Editorial

This month we organised the first meeting of the working group on the ethical implications of assistive technologies for people with dementia which was organised within the framework of the European Dementia Ethics Network. We briefly report on the truly interesting discussions between the invited experts and I look forward to our continued collaboration, which will enable us to produce a set of guidelines on assistive technology later this year.

With the conference section of the website now fully operational, the call for abstracts is now open. I hope that you will be able to send in abstracts on your latest activities, projects and research and to share these with the other conference delegates. I invite you to take advantage of the reduced price for early bird registration (before 31 July 2010).

We have also been busy preparing issue 5 of the Dementia in Europe magazine, which will be available at the end of April. We are also in the process of organising our forthcoming lunch debate in the European Parliament and are looking forward to receiving an update on the Joint Programming Initiative on Alzheimer’s disease.

I am delighted to report that Alojz Peterle, MEP (Slovenia) has joined the European Alzheimer’s Alliance, which brings the total number of MEPs supporting our cause to 43. This month we report on the recognition that two of our member associations have received for their work: Cyprus for their photographs of people with dementia and the Netherlands for their part in the development of an intervention programme for carers. We also carry news from our associations in Belgium, England, Germany, Greece, Italy and Scotland.

In our science watch section you will, as always, find information on some of the latest research in the areas of diagnosis and treatment. The news that the phase III clinical trial of Dimebon was not able to reproduce the positive results of an earlier trial is of course particularly disappointing, as people with Alzheimer’s disease and their carers are waiting for new treatments.

In this issue we are also able to report on the encouraging news that various personalities have spoken out about their personal experience of having a relative with dementia and the challenges which this brings.

Jean Georges
Executive Director
European Alzheimer’s Alliance

In March, Alojz Peterle, MEP (Slovenia) joined the European Alzheimer’s Alliance. The European Alzheimer’s Alliance currently has 43 Members from 16 Member States of the European Union and 6 of the seven political groups in the European Parliament.

The members of the European Alzheimer’s Alliance are the following:

Belgium:
Brepoels Frieda (Greens/EFA), Ries Frédérique (ALDE), Staes Bart (Greens/EFA), Sterckx Dirk (ALDE)

Cyprus:
Triantaphyllides Kyriacos (GUE-NGL)

Czech Republic:
Cabrnoch Milan (ECR), Kohlicek Jaromir (GUE/NGL), Roithova Zuzana (EPP)

Denmark:
Schaldemose Christel (S&D)

Finland:
Jaakonsaari Liisa (S&D), Jäätteenmäki Anneli (ALDE), Pietikäinen Sirpa (EPP)

France:
Audy Jean-Pierre (EPP), De Veyrac Christine (EPP), Griesbeck Nathalie (ALDE), Grosselétée Françoise (EPP), Morin-Chartier Elisabeth (EPP)

Germany:
Niebler Angelika (EPP), Roth-Behrendt Dagmar (S&D), Ulmer Thomas (EPP), Weisgerber Anja (EPP)

Greece:
Koppa Maria Eleni (S&D), Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou Rodi (EPP)

Ireland:
Aylward Liam (ALDE), Childers Nessa (S&D); Crowley Brian (ALDE), McGuiness Mairead (EPP), Mitchell Gay (EPP)

Italy:
Panzeri Pier Antonio (S&D), Toia Patrizia (S&D)

Luxembourg:
Lulling Astrid (EPP)

Netherlands:
De Lange Esther (EPP), van Nistelrooij Lambert (EPP), Wortmann-Kool Corien (EPP)

Portugal:
Coelho Carlos (EPP)

Slovenia:
Peterle Alojz (EPP)

Slovakia:
Mikolasik Miroslav (EPP), Zaborska Anna (EPP)

United Kingdom:
Hall Fiona (ALDE), McAvan Linda (S&D), Moraes Claude (S&D), Simpson Brian (S&D), Watson Graham (ALDE), Willmott Glenis (S&D)

Alzheimer Europe

8 March 2010: Alzheimer Europe organises the first meeting of the working group on assistive technology for people with dementia

Within the framework of the European Dementia Ethics Network, Alzheimer Europe organised, and participated in, the working group on the ethical issues linked to the use of assistive technologies (AT). The working group discussed progress with the literature review and plans for producing a set of guidelines on the ethical issues related to AT for people with dementia (which will be published in December 2010).

Two areas were discussed:

1. Ethical issues, concerns and benefits linked to the use of AT. The discussion included three presentations:
   - The perspective of people with dementia by James McKillop (who has dementia)
   - The perspective of carers by Heike von Lützau Hohlbein (Chairperson of the German Alzheimer Association – Alzheimer Gesellschaft)
   - The perspective of healthcare professionals by Sirkkalisa Heimonen (Senior Researcher at the Age Institute, Helsinki, Finland)

2. Legal, practical and economic issues related to the ethical use of AT. This also included three presentations:
• AT and civil liberties/ethico-legal issues by Stefania Kapronczay (Head of the Patients Rights Program, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, Hungary)

• Conflict between ethics and the cultural, social and financial context by Luiza Spiru (Head of the memory clinic – Elias University Hospital, Bucharest

• How can AT positively contribute towards respect of ethical principles (freedom, dignity and respect for autonomy) by Alistair Niemeijer (PhD student, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands).

