

COMMISSION ON NEUROBIOLOGY



Marco de Curtis

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Marco de Curtis (Italy)

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Solomon Moshé (USA), EC Liaison

Task Force Chairs

Jacqueline French, Asla Pitkänen, Raman Sankar,
Michele Simonato
Liaisons: Solomon Moshé, Annamaria Vezzani

Activities

The activities of the Neurobiology Commission (NBC) focus on the development of experimental research strategies that address clinically relevant issues in the field of epilepsy. The main goal of the commission is to organize and promote international and regional educational and dissemination initiatives to enhance the reciprocal interaction between the neuroscience and epilepsy communities. This goal is achieved by implementing a strategic plan and through the endorsement and the discussion by consolidate and young emergent scientists of new translational basic research findings relevant for clinical care.

The commission strategic plan is organized in five main initiatives implemented by ad hoc task forces. The progress of task force activities were verified and updated during two meetings of the commission in June 2014 and September 2015, just before the 2014 European Congress in Stockholm and the 2015 ILAE Congress in Istanbul. The commission reports and new documents generated by commission activities are updated on the ILAE website every 3 months by the commission member responsible for the interaction with the Communications Task Force (K. Kobow). The forms for the registration to the WONOE and for NBC support requests to organize meetings/workshops were recently posted on the NBC website (<http://www.ilae.org/Commission/neurobio/index.cfm>). A website

section dedicated to advertise jobs/postdoctoral/PhD positions will be soon implemented and highlighted on the NBC website.

Update of Dissemination and Educational Task Force Activities

NBC Activity at 31st ILAE Congress 2015:

The NBC contributed to the organization of scientific and educational events at the 2015 ILAE Congress in Istanbul, described on a flyer that was circulated at neuroscience and clinical epilepsy congresses during 2014/2015. The following events were supported by the NBC:

- Educational sessions entitled "The Best of two Worlds: Translational Epileptology" developed in collaboration with Walter van Emde Boas:
 - *Of mice and men: clinical and neurobiological perspectives in temporal lobe epilepsy*; speakers C. Özkara and A. Depaulis
 - *When a seizure is a seizure*; speakers M. de Curtis and P. Kahane
 - *What do and can clinicians expect from neuroscientists?*; speakers J. Engel Jr. and G. Avanzini
 - *Beyond the neuron(s): where is epilepsy*; speakers D. Janigro and E. Perucca
- Neurobiology Symposium on "Optogenetics to cure epilepsy: facts and feasibility". Speakers: Merab Kokaia, Robert Wykes, Esther Krook-Magnuson, Giorgio Carmignoto
- WONOE Highlight Session

Young Neuroscientist Award

NBC promoted for the first time an award for the best neuroscience contribution submitted to the international ILAE meeting. During the selection process it was proposed to entitle this Young Neuroscientist Award to the Harinarayan family that generously contributed to NBC funding. The winners of 2015 Award, Cristina Ruedell and Ping Zheng, were selected from more than 100 candidates.

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Cristina Ruedell (Dublin, Ireland) and Ping Zheng (Melbourne, Australia), winners of the 2015 Young Neuroscientist Award, awarded during the 2015 ILAE Congress in Istanbul.

For future ILAE meetings the applications for this award will be advertised on the congress registration form. Candidates should prove 1) to support an independent research activity by signing the congress abstract as last author and 2) no more than 5 years after graduation.

NBC Activity Planned for 12th European Congress on Epilepsy, Prague 2016

The NBC proposal of a Neurobiology Symposium on “Learning about focal ictogenesis from patients (and animal models)” was accepted. The speakers are Wilson Truccolo, Kaspar Schindler, Marco de Curtis and Julia Jacobs.

