

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE EUROPEAN RHINOLOGIC SOCIETY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1998, HOFBURG CONGRESS VENUE, VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

1. Opening

The president, P. van Cauwenberge opens the meeting and welcomes A. Lopatin (new delegate for Russia). He announces the nomination of a delegate for Israel, since this country introduced 35 new members. The Israeli society will be asked to assign a candidate.

2. Report of the secretary

- Members: At present there are 611 members in the European Rhinologic Society. In comparison there were 546 members in 1995; 667 in 1996; 541 in 1997.
- Fellowships: In 1996 and in 1997 three fellowships have been awarded to attend one of the following courses:
 1. International Course in Functional Corrective Nasal Surgery, Utrecht, The Netherlands
 2. International Course on FESS, Graz, Austria
 3. An Endoscopic Approach to Rhinosinusitis, London, UK
A fellowship for the "International Course in Functional-Aesthetic Nasal Surgery", Ulm, Germany still is yearly available.
- Courses: The following courses were organised under the auspices of ERS:
 1. First Croatian International Rhinosurgical Autumn School, 21-25 september 1997, Slavonski Brod, Croatia
 2. Cours de Rhinologie, 16-19 avril 1997, Nancy, France
 3. 4e Cours de Chirurgie Endoscopique des Sinus, 25-27 mars 1998, Toulouse, France
 4. Second International Course in Modern Rhinoplasty, 17-19 September 1998, Ghent, Belgium
 5. Second Croatian International Rhinosurgical Autumn School, 22-25 September 1998, Zagreb, Croatia
 6. Minimally Invasive Techniques and Image Guided Surgery in ENT and Skull base Surgery, 2-4 July 1998, Toulouse, France
 7. 1st Croatian International Symposium on Computer Assisted Surgery and Telesurgery, 1999, Zagreb, Croatia

3. Report of the treasurer:

	Netherlands Guilders (NLG)
Bank balance period 1992 - 1994:	80.115
Interest	7.362
Bank balance period 1994 - 1996:	61.495
Interest	4.051
Bank balance period 1996 - 1998:	57.984
Interest	1.213

The report is verified by C.D.A Verwoerd and B. Bertrand.

A committee is formed consisting of L.F. Grymer, E.H. Huizing, K. Ingels, I.S. Mackay, H. Stammberger, that will investigate an eventual contribution of future ERS congress organisers to share part of their income profits out of registration fees. For the next two congresses (Barcelona 2000, Ulm 2002) these costs will be waived, since the presidents could not foresee such a new tax.

4. Report of the Editor-in-Chief of Rhinology

Due to a donation of the Copenhagen Congress organisers (1994) 40 additional papers could be published. From the Congress in Ghent (1996), 6 papers were submitted and accepted for publication. The chairmen of this Congress will be asked to select a paper within their session and submit it to Rhinology. The last two years a profit of NLG 35.000 was realised. This will be used for an index issue, a supplement for classification and standardisation guidelines, and finally, to increase the quality of the journal. This can for example be achieved by introducing a second reviewer for each article.

5. Honorary member

G. Sulenti was president of the ERS from 1982-1984 and is awarded with an honorary membership that is handed over by the present president.

6. Future meetings

The XVIIIth meeting in Barcelona, Spain, 25-29 June 2000 is explained by the future president J. Fabra Llopis. The congress in Ulm (XIXth meeting), Germany will be organised by G. Rettinger, June 16-20. Both meetings are held together with the International Symposium on Infection and Allergy of the Nose (ISIAN), XIXth and XXth edition respectively. The organisation of the 2004 congress was appointed to Turkey (M. Onerci), during the meeting of the Executive Committee with the delegates.

7. Internet

A concept of an ERS website on the internet is presented by K. Ingels. The advantages are various: information of members and public, recognition, members accrual, discussion forum. The address of the home page will be <http://www.azn.nl/ent/ers>. Costs are estimated to be approximately NLG 2.000 a year. The initiative is accepted and can be financed by the medical industry who will probably be interested for publicity reasons.

8. Any other business

A. van Olphen (Netherlands) proposed the edition of a year book. This could contain a list of past presidents and congresses. Detailed information can be provided concerning numbers of participants and abstracts of the past congresses. Present members could be listed with their addresses, telephone + fax

numbers, e-mail addresses to promote international rhinological contacts. Important innovations in our profession can be described and analysed by guest editors. A committee is formed consisting of E.H. Huizing, P. van Cauwenberge, A. van Olphen and K. Ingels to develop such a year book.

9. Closure

The president P v Cauwenberge resigns his function by handing over the president attributes to the newly installed president, H. Stammberger. The past president is thanked by H. Stammberger for his merits for ERS in the last two years.

1998 ERS PRIZE WINNERS

During the 17th Congress of the European Rhinologic Society and XVII ISIAN in Vienna the 1998 ERS Research Prizes were presented. The prizes are awarded for original basic research, and for original clinical research in the field of Rhinology.

The prize in the category "Basic Research" was awarded to **M.W. Saunders, Bristol, UK** (co-authors T. Lai, S. George and M. Birchall) University of Bristol, Departments of Otolaryngology, Cardiac Surgery and General Surgery for their paper "Corticosteroids induce apoptosis in human nasal polyp eosinophils: in vivo and in vitro studies".



Foto 1, f.l.t.r.: Prof. P. van Cauwenberge, president ERS; Dr. K. Ingels, secretary ERS; together with prize winner M.W. Saunders.

The prize in the category "Clinical Research" was awarded to **Didier Malis, Geneva, Switzerland** (co-authors Eric Grouzmann, Denis R. Morel, Manfred Mutter, Jean-Silvain Lacroix) Laboratory of Experimental Rhinology, Clinic of Otorhinolaryngology and Dept. of Anaesthesiology, Hôpital Universitaire de Genève; Hypertension Unit, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois and Dept. of Chemistry, Polytechnic School, Lausanne, Switzerland, for their paper "Neuropeptide Y (NPY) analogue TASP-NPY (23-26) modulates nasal and bronchial responses evoked by histamine in anaesthetized pigs and in humans".



Foto 2, f.l.t.r.: Prof. P. van Cauwenberge; Dr. L.F. Grymer, treasurer ERS; prize winner D. Malis; Dr. K. Ingels.

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