23 March 2010: Call for abstracts and registration facility launched for the 20th Alzheimer Europe Conference in Luxembourg

Alzheimer Europe has launched the conference section of the website (www.alzheimer-europe.org/EN/Conferences/Luxembourg-2010) which includes the following information on the 20th Alzheimer Europe Conference:

• Programme overview – details of the three day event (30 September – 2 October).

• Confirmed speakers - Del Signore Susanna, CNS & Internal Medicine Group Leader, European Medicines Agency (United Kingdom), Georges Jean, Executive Director, Alzheimer Europe (Luxembourg), Holmerová Iva, Chairperson, Czech Alzheimer’s Society (Czech Republic), Krecké Jeannot, Minister of the Economy (Luxembourg), von Lützau-Hohibein Heike, Chairperson, Deutsche Alzheimer Gesellschaft (Germany), McGettrick Gráinne, Policy and research Officer, Alzheimer Society of Ireland (Ireland) and Winblad Bengt, Director, Karolinska Institute Alzheimer Disease Research Center (Sweden).

• Call for abstracts – a full list of topics for people with dementia and their carers, professional carers, medical professionals and researchers as well as policy makers are given on the website as well as the closing date for submission (30 June 2010).

• Registration – the facility to register online is now available, as well as details of the reduced early bird registration fees (available until 31 July 2010).

Call for abstracts for 20th AE Conference in Luxembourg is now open

There is now the possibility of submitting your abstract via the Alzheimer Europe website on: www.alzheimer-europe.org/conferences

We welcome abstracts for the following subjects:

People with dementia and their carers
• Education and training of people with dementia and their carers
• Relationships and sexuality
• New technologies in the home
• Proxy decision making – Giving a voice to people with dementia

Professional carers
• Innovative care services
• Avoiding neglect, coercive measures and abuse
• Caring professions and their training
• New technologies for the caring professions

Medical professionals and researchers
• Involving people with dementia and their carers in research
• Communicating research results and managing expectations
• Disclosing a diagnosis to people with dementia and their carers
• Dementia research made easy

Policy makers
• Successful campaigning
• National dementia strategies
• Financing care and dementia research
• Policies supporting people with dementia and their carers.
Alzheimer Europe Networking


On 3 March (Brussels, Belgium) Annette attended the Eurofound-EP seminar on “Company strategies in Europe: Flexibility and social dialogue”.

On 8 March (Brussels, Belgium) Jean, Dianne and Annette attended the Alzheimer Europe working group meeting on the ethical implications of assistive technologies.

On 9 March (Brussels, Belgium) Jean, Dianne and Annette attended the meeting of the Steering Committee of the European Dementia Ethics Networks.

From 10 to 12 March (Thessaloniki, Greece) Pekka Lane and Jean participated in the Alzheimer's Disease International Conference and gave an overview of the development of AE’s strategy and campaign to make dementia a European priority.

On 10, 17, 22, 26 and 29 March (Luxembourg, Luxembourg) Julie met with Jean-Paul Reuland from Binsfeld Publishers to discuss issue 5 of the Dementia in Europe magazine.

On 16 March (Brussel, Belgium) Annette met Eric Cheynis (post-graduate student) to discuss lobbying.

On 23 March (Geneva, Switzerland) Jean gave a presentation on the activities of Alzheimer Europe at a Novartis meeting.

On 31 March (Brussels, Belgium) Annette met Sally Bamford (International Longevity Centre) and Christine Marking.

European developments

Here we report on developments from the European institutions which may have an impact on people with dementia and/or their carers.

19 March 2010: Report on Health in Europe. Trends and analysis

The health research group of the Observatory on the Social Situation (funded by the European Commission) has produced a report on Health in Europe. This report is available in the form of a joint publication with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

It investigates differences in health status within and between European countries. It discusses the relationship between living conditions, socio-economic factors and health with the objective of stimulating a debate and policy action for creating a healthier and more equitable society. The report is now available in the form of a joint publication with the WHO.

The publication reports that mental health problems have been estimated to account for approximately 20% of the total burden of ill health across Europe. It also found that, in Finland and Sweden, the most prevalent cause of death after CVD was Alzheimer’s disease and other dementia.

Other findings state that one in four people experience a significant episode of mental illness during their lifetime. Four of the six leading causes of years lived with disability are attributable to mental health problems.

Depressive disorders are most common, making up nearly one third of all mental health problems. According to this study, only CVD contributes more to the burden of illness in Europe.

Although the information is essential to develop EU policies and preventative strategies, there has been little work to synthesise the information gathered in the epidemiological studies on the prevalence of mental disorders in the EU. There is little tradition in most EU countries, unlike the United States, of national epidemiological studies. Nor is there any standardization of approaches used in the conduct of such studies, whether carried out at national or regional levels across Europe.

In its conclusions, the report stresses that population ageing presents particular policy challenges associated with reducing the dependency ratio by increasing fertility rates, in addition to presenting new health challenges such as Alzheimer’s disease and dementia.

24 March 2010: Review of EU working time rules

The European Commission has launched a consultation to ask the European social partners whether any action is needed at EU level on the Working Time Directive (2003/88/EC) and what scope it should take. This represents the first step towards a comprehensive review of the Directive.