Other Dissemination Actions:

The NBC supported the organization of the following courses and workshops:

- 5th San Servolo Course Bridging Basic with Clinical Epileptology, Venice, Italy, July 18-31, 2014
- Gordon Conference on Epilepsy, August 17-22, 2014, Mount Snow Resort in Vermont, USA
- Joint IBRO/ILAE symposium on network synchronization in epilepsy, at IBRO Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 8, 2015
- Joint IUPHAR/ILAE session on optimizing anti-epilepsy drug discovery in epilepsy at the World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology in Capetown, South Africa, July 15, 2014

Opposing “Stop Vivisection” Initiative

A letter proposed by Aristeia Galanopoulou on behalf of the ILAE-AES Translational Task Force and the NBC Commission was sent to the President, Martin Schulz, and to all members of the European Parliament,

to oppose the European Citizen’s Initiative “Stop Vivisection.” This initiative was submitted in March 2015 to request the abrogation of the directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 on regulation of animal experimentation and to ban animal research. Following the submission of this initiative against research on animals in Europe, multiple academic institutions were mobilized against this initiative. The ILAE letter, co-signed by the ILAE and IBE presidents, supported the existing directive 2010/63/EU to provide for ethical and justified use of animals for biomedical research, thus allowing the progress in scientific advances that have significantly benefited both human and veterinarian care.

In June 2015 there was a positive resolution by the EU Parliament decision, which did not favor the “Stop Vivisection” initiative. However, one of the EU actions that followed the European Parliament decision was to organize a debate/conference by the end of 2016, to emphasize the importance of addressing and discussing animal experiments in scientific meetings and on publications and to analyze the value of experimental studies to science and medicine so far. These dissemination activities are part of the Translational Task Force efforts on the refinement of animal epilepsy model techniques to improve animal welfare, and is one of the goals of ILAE NBC.

Regional Commission Joint Task Force

In February 2015 the NBC chair met with the CEA, following the initiative of CEA member Annamaria Vezzani, to evaluate potential interactions between the two commissions on the following issues:

- Support translational neurobiology topics at regional courses/meetings
- Contribute to the participation of young independent European scientists at WONOEP
- Reinforce the interactions for neurobiology events at ECE
- Monitor the participation of neurobiologists and clinical neuroscientists at ECE

It was agreed that it would be helpful to form a joined NBC/CEA task force to address the proposed program. During the 2015 NBC meeting it was proposed to explore the interest of other regional commissions to work on a similar program in the geographical area of pertinence.

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Monitor Neurobiologists' Participation in ILAE Meetings

The participation of neurobiologists working in epilepsy in ILAE-sponsored international and regional meetings was analyzed by the NBC with the help of the ILAE/IBE Congress Secretariat. The participation of neurobiologists at international and regional congresses in the last 4 years is summarized in the following table:

Congress	year	total attendance	# neuro scientists	%
29th International Epilepsy Congress, Rome	2011	3,963	159	4
1st African Epilepsy Congress, Nairobi	2012	291	6	2
9th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress, Manila	2012	1,213	12	1
10th European Congress on Epilepsy, London	2012	3,637	146	4
7th Latin American Congress on Epilepsy, Quito	2012	627	10	1.5
30th International Epilepsy Congress, Montreal	2013	2,334	173	7.4
2nd African Epilepsy Congress, Cape Town	2014	287	13	4.5
11th European Congress on Epilepsy, Stockholm	2014	2,300	105	4.5
10th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress, Singapore	2014	1,305	22	1.6
8th Latin American Congress Epilepsy, Buenos Aires	2014	754	13	1.7

It is a NBC priority to continue monitoring the participation of neuroscientists and clinical neuroscientists at epilepsy meetings to evaluate if the dissemination initiatives of the NBC have an impact on the attendance of neurobiologists at ILAE-sponsored international and regional congresses.

Translational TF Activities Update International Activities and Collaborations

The AES/ILAE Translational Task Force in coordination with the NBC and with the support of the leadership of the ILAE and IBE prepared and submitted to all members of the European Parliament a letter outlining the official position of the ILAE/IBE opposing the "STOP Vivisection" European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) (please see previous section Opposing "stop vivisection" in this report).

An official agreement of collaboration was signed early this year between the Translational Task Force and the Multi-PART (Multicenter Preclinical Animal Research Team) group to facilitate opportunities for preclinical multicenter studies in epilepsy (goal of TASK4).

