

March 14-15th, 2015, Barcelona

Fact sheet #6

Broadening the base: New partners have joined the organizers of the Gut Microbiota For Health World Summit

The Gut Microbiota For Health World Summit has become the internationally leading platform for scientific exchange in the booming area of gut microbiota research. The Summit was initiated as an annual event in 2012 by the Gut Microbiota & Health Section of the European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility (ESNM). “We are delighted to have all these excellent associations joining forces in order to further advance gut microbiota research,” says the section’s president Prof Fernando Azpiroz (Hospital General Vall d’Hebron, Barcelona, Spain).

Gut microbiota research activities have resulted in around 6000 publications as yet listed in PubMed – three quarters of which have been published within the past five years.

The ESNM set up the Gut Microbiota & Health Section in 2011 in order to increase awareness of the various links between gut microbiota and human health, to spread scientific knowledge and to raise interest in the subject matter. The gut microbiota and its role in human health and diseases is an expanding area of research bringing about many exciting discoveries and

bearing a huge potential for health management and clinical application. Research activities have resulted in around 6000 publications as yet listed in PubMed – three quarters of which have been published within the past five years. Besides increasing public awareness and knowledge The Gut Microbiota & Health Section aims at several other interconnected goals:

- encourage research in the field of gut microbiota
- support prevention of intestinal diseases through diet
- provide a forum for the dissemination of new findings
- recognize excellence in gut microbiota and health research
- provide a forum for dissemination of novel discoveries in gut microbiota and health
- promote science and educational activities

The first Gut Microbiota for Health World Summit was held in Evian, France. In 2013 with the summit taking place in Madrid, the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA,) joined as a new organizing partner, who in 2014 hosted the event in Miami, USA. Each summit was

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attended by around 300 physicians, as well as nutritionists and health-care professionals from all areas, coming from all over the world. According to a joint decision made by ESNM and AGA the future venue of the event will be alternating annually between Barcelona and Miami. "This is with respect to our Latin American colleagues for whom the geographical closeness of Miami and the linguistic closeness of Barcelona might be particularly attractive," says Prof Azpiroz.

"We are delighted to have all these excellent associations joining forces in order to further advance gut microbiota research"

Prof. Fernando Azpiroz

This year three other renowned European societies – all of them members of United European Gastroenterology (UEG) – who share a common interest in the gut microbiota have joined the GMFH partnership in order to foster the event and present the audience with topics and findings related to their fields: the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO), the European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN), and the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL). Representatives of all partners are members of the

board of directors of the ESNM Gut Microbiota & Health Section. "Looking at this year's Gut Microbiota For Health World Summit we can safely say that the input of our new partner societies has already resulted in a further increase of scientific quality and an extended range of topics," says Prof Francisco Guarner (University Hospital Vall d'Hebron, Barcelona), president of the 4th Gut Microbiota For Health World Summit. Further information about the Summit can be found on the Internet: <http://summit-registration.gutmicrobiotaforhealth.com> The Summit can be followed via Twitter @GMFHx, using #GMFH2015.

About ESNM and the Gut Microbiota & Health Section

The section is open to professionals, researchers, and practitioners from all fields related to gut microbiota and health. The ESNM Gut Microbiota and Health section receives the institutional support of Danone to fulfill its mission. Danone's conviction is that food plays an essential role in human health and supports the section with the aim to increase knowledge in this promising area. ESNM is a non-profit society and was originally founded in 1982. The society's mission among others is to expand knowledge and interest and to encourage basic and clinical research in the field of neurogastroenterology and motility. To receive more information about the ESNM and the section please refer to www.esnm.eu.

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About AGA

The American Gastroenterological Association is the trusted voice of the GI community. Founded in 1897, the AGA has grown to include more than 16,000 members from around the globe who are involved in all aspects of the science, practice and advancement of gastroenterology. The AGA Institute administers the practice, research and educational programmes of the organisation. www.gastro.org Twitter: @AmerGastroAssn

About ECCO

The European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO), founded in 2001 to improve the care of patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in Europe, is now the largest forum for specialists in IBD in the world. The link between IBD and gut Microbiota is a rapidly expanding field. ECCO is a non-profit association, which successfully expanded to an association assembling 33 member states of the Council of Europe and facilitating collaborations beyond Europe's borders. www.ecco-ibd.eu

About EASL

Since 1966, when the European Association for the Study of the Liver was founded, the association has continued to grow from a small organisation to becoming the leading liver association in Europe. The role of gut microbiota in non-alcoholic fatty liver (NAFL) will be highlighted in the upcoming 50 anniversary meeting. The association attracts the foremost hepatology experts as members and has an impressive track record in promoting research in liver disease, supporting wider education, and promoting changes in European liver policies. www.easl.eu,
Twitter: @EASLnews

About ESPGHAN

The European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition is an international scientific society based in Europe. The role of early nutrition on implementation of gut microbiota is a dynamic field of research. Founded in 1968 the society has over 700 members who are paediatric gastroenterologists, hepatologists and nutritionists, as well as scientists in relevant fields. ESPGHAN also has members who are trainees, nurses and dieticians to ensure that this growing multi-disciplinary approach improves the outcomes for children in Europe. www.espghan.med.up.pt, Twitter : @ESPGHANSociety

Press contact:

impresum health & science communication
Frank von Spee
Email: gutmicrobiota@impresum.de
Tel: +49 (0)40 – 31 78 64 10