Since the Council and EP could not reach an agreement on the 2004 proposal, other issues have been added to the debate, reflecting fundamental changes in the world of work over the past twenty years. The Commission is thus
planning a comprehensive review of the existing working time rules, starting with a thorough evaluation of the current provisions and issues in their application, before considering the different options to address these issues. The review will be shaped by a set of policy objectives, including protecting workers’ health and safety, improving balance between work and private life, giving businesses and workers flexibility without adding unnecessary administrative burdens for enterprises, especially SMEs.

The social partners have six weeks to make their views known to the Commission. In parallel to the consultations, the Commission will carry out an extensive impact assessment.

**Policy Watch**

In this section you can find articles on various national policies and initiatives which can have an impact on issues surrounding dementia.

**10 March 2010: UK government considers how to fund elderly care service**

The UK Health Secretary, Andy Burnham, has said that the government are considering three options to pay for a new national care service and that a white paper would be published on this subject during March. Mr Burnham explained that he wants a “comprehensive, compulsory” social scheme which would take one of three forms:

1. People could decide to defer retirement to 68 and use their pension contributions for three years to pay for a care fund.
2. People could pay in instalments in the run-up to retiring at 65.
3. An estate levy (which would not be a flat fee, but a progressive levy) could be deducted from the property of older people when they die.

**18 March 2010: UK Parliamentary Group reviews the progress made regarding the funding of the National Dementia Strategy**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Dementia published its inquiry into the funding of the National Dementia Strategy (NDS). The report focuses on whether and how Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in England have allocated their proportion of the GBP 150m NDS funding to improving dementia care, and whether PCTs had developed joint dementia care strategies with local authorities.

The APPG found:

- A lack of prioritisation and commitment to implementing the NDS was apparent among many PCTs, as only 70 PCTs responded, giving a response rate of just 46%.
- Two thirds of PCTs that did respond were unable to show where their allocation of dementia strategy funding had been spent, with half of these stating that they could not separate this money from other funding. Submissions from stakeholders also pointed to uncertainty as to whether Strategy funding has been allocated.
- More positively, most responding PCTs had in operation or were developing joint dementia strategies between themselves and Local Authorities. However, it is clear much more needs to be done.

Recommendations include:

- PCTs should account for the full allocation of their 2010/11 dementia strategy funding.
- PCTs must prioritise developing joint commissioning strategies with local authorities for dementia as a matter of urgency and have clear systems to monitor their implementation. These strategies should be publicly available.
- PCTs should ensure they prioritise investment in all relevant aspects of the dementia strategy, especially those objectives identified as in need of urgent attention.

We provide full references to articles on our website. Please visit the completely revised Alzheimer Europe website on: www.alzheimer-europe.org

**23 March 2010: Pilot scheme of tracking devices for people with dementia to be expanded in the UK**

Following trials where people with dementia were given GPS tracking devices, Ed Argar, the cabinet member for adult and community services at Westminster (London), has announced that these devices would be made available to every resident in the early stages of dementia who request it. He explained: “It's a very exciting opportunity to harness new technology to improve the lives of people with dementia. It will allow them to live independently for longer, giving freedom but also peace of mind. It also gives relatives and friends peace of mind.”
Westminster Council hopes that by using these devices that the need to prevent people with dementia from wandering by using physical restraint and/or drugs will no longer be present.

30 March 2010: UK government publishes white paper on care

Following a consultation process which included the views from over 68,000 people (members of the public, carers and representative organisations), the UK Health Secretary, Andy Burnham presented the government’s plans for a National Care Service in England in the white paper "Building the national care service". He called it the “biggest change to the welfare state since 1948”. He explained that “We’re not replacing the millions of carers or families who look after each other. They are the underlying principle of the National Care Service and we will better support them… there will be 1.7 million more people needing care in the next 20 years – we must radically overhaul the way care is paid for and provided.”

Highlighting the challenge of planning for future care Mr Burnham said, “No one has any way of knowing how much care and support they may need in the future. A 65-year-old can expect to need care costing on average £30,000 during retirement. However, some people, for example people with severe dementia, could end up needing care costing as much as £200,000”.

The proposal for the new system has three stages:

Stage One

- Build on the best of the current system through reforms that are already underway and deliver the Personal Care at Home Bill.

Stage Two

- From 2014 extend the coverage of free care so that people will receive free care if they need to stay in residential care for more than two years.
- Set up a commission to support consensus and advise the Government on the fairest and most sustainable way that people can make their contribution to a care system which is free when they need it.
- Set up a National Care Service Leadership Group of expert stakeholders who will advise Government on the implementation of the National Care Service, focusing on the systems and business processes that need to be put in place to make the National Care Service a reality.
- Introduce a National Care Service Bill to set the legal foundations of the National Care Service.
- Enshrine in law for the first time nationally consistent eligibility criteria for social care helping to remove the postcode lottery of care that exists now.
- Push forward with the prevention agenda and continue the drive towards personal budgets so that by 2012 everyone who would benefit from a personal budget will have one.
- Ensure accurate, relevant and accessible information about what people are entitled to, how the assessment process works and how to access care services is provided to everyone.
- Improvement of the gateway for accessing social care and disability benefits to make simpler and easier for people.
- Introduce a quality framework including a body to drive up quality in social care.