A collaboration has been established with the CAMARADES (Collaborative Approach to Meta Analysis and Review of Animal Data from Experimental Studies) group to facilitate systematic reviews on animal models of seizures (TASK2) and on evaluating methodologies and interpretation of rodent video EEG studies (TASK1 group). Liaisons in this effort are David Howell, Malcolm Macleod and Emily Sena (University of Tasmania and University of Edinburgh). In collaboration with TASK2, Dr. Howell is developing a teaching platform that will be used

to instruct the group on the theory and practice of systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

Following discussions with Brandy Fureman and Jackie French, Walter Koroshetz (NINDS Director) has expressed the strong support of NINDS for the effort to generate preclinical common data elements (CDEs), which is a goal of the TASK3 group. TASK3 co-leaders are currently working closely with the NINDS liaisons to advance this collaborative initiative.

The TASK1 group has also been in contact with the European veterinarian consortium so as to facilitate the creation of consistent classification systems for seizures in both rodents (planned by TASK1) and companion animals (completed by the veterinarian consortium). Liaison is Holger Volk, who was invited to update the veterinarian classification at the Istanbul meeting. The TASK1 group has also liaised with Nathalie Jetté (chair of the ILAE Epilepsy Guidelines Commission) who will be collaborating with our group for the Delphi consensus process during the development of the classification system for rodent EEGs.

The Translational Task Force has been in contact with the NC3R group (liaisons Michele Simonato, Asla Pitkänen) and has provided feedback on the recent NC3R report on "Outlining opportunities for improving animal welfare in rodent models of epilepsy and seizures" (Lidster K et al., *J Neurosci Methods*, 2015).

Publications

The first set of reports from the Translational Task Force are currently in preparation and planned for submission for an *Epilepsia* Supplement (2016).

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This will include manuscripts outlining the scope and progress of the four TASKs and special working group reports that will provide the first products of the TASK1 working group. These will discuss methodological, technical, and interpretation standards of video-EEG recordings in adult and immature rodents used as experimental controls, using surface or depth electrodes; methodological standards for in vitro electrophysiological studies; standards involved in the signal analysis of electrophysiological recordings using computerized methods and specific software. This will be a first step before addressing the classification of seizures in rodents and interpretation of controversial or abnormal patterns.

Meetings

The AES/ILAE Translational Task Force has organized two meetings to discuss progress and agree on strategies for the next steps that the four TASKs will undertake. These meetings were co-sponsored by the ILAE and AES (American Epilepsy Society).

The first meeting was organized as a satellite of the IEC in Istanbul (September 9, 2015). Malcolm Macleod (University of Edinburgh) represented the Multi-PART and CAMARADES consortia. He updated members about the goals and progress of these groups and the planned collaborative studies with the TASK2 and TASK4 groups, which will focus on systematic reviews on animal studies using models of seizures and preclinical multicenter studies for epilepsy therapy development. Holger Volk (Royal Veterinary College, Hatfield, Herts; UK), representative of the European veterinarian consortium, updated on the recent consensus statements for the classification of seizures in companion animals, which will be useful for the work of TASK1 in classifying seizures in rodents. The second meeting was organized as a satellite of the AES meeting in Philadelphia (December 8, 2015).

Other

With the financial support of the AES, we opened an open call for a part-time project manager of the Translational Task Force. Following interviews and evaluation of the credentials of the applicants, we offered the position to Lauren Harte-Hargrove who accepted this one-year position, effective November 15, 2015.

WONOE Task Force Activities Update

A new WONOE logo was created by Bryony Reed (patient of WONOE Task Force Chair, Raman Sankar) and was utilized for the first time at XIII WONOE.



Raman Sankar and Bryony Reed



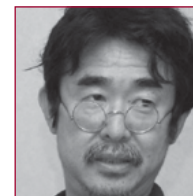
Group photograph at the 2015 WONOE XIII

The XIII WONOE was successfully organized at Halki Palace on Heibelyada Island (Turkey) by the Scientific and Organizing Committee formed by Filiz Onat, Candan Gurses, Katja Kobow, Raman Sankar and Marco de Curtis, with the local assistance of Medine Gulcebi and the generous support of Harinarayan Family Foundation, Cyberonics Inc., Insys Therapeutics Inc., Astellas Pharma, Meiji Seika Pharma and MSD. The main topic of XIII WONOE was Biomarkers.

