

Neuro-Oncology

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Society members are requested to send items for this section to

Oliver Bögl, Ph.D.
Department of Neurosurgery and
Hermelin Brain Tumor Center
Henry Ford Hospital
2799 West Grand Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48202
Tel (313) 916-7293
E-Fax (425) 732-8379
E-mail societynews@soc-neuro-onc.org

CONSENSUS CONFERENCE ON BRAIN TUMOR DEFINITION

The Consensus Conference on Brain Tumor Definition, held on November 10, 2000, in Chicago during the Society for Neuro-Oncology's annual meeting achieved agreement on a brain tumor definition that will allow comparability of statistical data on all primary brain tumors across regions and among surveillance systems in the United States. This meeting was sponsored by the Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States (CBTRUS). Funding support was provided by The Peter Preuss Foundation and the David Yeager Family. Location support was provided by the Society for Neuro-Oncology.

Participants from surveillance organizations, including representatives from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program of the National Cancer Institute, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, and the National Program of Cancer Registries, joined researchers and clinicians, including neuropathologists, in unanimously approving the definition recommended by the Brain Tumor Working Group (BTWG), a subcommittee of the National Coordinating Council of Cancer Surveillance (NCCCS).

Primary Intracranial and Central Nervous System Tumors are all primary tumors occurring in the following sites, irrespective of histologic type or behavior: brain, meninges, spinal cord, cauda equina, cranial nerves and other parts of the CNS, pituitary gland, pineal gland, and craniopharyngeal duct. These include morphology codes C70.0-C72.9 and C75.9

and C75.1-C75.3 as listed in the International Coding of Diseases for Oncology (ICD-O-3).

The major impact of this definition for the surveillance community will be the inclusion of primary brain tumors with benign or uncertain behaviors to their data standards. Under the aegis of the NCCCS, a committee has been formed to discuss implementation issues. Please contact CBTRUS for more information.

Contact: Carol Kruchko
President, CBTRUS
Phone (630) 655-4786
E-mail cbtrus@aol.com
Web-site www.cbtrus.org

PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION OF THE UNITED STATES FUNDS \$1.25 MILLION TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT

The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the United States is proud to announce awarding of its \$1.25 million translational research grant. Darell Bigner, M.D., Ph.D., of Duke University Medical Center, received the award in January 2001.

This grant was one of 11 applications submitted in 1999 to apply for a \$1 million translational research grant that will span a 5-year period. After review from a prestigious scientific review board, Dr. Bigner's project was deemed to be the most promising.

The importance of translational research is to bring research from the laboratory into clinical use. Current radiation and chemotherapy treatments often leave children with long-term negative effects that impact their quality of life; therefore, research is needed to develop better treatment options for these children.

Dr. Bigner's research project focuses on creating a less invasive treatment of a medulloblastoma tumor and promises to leave children in better health post-treatment. This treatment approach would use the child's own immune system to fight the cancer.

For more information about the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the U.S. and other grant funding opportunities, visit www.pbtfus.org, call (828) 665-6891, or e-mail the foundation at research@pbtfus.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

NEW TREATMENTS FOR BRAIN TUMORS: GENE THERAPY AND NEURAL STEM CELLS, AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OCTOBER 17-20, 2001, PARMA, ITALY

Sessions include the following: Biology and Genetics of Brain Tumors; Gene Therapy Vectors and the Blood Brain Barrier; Neural Stem Cells, Biology and Therapeutics; and Clinical Trials. For more information, visit the Web site at <http://www.tumoricerebrali.it>.

Contact: Inder Verma, Chairman

Scientific Committee: Darell Bigner, Antonio Chiocca, Gaetano Finocchiaro, Erwin van Meir, Paolo Vezzoni.

FIRST QUADRENNIAL MEETING OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF NEURO-ONCOLOGY

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY (SNO)

NOVEMBER 15-18, 2001, WASHINGTON, DC

This World Federation Meeting, which brings together members of the European Association of Neuro-Oncology, the Japanese Society for Neuro-Oncology, and the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO), will be held in November, 2001, in conjunction with the SNO Sixth Annual Meeting. For information about meeting registration or commercial exhibits, call Jan Esenwein at (713) 745-2264 or email <jesenwei@mdanderson.org>. Further information is available at the Society for Neuro-Oncology Web site at www.soc-neuro-onc.org. (Also see the front inside cover of this issue.)

NEUROPATHOLOGY 2002, THE SEVENTH EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF NEUROPATHOLOGY

JULY 14-17, 2002, HELSINKI, FINLAND

The Scandinavian Society of Neuropathology is organizing the next European Congress of Neuropathology in Helsinki, Finland. For more information, visit the Web site at www.congrex.fi/neuropathology2002.

Congress Secretariat:

Neuropathology 2002

c/o CONGREX/Blue & White Conferences Oy

P.O. Box 81

FIN-00371 Helsinki

Finland

Phone +358-9-5607500

Fax +358-9-56075020

E-mail neuropathology2002@congrex.fi

Scientific Secretariat:

Hunnu Kalimo, MD, PhD

Department of Pathology

Turku University Hospital

FIN-20520 Turku

Finland

Fax +358-2-3337459

E-mail hannu.kalimo@utu.fi

FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF NEURO-ONCOLOGY

SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2002, FLORENCE, ITALY

The Italian Association of Neuro-Oncology will host the Fifth EANO Congress at the International Congress Center in Florence, September 7-11, 2002. As in previous meetings, the Congress will provide updates on basic and clinical research in the field of neuro-oncology, with the aim of evoking fruitful multidisciplinary cooperation between specialists from different countries. The Congress will begin with a postgraduate course on selected topics on the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric and adult tumors of the central nervous system. The Scientific Program will be divided into invited lectures, oral and poster sessions, and panel discussions on controversial topics, with the purpose of developing a neuro-oncology forum open to the various disciplines involved in this field, as intended by EANO at its founding. The Congress location in central Florence will allow the exploration of this astonishing open air museum, offering also the opportunity for a delightful tourist experience. The Association is pleased to invite basic and clinical scientists, nurses, and all those in the community who are involved in the study and treatment of brain tumors to participate in the fifth EANO Congress. The meeting promises to be an exciting scientific and sightseeing opportunity.

The Call for Papers will be announced in the Second Announcement, which will include the abstract form and will give further information about main topics and the Congress program. It will also include details about the social program for active participants and accompanying guests.

Deadline for abstract submission: March 1, 2002

Deadline for low registration fee: May 1, 2002

Contact: Scientific Secretariat

Carmine M. Carapella, M.D.

Dept. of Neurosurgery

Regina Elena National Cancer Institute

Via E. Chianesi, 53

00144 Rome, Italy

Phone 39-06-41734412

Fax 39-06-41796897

E-mail eano2002@ifo.it

Web site eano2002.ifo.it

Organising Secretariat

Triumph P.R.

Via Proba Petronia, 3

00136 Rome, Italy

Phone 39-06-399631

Fax 39-06-39735195

E-mail: eano@triumphpr.it