Stage Three

- The introduction of a comprehensive National Care Service that is free when they need it for all adults with an eligible care need, funded by contributions.
- The founding principles of the National Care Service were said to:
  - Be universal – supporting all adults with care and support needs within a framework of national entitlements.
  - Be free at the point of use – based on need, rather than the ability to pay.
  - Work in partnership – with all the different organisations and people who support individuals with care and support needs day-to-day.
  - Ensure choice and control – treating everyone with respect and dignity, putting people in charge of their lives.
  - Support family, carers and community life – recognising the vital contribution families, carers and communities play in enabling people to realise their potential.
  - Be accessible – easy to understand, helping people make the right choices.
Members’ News

In this section we report on our members’ latest initiatives and work.

1 March 2010: Alzheimer Scotland publishes free booklet on self-directed support

Alzheimer Scotland has published a free booklet, the aim of which is to raise awareness of self-directed support. “Taking charge – a short guide to self-directed support for people with dementia and their carers” covers the basics of:

- how self-directed support works
- contracting with an agency or voluntary organisation
- employing your own personal assistant
- managing your own support and funding.

It also looks at possible reasons for the low uptake of self-directed support by people with dementia and provides information on sources of support and further reading.

The booklet can be downloaded from the Alzheimer Scotland website.

3 March 2010: Model and presenter Nell McAndrew calls for people to join her in charity run for the Alzheimer’s Society

Model and presenter Neil McAndrew, whose grandad, Sam, has Alzheimer’s disease will be running to raise money which will go to the Alzheimer’s Society. She explained the impact her granddad’s diagnosis had on the family, “Our whole family have been devastated by granddad’s diagnosis so I’m delighted to be able to give my support. The money raised will improve the lives of people with dementia and their carers. I hope runners of all levels will join me on the run and raise vital funds”.

The Alzheimer’s Society is the nominated charity (second year running) for the international healthcare company, Bupa. Director of Fundraising for the Alzheimer’s Society, Jo Swinhoe, said: “Thanks to Bupa, we were able to raise £1 million in 2009 to help fight dementia - this year we want to do even better and Neil’s support is a fantastic boost. She’s an inspiration both as a runner and a tireless charity fundraiser and we’re absolutely delighted to have her on board”.

5 March 2010: Local branch of Alzheimer Scotland opens Dementia Resource Centre due to funding from BIG Lottery

Earlier this year GBP 50m Lottery funding was announced aimed at helping young people and people with dementia and their carers in Scotland. Following a successful application from a branch of Alzheimer Scotland (Helensburgh), a new Dementia Resource Centre opened in Helensburgh. The opening was attended by MSP Jackie Baillie, Provost William Petrie OBE and Henry Simmons, Chief Executive of Alzheimer Scotland.

On the announcement of the GBP 50m lottery funding, Henry Simmons, Chief Executive, Alzheimer Scotland said: “This is absolutely wonderful news. It clearly shows BIG Lottery Scotland’s commitment to people with dementia and those who care for them. There are around 73,000 people in Scotland with dementia and countless family and friends providing unpaid help and support. We believe that no-one should have to go through dementia on their own. Investment such as this will go a long way towards making life better for everyone affected by the illness.”

10 March 2010: German Alzheimer Association launches website for young people

"Alzheimer's & You" is the name given to the new website launched by the German Alzheimer Association (Deutsche Alzheimer Gesellschaft e.V.), the aim of which is to inform young people about Alzheimer’s disease and encourage them to get involved with people with dementia. Aside from information about the disease itself, there are specific tips and suggestions about how to make contact with family members and neighbours who may have dementia. Users may also test their own concentration and memory by taking the interactive memory test. The site is aimed at teachers and educators too and includes ideas for classroom projects on dementia.

Sabine Jansen, Executive Director of the German Association said “We hope that young people find this initiative on dementia interesting. There are so many people with dementia who enjoy contact with young people and we want to promote and encourage dialogue.”
This website is part of the project “Alzheimer’s and You” aimed at increasing awareness of dementia amongst young people from 14 to 21 and has been promoted by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth since 2007. Within the framework of the project there has been a student competition, the website developed and a handbook on dementia for schools may be developed.

12 March 2010: Alzheimer Nederland win award for their intervention programme

Trimbos, Geriant and Alzheimer Nederland were awarded the joint Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI)/Fondation Médéric Alzheimer award for the most promising psychosocial intervention in 2010. This eMental Health intervention was designed for family caregivers and people with dementia and called “mastery over dementia” with the aim of preventing and/or reducing depression and the perceived burden of caregivers. It was developed by the Netherlands Institute of Mental Health in collaboration with the Alzheimer’s Association.

The intervention was built on the principles of psycho-educational programmes, the cognitive-behaviour management of disorders of behaviour, relaxation and personal development. Themes addressed in the intervention include:

- How to manage behavioural problems
- Receive help from others
- Take time for yourself
- Think and feel
- Problems of communication and problems of self-confidence

Consisting of eight lessons and booster sessions, participants are in contact with a professional teacher who ensures participants receive information and practical exercises and reviews exercises.

10-13 March 2010: The Greek Association of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders hosts international conference

The Greek Association of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders hosted the 25th International Conference of Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI) in Thessaloniki, 10-13 March, 2010. Nina Kotras, Executive Director of the Greek Association said, “This landmark event brought together professionals in dementia care, medical professionals, researchers, family carers, people with dementia, and national Alzheimer associations for a truly multidisciplinary conference.

