7th World Stroke Congress

October 13-16, 2010, Seoul

The 7th World Stroke Congress was held in Coex Center, Seoul, Korea from Oct 13-16, 2010. About 2800 people attended the meeting which was organized by Kenes International. 504 posters were presented comprising of 52 plenary sessions and 14 key note address. As the previous meetings had been held in Kyoto, Vancouver, Munich, and Vienna, Seoul was a welcome change as the new venue for deliberations on Stroke. This meeting was sponsored by Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co Ltd, Pfizer, Bayer Healthcare, Allergan, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers and Sanofi-Aventis Korea etc. Various organizations focusing on Stroke awareness were formally recognized for their contributions. This included the Lalitha Hospital, Guntur, India and a Bronze medal was awarded to Brazilian Academy of Stroke. The Sri Lankan stroke group was recognized for media campaigns, web conferences, publishing booklets and evolving national strategy on Stroke. A competition was also launched for suggesting an attractive and International symbol for Stroke.

The academic program also included lectures of excellence that were the highlights of the conference for these provided a fresh perspective of approaching stroke in animals and humans. The lecture by Prof U. Dirnagl from Berlin, Germany dwelled on important variables left out in animal research. These included the role of infections and in pathogenesis of stroke, beta blockers besides the establishment of animals models that possessed co morbidities as seen in human stroke. There were several sessions on the importance of creating Stroke units that has been shown to lead to better management of Stroke. Other session were devoted on clinical trials using aspirin and other novel agents including anti platelet therapy besides discussing the clinical implications of cerebral micro bleeds in patients treated with anti thrombotics. A satellite symposium was also organized discussing the key elements in stroke prevention and new developments in neuroprotection.

The poster sessions were equally interesting particularly a presentation by the Japanese group that have developed a i-phone software which imports the neuroimaging data in an interface for enhanced Stroke management. Several posters were devoted on creation of MCAo in mouse and several molecules were tested for their neuroprotective effects. Another session was devoted to Genetics in which the emerging technologies for identifying genes were presented and the advances in Genetics of ischemic Stroke were discussed. The lecture by Dr. H S Markus was particularly interesting. The session on publishing workshop was also very useful as it provided personal tips for editing and publishing. This was useful because of my own current assignments in editing this Journal.

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Akshay Anand
Chandigarh

Erratum

1. The manuscript published in Ann Neurosci, 17(1) 18-21, 2010 had wrongly aligned references such as Lowry *et al.*, with a numerical reference of 14 but the item on 14 at the listed reference was Koul IB and Kapil A. Due to one reference being numerically wrongly placed, all the further references cited had wrong citations. This error is deeply regretted.
2. In article entitled "Social and cultural representation of Epilepsy in elderly aged 65 and more, during a community in two French Departments." Vol 17.2 (2010), p 60-62, there was an error in the name of one of the authors 'Jean A Prado'. The correct name was 'Annie Prado-Jean'.