The issues discussed at XIII WONOE were reported during a highlight session at the Istanbul ILAE Congress and will be the focus of topical reviews (WONOE Appraisals) to be submitted to *Epilepsia* on peripheral biomarkers, brain damage biomarkers, comorbidity biomarkers and imaging biomarkers. The next WONOE is planned for 2017 in Spain.

Commission activities, updated by Katja Kobow, can be viewed at the ILAE NBC website: <http://www.ilae.org/Commission/neurobio/index.cfm>.

COMMISSION ON NEUROPSYCHIATRY



Kousuke Kanemoto

Chair

Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)

Members

Mike Kerr (UK), Treasurer
Marco Mula (UK), Past Chair
Andres Kanner (USA)
Jose Francisco Tellez-Zenteno (Canada), Secretary
Sungpa Park (South Korea)
Markus Reuber (UK)
Bertrand de Toffol (France)
David Dunn (USA)
Gerardo Filho (Brazil)
Tatsuya Tanaka (Japan), EC Liaison

Subcommission Members

TF on Intellectual Disabilities

Mike Kerr (UK), Co-chair
Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Co-chair
Christian Brandt (Germany)
Christine Linehan (UK)
Daliwonga Magazi (South Africa)
Yukari Tadokoro (Japan)
Vicente Villanueva (Spain)
Sarah Wilson (Australia)

Task Force on Psychiatric Aspects of Epilepsy Surgery

Gerardo Filho (Brazil), Chair
Mayu Fujiwara (Japan)
Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)
Mike Kerr (UK)
Steffi Kochstoecker (Germany)
José F. Téllez Zenteno (Canada)
Sara Wilson (Australia), Diagnostic Commission liaison

Task Force on Psychogenic Non-Epileptic Seizures

Markus Reuber (UK), Chair
Aliakbar Asadi-Pooya (Iran)
Masharip Atadzhanov (Zambia)
Ibrahim Bora (Turkey)
Alejandro De Marinis (Chile)
Kette de Valente (Brazil)
Rod Duncan (New Zealand)
Wissam El-Hage (France)
David Gigineishvili (Georgia)
Coraline Hingray (France)
Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)
W. Curt LaFrance (USA)
Yogesh Patidar (India)
Ravi Paul (Zambia)

Chrisma Pretorius (South Africa)
Zhou Dong (China)

Task Force on Psychoses

Bertrand de Toffol (France), Chair
Naoto Adachi (Japan)
José Augusto Bragatti (Brazil)
Maurice Clancy (UK)
Tomohiro Oshima (Japan)
Perminder Sachdev (Australia)
Hisateru Tachimori (Japan)
Yukari Tadokoro (Japan)

Task Force on Depression

Sungpa Park (South Korea), Chair
Dongmei An (China)
Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)
Andres Kanner (USA)
Aileen McGonigal (France)

Task Force on Discussion between Neurologists and Psychiatrists

Andres Kanner (USA), Chair

Task Force on Education

Marco Mula (Italy), Chair
Esper Abrao Cavalheiro (Brazil)
Alla Guekht (Russia)
Andres Kanner (USA)
Hyang Woon Lee (South Korea)
Daliwonga Magazi (South Africa)
Çiğdem Özkara (Turkey)
Alfredo Thomson (Argentina)
Sara Wilson (Australia)

Task Force on Child Neuropsychiatry

David Dunn (USA), Chair
Frank Besag (UK)
Paula T. Fernandez (Brazil)
Jo M. Wilmshurst (South Africa)

Aims

The main aim of the commission is to develop, stimulate and coordinate research and medical education in the field of the neuropsychiatry of epilepsy.