“Based on the theme Dementia: Making a difference’, the Conference organised by ADI in cooperation with the Greek Association of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders, focused on the latest developments in medical treatments, non pharmacological interventions and prevention, as well as sharing best practice in care.

“The Greek Association of Alzheimer Disease welcomed all invitees at the historical city of Thessaloniki where they met new friends form the Alzheimer community across the world. The city of Thessaloniki was the ideal scenery, a multicultural and cosmopolitan environment where visitors from all over the world felt comfortable and welcome.

“The Board of the Greek Association and Related Disorders, Professor Magda Tsolaki, President of the Greek Federation of Alzheimer’s Disease and Relative Disorders and all the staff and volunteers who joined their efforts for this prominent conference, would like once again to thank all the delegates for their participation and of course ADI. We will continue our efforts to achieve a better quality of life for people with dementia.”

12 March 2010: Cyprus awarded prizes for photographs depicting “an active life with dementia”

Professional photographer, Andreas Philippides, from Cyprus, was awarded both 1st (USD 500) and 3rd prize (USD 200) for his entries in the Alzheimer Disease International Photography Competition, entitled an “Active life with dementia”.

The subject of the first photograph was Kieri Panayi, aged 77 and mother of three. Kieri has had Alzheimer’s disease for seven years and used to be a professional musical accompanist and music teacher. Together with her husband, who is also a musician, they find they still enjoy music.

The third prize went to the photograph of Sofia Zorlakki, aged 71, who has had Alzheimer’s disease for five years. Also a mother of three, Sofia used to be an executive Secretary at the
Ministry of Labour. Now she takes care of her three grandchildren.

Delighted by the result, Antigoni Diakou, President of the Pancyprian Alzheimer Association, addressed the participants at the gala dinner, thanking ADI for the opportunity to participate in the competition. Ms Diakou said that the competition had “enabled them to carry forward our mutual cause of raising awareness and in particular to help us fight stigma and bias for the disease.”

15 March 2010: ‘Pilgrimage’ begins to raise awareness of Alzheimer’s disease in Italy

Two companions have set off on a ‘pilgrimage for Alzheimer’s disease’ in order to raise awareness about the disease and also raise funds for the Italian Alzheimer Association, (Federazione Alzheimer Italia). The 15,000 kilometre journey on a specially-designed tandem, will take the companions from Monte Sant’Angelo, across Italy, the Vatican, Monaco, France, the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary and Slovenia.

15-19 March 2010: La Ligue Alzheimer participates in the 2010 International Health Film Festival ‘ImagéSanté’

La Ligue Alzheimer took part in the 2010 International Health Film Festival ‘ImagéSanté’. La Ligue Alzheimer was invited at the festival within the framework of the festival activities aimed at elderly people.

This festival’s ninth edition took place in Liège from the 15th of March until the 19th of March and was organised by Liège’s University Hospital Centre, the University of Liège, and ‘la Province de Liège’.

The five-day festival was a big event. ImagéSanté’s objective was to promote training and information in the field of Health by any audio-visual means and the festival included activities such as the projection of 250 films, (amongst which about 100 were entered into a competition), the live broadcast of surgical operations, conferences, workshops and round table conferences.

La Ligue Alzheimer offered three different activities:

- A presentation of the documentary ‘Le Labyrinthe de l’Oubli’ (16 March). This movie gave a faithful account of what one must cope with in their daily life with Alzheimer’s disease. It gave people a greater understanding, enabling everyone to see the disease from another point of view. In addition, it triggered questions and emotions, being an ideal starting point for a discussion.
- An extraordinary session of our Alzheimer Cafés was held (18 March). People were invited to sit down around a table decorated with Easter eggs. They had the opportunity to talk about the disease in informal surroundings (see picture).
- A lecture entitled ‘Alzheimer’s disease: to understand it and to get involved’ was given by La Ligue Alzheimer’s Chairperson, Sabine Henry (19 March). This was a particular highlight for la Ligue Alzheimer and this lecture aimed to help anyone concerned by the disease to see how to become involved in helping.

25 March 2010: Alzheimer Nederland organises public debates with Members of Parliament and receives grant of EUR 600,000

The Netherlands are preparing for national elections on 9 June. On 27 March, Alzheimer Nederland organised the first of two public debates with Members of the Dutch Parliament (MP) running for election. Five MPs spoke to an audience of 400 volunteers about their plans in the next election and, after a vote, the MPs secured the trust of the volunteers. A second debate is scheduled at the end of May.

In order to ensure people with dementia and their carers are high on the priorities of newly-elected policy makers a group of volunteers is busy trying to influence the election plans of five of the national political parties. Alzheimer Nederland, together with volunteers who are also members of the various parties, is helping to write and to defend amendments to parties’ plans.

Alzheimer Nederland has also received (together with the Martha Flora Nursing Homes) a grant of EUR 600,000 by a national lottery fund for the development of the “Alzheimer Experience”. This serious game is “an innovative and contemporary tool for imaginary travelling through the disease, thus enabling one to empathise with the world of people with dementia.”
Professional game builders will develop this tool especially for:

- family carers
- volunteers
- professionals and trainees
- the general public.

