robotics and nanoscience. New data, some not yet published, on a variety of biological, pharmacologic and psychosocial treatments and preventive interventions were presented. A special highlight of the panel sessions was one on “Disaster Gerontology”, where investigators from Japan, Taiwan, and the US

discussed new epidemiological and clinical data collected following recent large-scale disasters or personal trauma. Posters were available for much of the meeting and were discussed at a special reception. Best poster awards were given to Sadayuki Hashioka (Univ. of British Columbia), Toshinari Odawara (Yokohama City University Medical Center), and Kentaro Hirao (Johns Hopkins University).

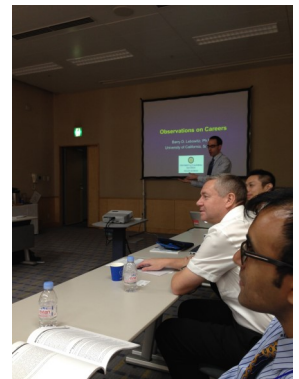
The New Investigator Program, an ICGP tradition, was organized by Drs Shawn McClintock and Sara Weisenbach. The Awards Committee reviewed a number of promising proposals and selected awardees from Canada, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, and Japan. A full day training program was held before the start of the conference where Awardees had the opportunity to meet with many senior members of ICGP and to present their research for general discussion. A special section of the Poster Session was reserved for the Awardees as well. New this year, the formal ICGP program included a panel of previous Awardees presenting their research and describing their progress since their awards.

A rich and interesting social program, featuring the University of Tsukuba student Taiko drum ensemble and traditional dance ensemble was included as part of the conference reception. This performance, along with the many opportunities for conversation and interaction, made for an enjoyable and professionally enriching experience for all participants. We are grateful for all participants for making this year’s conference such a success.

Thank you and Sayonara.

Takahashi Asada and Adam Lebowitz

Program Chairs and Event Organizers



XV ICGP Annual Meeting 2015 — (Palo Alto, California)

We are very excited to announce the XV Annual Meeting of the International College of Geriatric Psychoneuropharmacology, from October 7th to 10th, 2015, at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, USA. The Meeting will be hosted by the Stanford University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and the Palo Alto VA Sierra-Pacific Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center.

The Meeting welcomes colleagues from all across the world to discuss the most recent advances and future directions of research in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology and the pathophysiology of neuropsychiatric disorders in older adults. The scientific program is balanced to offer presentations and symposia from the basic sciences to clinical translation and implementation. Presenters include thought leaders and content experts in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology, providing updates on the most cutting edge research in our field as well as an enriched conference environment for in-depth discussion and opportunities for forging collaborations. Hosted by Dr. Ruth O'Hara (Stanford) and Dr. Breno Diniz (Brazil), speakers include Dr. Jovier Evans, Chief of the NIMH Geriatric Translational Neuroscience Program, Dr. Laura Roberts, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford, Dr. Angel Morinigo Dominguez, current president of ICGP, Dr. Gwenn Smith, past president of ICGP, Dr. Dilip Jeste, past president of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Emmanuel Mignot, Director of the Stanford Sleep Center, Internationally renowned biostatisti-



cian, Dr. Helena Kraemer, treatment experts Drs. Alan Schatzberg, Eric Lenze, and Julie Wetheral, Dr. Tony Wyss-Corey, recipient of the NIH Directors Award, Dr. Etienne Sibiel, chair of the Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute, Drs. Joachim Hallmayer, Theo Palmer, and Sergiu Pasca, experts in stem cell models of psychiatric disorders, and neuroimaging experts, Drs. Meryl Butters, Amit Etkin and Lisa Eyler. A highlight of our conference will be a Saturday morning town hall style session focused on how we can tackle the big issue of "big data" in geriatric mental health research, in which presenters and audience will discuss how we can share – data, samples, and techniques – to move geriatric mental health research forward as a collaborative enterprise.

One of the most important components of our scientific program are the activities dedicated to young investigators in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology, including the Junior Investigator Training Day

hosted by Drs. Shawn McClintock and Sara Weisenbach. A central goal of ICGP is to encourage young investigators to pursue a career in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology and related areas. This will help build a stronger generation of researchers dedicated to understanding the pathophysiological basis of, and developing novel and effective treatments for older adults with neuropsychiatric disorders.

Finally, the beautiful city of Palo Alto and the Stanford University, home of many Nobel Prize laureates, provide the perfect cultural and intellectual environment that will make our XV Annual Meeting a unique opportunity to interact and build collaborative efforts with colleagues from different parts of the world.

We look forward to seeing you in Palo Alto!

Ruth O'Hara and Breno S. Diniz

Scientific Program Co-Chairs

2015 ICGP Junior Investigator Awards

We are pleased to announce the 2015 ICGP Junior Investigator Awardees! Each awardee will present their work during the poster session held on 10/8/2015 during the annual meeting.