Mission

The mission of the commission is to

1. Ensure that health professionals, as well as patients and their care providers, have educational and research resources essential

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for understanding, diagnosing, and treating various psychiatric manifestations in patients with epilepsy.

2. Reduce prejudice, as epilepsy patients with psychiatric comorbidities are easily exposed to a double prejudice that can affect medical personnel involved in their treatment.

Commission Activities November 2014 through December 2015

A) Achievements

- A-1) 6 December 2014 (Seattle Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, WA USA). The second meeting of Neuropsychiatric committee Attendees: Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Mike Kerr (UK), Markus Reuber (UK), Sung Pa Park (South Korea), Gerardo Filho (Brazil), David Dunn, (USA), José F. Téllez Zenteno (Canada), Mayu Fujikawa (Japan).
- A-2) 6 September 2015 (Hilton Istanbul Bosphorus, Istanbul, Turkey). Attendees: [Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), (South Korea), Mike Kerr (UK), Markus Reuber (UK)]
- A-3) 29 October 2015 (Nagasaki Sinbun-Bunka Hall, Nagasaki, Japan). "PNES around the world: let's learn more about this neglected disorder and see how we might help. A joint meeting of the ILAE and the Japan Epilepsy Society (JES)". Speakers: [Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Yozo Miyake (Japan), Curt LaFrance (USA), Markus Reuber (UK), Kazutaka Jin (Japan), Rod Duncan (NZ), Tomohiro Oshima (Japan), Yukari Tadokoro (Japan), Etsushi Kat (Japan), Hiroko Goji (Japan), Hiroko Ikeda (Japan), Sung Pa Park (South Korea), Go Taniguchi (Japan), Dong Zhou (China), Ravi Paul (Zambia), David Gigineishvili (Georgia), Mike Kerr (UK)]
- A-4) 7 December 2015 (Marriott Philadelphia Downtown, Philadelphia, PA USA). Annual meeting of neuropsychiatric committee: Attendees: Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Mike Kerr (UK), Sung Pa Park (South Korea), Markus Reuber (UK), Marco Mula (UK), David Dunn (USA), José F. Téllez Zenteno (Canada)

Initiatives in Progress

- A-5) 9-10 October 2016 (Nagakute, Japan). A symposium titled "Depression in patients with epilepsy: how could neurologists, psychiatrists

and neurosurgeons co-work and how much do Asian colleagues acknowledge it?" is planned. The date and the venue may be changed because of financial reasons.

- A-6) 22 October 2016 (São Paulo, Brazil). A symposium on psychiatric issues before and after surgery waits for ILAE approval. Planned attendees and speakers are as follows: Gerardo Filho (Brazil), Jose Téllez Zenteno (Canada), Elza Marcia Yacubian (Brazil), Andres Kanner (USA), Mayu Fujiwara (Japan); Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Marco Mula (UK), Markus Reuber (UK), Steffi Koehstecker (Germany), Mike Kerr (UK)

B) Depression Task Force (chaired by Sung Pa Park) - Achievements

- B-1) NDDIE and GAD translations.
- 1) Validations of the NDDIE in Chinese (by Dongmei An) and French (by McGonigal) were completed and published.
 - Micoulaud-Franchi JA, Barkate G, Trébuchon-Da Fonseca A, Vaugier L, Gavaret M, Bartolomei F, McGonigal A. One step closer to a global tool for rapid screening of major depression in epilepsy: validation of the French NDDI-E. *Epilepsy Behav.* 2015;44:11-6.
 - Tong X, An D, Lan L, Zhou X, Zhang Q, Xiao F, Park SP, Kanemoto K, Kanner AM, Zhou D. Validation of the Chinese version of the Neurological Disorders Depression Inventory for Epilepsy (C-NDDI-E) in West China. *Epilepsy Behav.* 2015;47:6-10.
 - 2) McGonigal encouraged Hansen to validate a Danish version of NDDI-E. The results was published in *Seizure* (2015;33:41-45). A cut-off point was 13.
 - Hansen CP, Amiri M. Combined detection of depression and anxiety in epilepsy patients using the Neurological Disorders Depression Inventory for Epilepsy and the World Health Organization well-being index. *Seizure.* 2015;25;33:41-45.

