

# COMMISSION ON THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES



Steve Schachter



Bernhard Steinhoff

## List of Members

Co-Chair	Steve Schachter (USA)
Co-Chair	Bernhard Steinhoff (Germany)
Information Officer	Guenter Kramer (Switzerland)
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Treasurer	Patrick Kwan (Hong Kong)
Education Officer	Jack Pellock (USA)
Past Co-Chair	Jackie French (USA)
Past Co-Chair	Gary Mathern (USA)
Members:	JoAnne Dahl (Sweden)
	Hanneke De Boer (Netherlands)
	Jaideep Kapur (USA)

## List of Sub-commissions and Members

New Strategies of Clinical Therapeutic Studies:  
Jackie French (Chair)

Behavioral Treatments: JoAnne Dahl, Chair

Treatment Gap: Carlos Acevedo, Hanneke De Boer (Chair); Gretchen Birbeck, Tarun Dua, Ley Sander

Surgery: Bernhard Steinhoff (Chair), Mario Alonso, Gary Mathern, Taisuke Oztuki, Cigdem Ozkara, Steven Roper, Felix Rosenow, Americo Sacamoto

Drugs: Guenter Kramer (Chair)

Natural Products: Steve Schachter (Chair), Robert Orynich, Nikolaus Sucher

Pharmacogenomics: Patrick Kwan (Chair), Martin Brodie, Tracy Glauser, Michael Johnson, Terence O'Brien, Nigel Tan

## Aims

To complete efforts begun by the previous Commission and to define and pursue opportunities for progress consistent with the ILAE Strategic Plan in several key therapy-related areas: behavioral treatments, drugs, natural products, new strategies of clinical therapeutic studies, pharmacogenomics, surgery and the treatment gap. A couple of substantial projects were completed. Some of the initiated plans and projects are still ongoing and should be accomplished during the coming years. Some task forces did not report any accomplishments during the past year which will be addressed by the chairs of the Commission.

## Mission

To improve the care of patients with epilepsy by facilitating collaboration among clinicians, scientists, and other professionals in fulfillment of the relevant aspects of the ILAE Strategic Plan.

The therapeutics commission has a broad mandate to review current treatments and to advocate for improvements. Because of the great diversity of the

topics, ranging from the use of natural products to surgery, the Commission created separate task forces. Each task force will focus on a topic of growing interest or pressing importance: natural products, clinical trial strategies, pharmacogenomics and surgery.

## Natural Products Task Force

*Steven Schachter, Chair*

The task force has developed "Epilepsy Naturapedia," a wiki to be launched in 2013 and hosted on the ILAE website, that will be the most comprehensive, current and customizable central research hub for bench-to-bedside scientific information on the use of natural products for the treatment of epilepsy. Among its many features, Epilepsy Naturapedia enables users to search for information using:

1. Common names
2. Scientific names
3. Names of compounds
4. Names of historical neurologists
5. Historical use
6. Pharmaceutical information
7. Published evidence for use in the treatment of epilepsy

Users may apply for privileges to create new pages or edit existing pages by adding links, images, and their own text.

## New Strategies of Clinical Therapeutic Studies Task Force

*Jacqueline French, Chair*

The primary focus of this task force has been global harmonization of regulatory requirements for clinical trials of anti-epileptic therapies. Nine members of EMA and Russell Katz, FDA Neuropharmacology Division Director, attended a task force meeting in Paris on November 17, 2011. Based on the meeting, the task force plans to submit three white papers to the FDA: using add-on therapy for a combined monotherapy/add-on therapy indication, the extrapolation of adult partial onset seizure data to children, and use of the time to event analysis for pivotal trials. Discussions will continue with the EMA.

## Pharmacogenomics Task Force

*Patrick Kwan, Chair*

The task force has outlined a number of issues related to the use of pharmacogenomics to select, titrate and monitor anti-epileptic drug therapies. A critically important step in this effort is to define drug response phenotypes, and the task force is preparing a discussion paper on this topic.

## Surgery Task Force

*Bernhard Steinhoff, Chair*

The surgery task force has conducted a literature review of the surgical treatment of cavernomas

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associated with epilepsy, outlined recommended surgical approaches and identified opportunities for further research. A manuscript containing the findings and consensus recommendations has been sent for review prior to submission to *Epilepsia*.

Improved and more effective therapies are critically needed and there is no clear breakthrough in sight. It is our hope that our multi-faceted approach will get us to our goal.

## **New Commission Members (2013-2017)**

### **Commission on Medical Therapies**

Patrick Kwan, Chair (Hong Kong)  
Steven Schachter (USA)  
Martin Brodie (UK)  
Alejandro de Marinis (Chile)  
Jacques Doumbé (Cameroon)  
Eric Kossoff (USA)  
Hazel Paragua (Philippines)  
Dong Zhou (China)  
Emilio Perucca, EC Liaison (Italy)

### **Commission on Surgical Therapies**

Bertil Rydenhag, Chair (Sweden)  
Bernhard Steinhoff (Germany)  
Kristina Malmgren (Sweden)  
Mike Sperling (USA)  
Mario Alonso Vanegas (Mexico)  
Sanford Hsu (Taiwan)  
Pavel Krsek (Czech Republic)  
Andrew McEvoy (UK)  
Taisuke Otsuki (Japan)  
Christine Bulteau (France)  
Serge Vulliémoz (Switzerland)  
Tatsuya Tanaka, EC liaison (Japan)