Elizabeth DiNapoli, Ph.D., VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, "Treatment Preferences of Older Veterans with Multiple Chronic Health Conditions: Preliminary Steps Toward Personalized Mental Health Treatments"

Christine Gould, Ph.D., VA Palo Alto Healthcare System, "Late Life Anxiety Symptoms are Associated with Subjective but not Objective Sleep Parameters"

Hadi Hosseini, Ph.D., Stanford University, "Neural Correlates of Cognitive Interventions in People at Risk of AD"

Makoto Kawai, M.D., D.Sc., Stanford University, "Sleep Onset Frontal Intermittent Rhythmic Delta Activity and Cognition in Older Adults"

Sanjeev Kumar, M.D., FRCPC, University of Toronto, "Neuroplasticity Deficits in the Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex of Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease"

Li Su, Ph.D., University of Cambridge, "Whole Brain Patterns of 1H-Proton Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy in Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia with Lewy Bodies"

Keith Sudheimer, Ph.D., Stanford University, "The Effects of Aging on Hypothalamic Functional Connectivity to the Subgenual Cingulate Cortex in Healthy and Depressed Individuals"

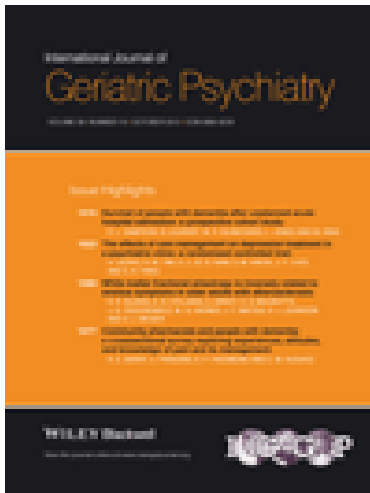
Lucy Wang, M.D., University of Washington, "CSF Norepinephrine and Cortisol in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitively Normal Controls"

Eniko Zsoldos, MSc, University of Oxford, "Allostatic Load and Brain Structure in a Sample of Community Dwelling Older Adults"

Awardees will participate in a Junior Investigator Trainee Day on Wednesday, October 7th just prior to the regular ICGP meeting, chaired by Drs. Shawn McClintock (Duke University) and Sara Weisenbach (University of Utah). The training day will include a session on Grant Strategies from Inside the NIMH (Dr. Jovier Evans, NIMH), Scientific Autobiographies by Dr. Gwenn Smith (Johns Hopkins) and Dr. Scott Mackin (University of California-San Francisco), and talks about Publishing as a Junior Investigator (Dr. Amit Etkin, Stanford University), and the New NIH Biosketch 101 (Dr. Ruth O'Hara, Stanford University). Each awardee will be paired with a mentor at the ICGP meeting, who will be available to provide career guidance and support.

Shawn McClintock and Sara Weisenbach

The International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry Psychiatry: Official Journal of the ICGP



We live at a time in which technology has created the confidence that we can unlock the brain's mechanisms leading to mental illness. Human neurobiology is booming, generating new targets for novel therapeutics. Parallel developments in clinical and services delivery research are creating novel treatments and interventions, strengthening our knowledge on evidence based treatment, and providing vehicles for their delivery. This optimism comes with a prize. Our field attracts many and is becoming increasingly more competitive. Fueled by improved computer technology, documentation and regulatory requirements are increasing and take away time from scientific work and from clinical care. Scientists and clinical scholars are directly affected as they have to compete with an increasing pool of applicants for fixed amounts of grant money and for a limited number of positions.

ICGP sees the career development of its members as an area of high priority. The ICGP meeting offers its members an opportunity to learn from each other and to make connections needed for collaborative work. The International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, the official journal of ICGP, welcomes manuscripts by ICGP members and makes every effort to provide critiques so their findings are clearly presented and meaningfully discussed. Electronic publication within a few weeks from acceptance disseminates rapidly the work of investigators and clinical scholars. In addition to disseminating important findings to the scientific and clinical community, a benefit of e-publication is the prompt enrichment of the authors' biographical sketch and the strengthening of their grant applications that often have to meet rapidly approaching deadlines. To further highlight the work of ICGP junior investigator awardees, the Journal devotes a special volume comprising their papers. I hope that you would enjoy this year's meeting and that you would choose the International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry for the publication of your findings.

George S. Alexopoulos

North American Editor

Become a Member of the ICGP

The International College of Geriatric Psychoneuropharmacology (ICGP) is a multi-disciplinary organization, primarily comprised of clinical or basic science researchers with national reputations and interest in issues around neuropsychiatric disorders in relationship to aging and the treatment of these conditions. Currently, no other international organization focuses entirely on the many disciplines involved in geriatric psychoneuropharmacology. The ICGP is open to scientists from all countries, from different related disciplines, and from different work settings (universities, government institutions, private practice, pharmaceutical industry, etc.).

We hope that you will consider applying for membership in this unique organization. The ICGP Credentials Committee will review all the membership applications.

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