Participants in the Alzheimer Experience:

- learn the feeling of suffering from dementia and living with dementia
- also get knowledge and information about dementia
- experience ‘real life’ how to cope with someone with dementia
- learn strategies to do this successfully.

The Alzheimer Experience will be accessible via the Alzheimer Netherlands website. The platform on which the Alzheimer Experience is developed will be suitable for translation. The first version is expected in March 2011.

**Science Watch**

This section has highlights of the most recent published research on dementia, including research on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of the disease.

**1 March 2010: USD 28 million awarded to research grants to examine cognitive decline**

Over a period of 5 years, 17 research projects will benefit from the USD 28 million grant from the Research Partnership in Cognitive Ageing. The projects are to “examine the neural and behavioural profiles of healthy cognitive aging and explore interventions that may prevent, reduce or reverse cognitive decline in older people.” The partnership is supported by the US National Institute of Health and the McKnight Brain Research Foundation.

**2 March 2010: Study examines the relationship between purpose in life and risk of Alzheimer’s disease**

A study over a 7 year period on more than 900 participants has found that greater purpose in life is associated with a reduced risk of Alzheimer’s disease and mild cognitive impairment in community-dwelling older persons. The study was conducted by researchers from the Rush University Medical Centre, Chicago, USA and reported in the journal Archives of General Psychiatry.

**3 March 2010: Study examines relationship between amyloid plaques and the impairment of protective cells**

A study which investigated the relationship between the Amyloid-Beta (Aβ) protein (associated with the formation of plaques) and astrocyte’s cells (which repair, protect and transfer of energy) found that a build up of Aβ impairs the functionality of the astrocyte cells. The researchers established that the build-up of Aβ infiltrates the astrocyte cells through a “scavenger” receptor and that astrocytes could still function in the presence of Aβ if the activation of the scavenger receptor could be impaired.

Researchers from the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Laboratory of Neuroenergetics and Cellular Dynamics in Lausanne, Switzerland carried out the study which was published in the Journal of Neuroscience.

**3 March 2010: Study launched to examine how to identify dementia in deaf people**

A team of researchers from the University of Manchester, University College London (UCL), and the Royal Association for Deaf people have launched a study to investigate how to identify dementia in deaf people and to explore how they might best cope with their condition.

Dr Susanne Sorensen, head of Research at the Alzheimer’s Society (which is funding the project) said: “The fact that many deaf people struggle to get a diagnosis of dementia means that they’re unable to access treatment that could help relieve some of their symptoms and enable them to remain independent for longer. One million people will develop dementia in the next 10 years. We must act now.”

**4 March 2010: Study investigates the effect of repetitive anaesthesia on mice**

A study which investigated the effects of repetitive anaesthesia had on mice found that the repeated use of anaesthesia with isoflurance, whilst safe for normal mice, increased the risk of changes similar to those observed in the Alzheimer disease in mice with
mutations of the amyloid precursor protein associated with Alzheimer’s disease.

The research was conducted by Doctors Maria Ángeles Mena and Justo García de Yébenes, from CIBERNED (Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Enfermedades Neurodegenerativas) and published in the Journal of Alzheimer’s disease.

4 March 2010: New form of prion disease found

Scientists have reported on a new form of prion disease in mice that resembles a form of human Alzheimer’s disease. These results mirror findings from two newly reported human cases of the prion disease Gersstmann-Straussler-Scheinker syndrome (GSS). Together the findings show that in prion diseases, the plaque-associated damage to blood vessels can occur without the sponge-like damage to the brain.

Study author, Bruce Chesebro, Chief of the Laboratory of Persistent Viral Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) said that this indicates that prion diseases can be divided into two groups: “those with plaques that destroy brain blood vessels and those without the plaques that lead to the sponge-like damage to nerve cells”.

The study was reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services.

4 March 2010: Study suggests that memantine treatment may result in improvement of some symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease

Findings of a study on over 1,400 people in Greece suggest that most of the people with Alzheimer’s disease demonstrated significantly improved cognitive function and neuropsychiatric symptoms after six months of memantine treatment.

The study was presented by Dr Gialoglou, Lunbeck Hellas, SA, Athens, Greece at the European Psychiatric Association (EPA) 18th European Congress of Psychiatry.

4 March 2010: Phase 3 trial of Dimebon, a potential Alzheimer drug, fails to show significant effects

Six months through the phase 3 trial of the drug “dimebon” in people with Alzheimer’s disease, the results have failed to show “any significant effect in two co-primary and several secondary outcomes measures.”

The study split participants into three groups, two receiving 5 or 20mg dimebon three times a day respectively and the third group a placebo. The co-primary endpoints were: cognition as measured by the Alzheimer’s disease assessment scale – cognitive subscale (ADAS-cog) and global function as measured by the clinician’s interview-based impression of change-plus caregiver input (CIBIC+).

The trial is being sponsored by the companies Pfizer and Medivation.

5 March 2010: PET scan confirms pathological changes in the brain following treatment with an Alzheimer’s drug

By using positron emission tomography (PET), a study was able to “demonstrate for the first time the effect of an Alzheimer’s drug (bapineuzumab) on pathological changes of the disease in people living with the disease.” The results showed that bapineuzumab (an anti-Aβ antibody), brought about measurable clinical improvement with brain amyloid load declines reaching statistical significance.

The study was conducted by Juha Rinne, University of Turku, Finland, and colleagues and published in the Lancet Neurology.

