

European Society for Dermatology and Psychiatry (ESDaP)

Abstract of the ESDAP Statutes

The primary purpose of the ESDaP is to provide a forum to exchange information and ideas amongst European physicians and psychologists working in the field of psychodermatology, psychosomatic dermatology, and dermatopsychiatry. The ultimate aim is to improve the quality of patient care and scientific research in this area. Further purposes are: To stimulate interest in this field, particularly amongst European dermatologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, and professionals with special interest in this area. To promote interdisciplinary research and education on dermatology and psychiatry to improve the knowledge, management, and treatment of patients. To promote international communication and collaboration. To organize international congresses on dermatology and psychiatry. To establish and organize international cooperation research projects. To inform and educate the medical profession at large and also the general public of recent developments in this field. To stimulate the dialogue between the different branches of the caring professions. To organize post-graduate education courses on dermatology and psychiatry. To build up close cooperation with other interested national or international societies. To develop common terms, concepts, and definitions to facilitate clinical work and research in this field.

Physicians and Psychologists who are citizens of a European country, graduated from University, and working in the field of dermatology and psychiatry may apply for ordinary membership. Applicants for membership shall forward to the secretary a completed application form accompanied by a recent C.V. including a list of publications and the appropriate dues. Physicians and psychologists who are not citizens of a European country may apply for associate membership. Also Students interested and working in the field of Dermatology and Psychiatry as well as all interested professionals may apply for associate membership. The procedure to be followed is the same as for full membership.

The Executive Committee consists of 11 members: the Chairman, the Vice-President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and 7 counsellors.

At the Business Meeting of the ESDaP Executive Committee April 1995, Amsterdam, the following representatives of the ESDaP had been elected:

President:	E. Panconesi, Florence, Italy
Vice-President:	M. Bourgeois, Bordeaux, France
Secretary General:	M. Musalek, Vienna, Austria
Treasurer:	J. deKorte, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Counsellors:	S. Consoli, Paris, France J. Cotteril, Leeds, England U. Gieler, Giessen, Germany F. Grimalt, Barcelona, Spain L. Millard, Nottingham, England K. Taube, Halle, Germany H. Walter, Vienna, Austria
Honorary Presidents:	P. Berner, Paris, France M. Musaph p.m., Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Arbeitskreis Psychosomatische Dermatologie (APD)

Wersbach-Preis für Psychosomatische Dermatologie verliehen

Die Klinik Wersbach-Leichlingen – eine psychosomatische Fachklinik mit Schwerpunkt Dermatologie – hat in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Arbeitskreis Psychosomatische Dermatologie (APD) der DDG anlässlich der 8. Jahrestagung des APD am 4.–6. Februar in Gießen erstmals den Wersbach-Preis für psychosomatische Dermatologie verliehen.

Die Jury erhielt nach öffentlicher Ausschreibung insgesamt 5 wissenschaftliche Arbeiten und hatte eine schwere Aufgabe, da die eingereichten Studien alle von guter bis exzellenter Qualität waren, wie die Chefarztin der Klinik, Frau Dr. Dr. M. Meiners anlässlich der Verleihung mitteilte. Der Preis ist mit DM 5000,- dotiert und soll auch in Zukunft alle 2 Jahre von der Klinik gestiftet und von einer unabhängigen Fachjury an Nachwuchswissenschaftler vergeben werden.

In diesem Jahr überreicht der Oberarzt der Klinik, der Dermatologe Dr. Pawlak, den Preis an die Mitherausgeberin dieser Zeitschrift, Frau Dipl.-Psych. Ina Zschocke, Universitäts-Hautklinik Freiburg (Dir.: Prof. Dr. E. Schöpf), für die zusammen mit ihrer Arbeitsgruppe durchgeführte Studie: «Der Einfluss psychischer Faktoren bei Insektengiftallergien: Prädiktoren für den Therapieverlauf».

Frau Ina Zschocke, die von der Verleihung an ihre Person während der Eröffnungsfeier der 8 Jahrestagung des APD in Gießen völlig überrascht wurde, nahm den Preis sichtlich gerührt entgegen, zeige es doch, dass die Arbeitsgruppe wissenschaftlich herausragende Studien vorlegen kann, deren Anerkennung durch diesen Preis unterstützt wird.