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- 3) McGonigal exhibited the French version of NDDIE in the homepage of the French Epilepsy Society.
- 4) Sung Pa Park completed the study investigating the relationship between perceived stress and depression in PWE. It was presented in IEC, Istanbul. (Depression exerted direct effect on perceived stress regardless of seizure control).

Initiatives in Progress

B-2) NDDIE and GAD translations.

- 1) Thai version of the NDDIE is proposed. Chinvarun, Neurology division, Dept. of Medicine, Pramongkutklao Royal Army Hospital and Medical College, Bangkok, completed the translation of Thai version NDDI-E. Now he enrolls patients.
- 2) Considering the potential difference of cut-off points based on different cultural backgrounds, trials in Hong Kong and Taiwan are also proposed. Hong Kong: no reply. Taiwan: Hsiang-Yao Hsieh, Department of Neurology, from Chang-Gung Memorial Hospital, LinKou, replied how the validation is conducted.
- 3) Polish version of NDDIE is suggested to Jerzy Majkowska (a chief editor of *Journal of Epileptology*). Bartłomiej Gmaj, MD, PhD, Department of Psychiatry, Medical University of Warsaw may proceed with the process.
- 4) Dongmei An from China completed the validation study of GAD, and submitted it to *Epilepsy Research*. Dr. McGonigal enrolls patients for validation of GAD.

C) Psychosis TF (chaired by Bertrand de Toffol) - Achievements

- C-1) Awareness gap about psychosis in patients and medical personnel. A preliminary investigation is done on this matter and published.
- Kanemoto K, Tsuda H, Goji H, Tadokoro Y, Oshima T, Tachimori H, DeToffol B. *Delusional experience awareness gap between patients and treating doctors - Self-reported EPDS questionnaire. Epilepsy Behav.* 51: 60-4, 2015.

Initiatives in Progress

- C-2) Validation for EPDS as a simple screening tool for psychosis in patients with epilepsy. This initiative is now in progress.
- C-3) Special issue or positional paper for pharmacological treatment of psychosis in patients with epilepsy. This is planned by Bertrand and Kanemoto, then approved by Task Force members. Potential contributors are Michael Trimble (UK), Dale Hesdoreffer (USA), Perminder Sachdev (Australia), Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Andres Kanner USA, Maurice Clancy (UK), Naoto Adachi (Japan), Steffi Kochstoecker (Germany), José Augusto Bragatti (Brazil), Marco Mula (UK), Bertrand de Toffol (France).

Recommendation

- C-4) ILAE supported definition of psychoses in patients with epilepsy. A survey in order to evaluate the knowledge of psychiatrists in western countries about PIP is suggested.

D) Education Task Force (chaired by Marco Mula) - Achievements

- D-1) Highlighting psychiatric comorbidities in regional and local courses. Task force members have been very active in promoting information on psychiatric comorbidities in regional and local meetings and educational events.
- (1) The 9 Latin America Summer School on Epilepsy organized by Esper Cavalheiro (Brazil) and held in Sao Paulo was dedicated to comorbidities in epilepsy with several sessions dedicated to psychiatric comorbidities in children and adults with epilepsy.
 - (2) Alla Guekht (Russia) organized two workshops, one in Russia and one in Kazakhstan, and special attention was given to somatic and psychiatric comorbidities of epilepsy.

Initiatives in Progress

- D-2) VIREPA courses. The task force worked on two formats for VIREPA: (1) Psychiatric aspects in adults with epilepsy (co-chaired with Andy Kanner) and (2) Psychiatric Aspects in children (Co-Chaired with David Dunn). Course (1) was ready to run with all educational material already prepared but it is not adopted due to

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financial reasons. Accumulated material is worth disseminating, so efforts to publish it will be continued.