5 March 2010: Study examines depression and risk of dementia in adults with diabetes

A study conducted over a five-year period, has found that “adults who have both diabetes and major depression are more than twice as likely to develop dementia, compared to adults with diabetes only.”

Grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health, supported the study, which was conducted by Dr Wayne Katon, University of Washington and colleagues. It was published in the Journal of Internal Medicine.

11 March 2010: Study develops diagnostic test for cognitive impairment

In an effort to address the fact that most cases of Alzheimer’s disease are not diagnosed in the primary care setting, (resulting in lost opportunities for treatment), researchers from the University of Tennessee, USA, have developed a computerised self test (CST). The CST is thought to be an effective and simple test to determine whether a person has mild cognitive impairment. The study suggests that the test proved to be more effective and accurate than existing tests.

The study will be published in the Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease.
12 March 2010: Study of people with Alzheimer’s disease examines risk of getting lost when driving

A study which looked at media stories (published between 1998 and 2008) that involved people with Alzheimer’s who were reported missing found that 207 drivers with Alzheimer’s had gone missing whilst driving, even though the majority had set off on a routine trip to the post office, store or relative’s house. Of the 207 drivers, 32 had died, 35 were found injured and another 70 were not found at the time that the data was analysed.

The study was conducted by Linda Hunt, associate professor in the School of Occupational Therapy, Pacific University, Oregon, USA and will be published in the March/April issue of the American Journal of Occupational Therapy.

The Alzheimer’s Association offers a web-based program called “Comfort Zone” that families of Alzheimer’s patients can use if the person can still drive safely in familiar places. The driver agrees to limit driving to a “comfort zone,” and a global positioning system (GPS) monitors driving. If the driver leaves the area, the family is notified in real time.

14 March 2010: Study suggests a freshwater polyp may be a useful research model for Alzheimer’s disease

Researchers have found that genome sequence of the freshwater polyp, Hydra, has about the same number of genes as humans and also has genes linked with the beta amyloid plaque formation found in Alzheimer’s disease. This finding could result in Hydra being a potential research model for Alzheimer’s disease.

The research was carried out by an international team of researchers and published in the journal Nature.

14 March 2010: Study examines the relationship between football memorabilia and the memory of men with dementia

A study suggests that showing football memorabilia to men with dementia may stimulate their memories. Over a period of 12 months participants were shown match photographs and programmes during discussions.

The research was carried out by Glasgow Calendonian University with the Scottish Football Museum, Alzheimer Scotland and member clubs of the Scottish Football Heritage Network.

Henry Simmons, Chief Executive Alzheimer Scotland commented: “This is a truly innovative and imaginative project and Alzheimer Scotland is extremely happy to have been involved from its earliest stages. The Scottish Football Museum has not only created a marvellous tool for engaging with men with dementia, but also ensured that research was carried out in the pilot, providing an impressive body of evidence.”

15 March 2010: Study examines family history of Alzheimer’s disease and the associated risk for children

A study in which brain amyloid plaques (associated with Alzheimer’s disease) were highlighted has found a greater number of protein clumps among healthy adult children of parents with Alzheimer’s disease compared to adult children with no family history of dementia. Researchers also found that the numbers of clumps were particularly striking among those study volunteers whose mothers had been diagnosed with the disease.

The brain plaques could be highlighted by use of positron emission tomography (PET) and a fluorescent dye, Pittsburgh Compound B (PiB) and the researchers hope that this technique will enable the identification of early markers of the disease, which in turn may result in the development of approaches to delay or prevent Alzheimer’s disease.

The research, led by Lisa Mosconi, research assistant professor of psychiatry at NYU Langone, USA, is published online in the early edition of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

15 March 2010: Study examines the relationship between amyloid plaques, connection impairment in certain brain regions and the display of symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease

A study has found that cognitively normal, healthy individuals who have brain amyloid plaques also have the connections between important brain regions involved in learning memory impaired (as do people with Alzheimer’s disease), although they may not necessarily display the symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease.

The study was led by Dr Yvette Sheline, Professor of Psychiatry and Radiology, Washington University, USA and published in Biological Psychiatry.
15 March 2010: Two studies highlight the role the gene IDE plays in influencing the risk of Alzheimer’s disease

Two studies have found “strong evidence for the role of the gene, insulin-degrading enzyme (IDE), in influencing risk of Alzheimer’s disease.” Although it was already understood that IDE appears to breakdown the build up of the protein associated Alzheimer’s disease, amyloid beta (Aβ), the new studies suggest that it is the level of IDE present which is key. Too little IDE appears to promote the development of Alzheimer’s disease, whereas an increased level appears to protect against it.

The studies, (both of which included Dr Zou and Dr Carrasquillo from the Mayo Clinic, USA) appear in the journals Neurology and PLoS ONE respectively.

We provide full references to articles on our website. Please visit the completely revised Alzheimer Europe website on: www.alzheimer-europe.org

16 March 2010: New molecule designed which may prevent and break down toxic protein associated with Alzheimer’s disease

“Affibody” is a small protein which has been developed by scientists in Sweden. A new test-tube study suggests that this protein prevented the Aβ protein forming clumps as well as reversing the process. In an additional study, the researchers crossed fruit flies, which had been genetically engineered to produce the Aβ protein, with fruit flies which had been genetically engineered to produce Affibody and found that their offspring did not develop the symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease.