Außer der prämierten Arbeit hob Frau Dr. Dr. Meiners eine Arbeit besonders hervor, die zwar den Preis nicht erhielt, die jedoch nach Auffassung der Chefärztin der Klinik Wersbach einen Maßstab für eine psychoanalytische Falldarstellung geboten hätte: Herr Eichinger aus Berlin wurde für seine Darstellung: «Gibt es noch eine Spezifität? Bericht über die Behandlung eines Neurodermitis-Kranken» von der Psychoanalytikerin sehr gelobt.

Weitere eingereichte Arbeiten waren:

- Windemuth et al.: Prävalenz psychischer Auffälligkeiten bei dermatologischen Patienten in einer Akutklinik.
- Schaller et al.: Psychosomatische Störungen in der Dermatologie – Häufigkeit und psychosomatischer Mitbehandlungsbedarf.
- Kupfer et al.: Kohärenzgefühl als Prädiktor für die Dauer der Symptombefreiheit nach stationärer dermatologischer Therapie bei Psoriatikern.

Da der Preis im Jahr 2001 erneut vergeben wird, sollten sich junge Wissenschaftler auf dem Gebiet der psychosomatischen Dermatologie aufgefordert fühlen, entsprechende Arbeiten der Jury vorzulegen.

U. Gieler, Gießen

Association of Psychocutaneous Medicine of North America (APMNA)

The Association of Psychocutaneous Medicine has been active during the past 2 years. Orlando, Florida was the site of the 8th annual meeting, which featured presentations covering a wide range of issues in psychocutaneous medicine, on February 26, 1998. Dr. Lotti delivered the special guest lecture on «The Neuropeptides». Dr. Iwamoto spoke about «Neurotrophins and Neurotrophic Receptors in the Skin», Dr. Barry Jones addressed «The Use of Anti-Psychotic Drugs in Psychodermatology». The psychological aspects of acne, suntanning, benefits of the use of alpha hydroxy acids were discussed, respectively by Dr. Garnis-Jones, Dr. Caroline Koblenzer, and Dr. Fried. Self-injurious behavior in geriatric patients was the focus of Dr. Kerstenbaum's talk, while Dr. Ginsburg gave an update on stress and inflammatory skin disease. Dr. James Krivo spoke about a «Common Sense Ap-

proach to Dermatology», and Peter Koblenzer pointed out the need not to mistake serious dermatologic disorders for the psychocutaneous ones. An excellent dinner and its attendant conviviality followed in the evening.

At the American Academy of Dermatology Meeting itself, there was the first symposium entitled «Clinical Applications of Psychocutaneous Medicine», a 3-hour meeting chaired by Dr. John Koo. The other participants were Drs. Fried, Ginsburg, Gragg, C. and P. Koblenzer. The large audience was attentive and appreciative of the presentations, and the discussion was lively and ranging. Furthermore, a meeting of the AAD Task Force on Psychocutaneous Medicine Took place (Chair: Dr. Koo), with the Guidelines being a focus of review and discussion.

The venue now changes to Toronto, Canada. At the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association, there was a symposium entitled «Introduction to Psychodermatology», under the chairmanship of Dr. T. Gragg. Despite being scheduled for the last slot of the last day of the meeting, there were more than 40 attendees and a good deal of enthusiasm and interest.

The 9th annual meeting in New Orleans on March 18, 1999 featured presentations dealing with diagnoses treatment, and teaching issues. Dr. Koblenzer spoke about psychogenic pruritus and also presented a fascinating videotape about tattooing, which led to a particularly lively discussion. While Dr. Millard focused on his extensive experience with patients presenting with self-inflicted lesions in «Unveiling Mechanisms of Deception in Dermatitis Artefacta». Dr. Garnis-Jones spoke about her growing series of patients with this disorder treated with olanzapine. Dr. P. Koblenzer addressed «The Roots of Hair Pulling» as well as a case of coproporphyrin presenting as dermatitis artefacta. Presentations pertaining to treatment included Dr. Fried's discussion of the psychocutaneous management of rosacea and Dr. Kushon's update on the use of herbal medicines in psychocutaneous disorders. Guidelines on teaching patients to cope with chronic skin disease were presented by Dr. Ginsburg and Dr. Gould chaired a round table on the problems of psycho-derm clinics.

I urge you to attend our meetings and to encourage your friends and colleagues to join the APMNA. You may have noticed the tendency for the same names to appear on our programs – every organization needs a nucleus of people who are dedicated to the goals of the group and who enjoy their participation in it. I invite you to become more actively engaged in the APMNA. If you wish to present at meetings or to participate in some other way, please let me know. We would all welcome you to a greater level of participation!

*Iona Ginsburg, New York
President, APMNA*