- D-3) Survey on educational needs. The task force has prepared a survey for neurologists and psychiatrists about psychiatric comorbidities of epilepsy. The survey is currently running. Apart from the usual ILAE pathways (regional commission chairs) the following societies have been contacted in order to disseminate the survey: World Federation of Neurology, European Academy of Neurology, European Society of Child Neurology, World Psychiatry Association, World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry, European Psychiatry Association, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Association. Results will be analyzed and disseminated during the first semester of 2016.

E) Task Force on Intellectual disability. Initiative in Progress

- E-1) The results of Tokyo presentations are amalgamated and being now processed by Mike Kerr and Christine Linehan, becoming soon ready for submission

Recommendation

- E-2) Transition from child care to adult care. This topic was suggested to be picked up intensively in the remaining tenure of this committee. Because this includes a variety of challenges ranging from simple misunderstanding to lack of appropriate institutes, the simple task such as a minimum requirement of referred letter is suggested as the first step. Collaboration with the child committee is strongly recommended.

F) Task Force on Psychogenic Non-Epileptic Seizure. Initiatives in Progress

- F-1) Survey about the treatment of PNES around the world. Two years ago the PNES Task Force decided to focus on the topic of "PNES around the world." The ultimate goal of this project was to allow more patients to gain access to appropriately trained and equipped diagnostic and treatment services. The core group involved in this project, task force members, was subsequently joined by Wissam El-Hage (France) and Coraline Hingray (France). An international ILAE PNES Task Force steering group met at the European Epilepsy Congress

in Stockholm on 30 June 2014. We heard presentations describing the challenges faced by patients with PNES in different countries and formulated our plans for two surveys:

- 1) a more detailed survey of health practitioners in a number of countries around the world and
 - 2) a brief survey of all ILAE chapters.
- The surveys were drafted, circulated and approved by the ILAE between August 2014 and February 2015. From February 2015 until November 2015 more detailed surveys were undertaken in Japan, UK, US, Canada, Chile, Georgia, France, Zambia, and South Africa. The ILAE chapter survey has been completed by 53 chapters. Some preliminary findings of the surveys were presented at a joint meeting of the PNES Task Force and the Japanese Epilepsy Society in Nagasaki, Japan, on 29 October 2015. Data analysis and preparation of a report are underway. Several of the coordinators of the more detailed national surveys are planning to publish reports focusing on the findings in their countries.

- F-2) A symposium on PNES at Nagasaki, Japan on 29 October 2015. The symposium ended with great satisfaction both to speakers and audience. A position paper is planned and now being processed as a result of this symposium.

Recommendations

- F-3) We have discussed that after completion of the report about the international surveys the ILAE Task Force may define different levels of PNES treatment, which would allow centers to identify themselves as providing an internationally comparable range of diagnostic and therapeutic options for people with PNES.
- F-4) An ILAE supported definition of PNES is recommended to be discussed. An international consensus is expected to come out of it.

G) Presurgical Psychiatric Evaluation. Initiative in Progress

- G-1) A symposium in Brazil. This is a prioritized initiative for our committee next year. By focusing our applications of budget to ILAE on this matter, we will try again to get approval for this initiative.
- G-2) Position papers from Brazil meeting. If this initiative is approved, several papers are expected to appear.

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G-3) Systemic review on presurgical assessment tools for depression. Mayu Fujikawa is in charge of this and processing.

H) Task Force on Child Neuropsychiatry. Initiatives in Progress

H-1) Special issues. The series of reviews have been submitted to *Epileptic Disorders* and Frank Besag has received editorial comments. Revisions are being completed and should be in to *Epileptic Disorders*. My assumption is that they will be accepted and publication will occur over the next year or two.

H-2) Collaboration with the pediatric commission. The pediatric commission of ILAE has established a Task Force on Comorbidities. For this coming year, I will work with them on a review of aspects of ADHD in children with epilepsy. Lead for this project is Stéphane Auvin.

H-3) Screener for epilepsy clinics. The psychosocial workgroup at AES is developing a screener for use in comprehensive epilepsy clinics. The screeners will be piloted and then presented to the AES membership.

I) Task Force on Discussion between Neurologist and Psychiatrist -

Recommendations

Collaboration with AES is proposed.

A symposium at the world neurology congress is proposed.