Lead by Dr Leila Luheshi, Department of Genetics, University of Cambridge and Professor Torleif Härd of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, the research has been published in PLoS Biology.

17 March 2010: Trial results for bapineuzumab, a potential Alzheimer’s drug, may be delayed

Results from studies which were completed at the end of 2008 on the potential Alzheimer’s drug, bapineuzumab, were originally due to be published this year. However, the drug company, Johnson&Johnson, who took over the development of the drug last year, are still adding participants to the study. Eric Yuen of Johnson&Johnson’s Janssen Alzheimer Immunotherapy unit said that the trials are some of the “largest scale ever in Alzheimer’s disease” and that once they are complete they expect to have “a very comprehensive understanding of the clinical impact of bapineuzumab.”

23 March 2010: Study examines the rate at which memory may decline

A study in which over 1,000 people took memory and thinking skills tests found that “the thinking skills of those with mild cognitive impairment declined twice as fast each year as those who had no cognitive problems, whilst the skills of those with Alzheimer’s disease declined four times as fast as those with no cognitive problems”.

The research entailed participants having memory and thinking skills tests at the start of the study and again every three years. People took part in the study for an average of 5.5 years, and up to 11 years.

It was carried out by Robert S Wilson, Rush University Medial Center, Chicago and colleagues, and published in the medical journal of the American Academy of Neurology.

29 March 2010: Rat created which emulates Alzheimer’s disease

Researchers have genetically manipulated rats that can emulate Alzheimer’s disease in humans. Mice have been developed in the past, but as it is considered that rats are more intelligent than other rodents and that their behaviour is predictable, researchers believe they can now study the evolution of learning and memory deficits.

McGill University (Canada) researchers carried out the study, which was published in the Journal of Alzheimer’s disease.

Dementia in Society

Articles here include coverage of dementia in the media, for example on television and in films.

15 March 2010: Actor James Nesbitt speaks of his mother’s Alzheimer’s disease

Film and TV star James Nesbitt has spoken about his experience of his mother, May, having Alzheimer’s disease. He said: “I hadn’t seen her since Christmas as I’ve been filming a lot … I noticed that when you spend a bit
of time away the deterioration is, in a sense, more marked. She wasn't really aware of me when I visited her but by the end she knew me.”

He continued: “You realise that this is actually a real condition and it is everything you feared it would be and then you are just playing a waiting game because the condition varies so much from person to person and nobody can actually tell you anything.”

He explained why he has chosen to speak of his mother’s disease, saying: “I think by talking about this I can offer other people hope that actually in a way it does get better because there are very painful stages to go through.”

16 March 2010: TV presenter, Fiona Phillips, talks of the impact Alzheimer’s disease has had on her

Fiona Phillips, TV presenter, has explained that she had a breakdown when trying to cope with her work and her mother’s disease, saying “When I look back, I do think, God I was severely depressed. I didn't want to go out. It was everything I could do to just go into work and look after the children. I was not functioning normally at all.” Ms Phillips left her job as a presenter a year ago, after finding out that her father now has Alzheimer’s disease.

We provide full references to articles on our website. Please visit the completely revised Alzheimer Europe website on: www.alzheimer-europe.org

16 March 2010: Theatre programme used to help people with dementia remember

A twelve-week drama workshop entitled “in the Limelight” has been launched in London, which aims to help people with dementia reminisce about their past. Suzy Harvey, an actress and drama facilitator explained “One week we did the marriage scene from Romeo and Juliet, and used some confetti. As one lady was holding it in her fingers, she began to remember her own wedding.”

19 March 2010: Buddy programme enables researchers to meet people with dementia

A buddy programme has been developed in the US (Northwestern University, Chicago) whereby researchers and medical students are able to meet people with dementia in an informal setting. Although the meetings are brief, it is hoped that the sessions enable dialogue and a greater understanding between each other.

19 March 2010: TV personality Arlene Phillips talks of her father’s dementia

Arlene Phillips OBE, (choreographer, theatre director, former dancer and talent show judge on Strictly Come Dancing and So You Think You Can Dance), has spoken of her father’s dementia in order to launch a “Carer of the Year Award” campaign by the Daily Mail newspaper.

She explained that the first she realised something was wrong with her father, Abraham Phillips, was when the police called her as they had found him wandering and lost in London. She explained “I was shocked. Dad had always been sharp, well and he loved walking; for years he had set out right across the capital with no problems. It was totally out of character and at first I just dismissed it as a one-off.” However, this was the first of a series of episodes where her father was confused as he was showing the first symptoms of dementia.

Talking of how she took on the role of carer she said: “Suddenly our roles were reversed and I felt a tremendous responsibility for him. One of the most important things for me was to stay kind, loving and caring, despite the fact that the person I knew was slowly becoming less of that person. He looked like Dad but didn’t act in the same way. That was very hard.”

Ms Phillips also speaks of the feelings of guilt and the difficulty of taking care of the old and the young when she said: “Suddenly our roles were reversed and I felt a tremendous responsibility for him. One of the most important things for me was to stay kind, loving and caring, despite the fact that the person I knew was slowly becoming less of that person. He looked like Dad but didn’t act in the same way. That was very hard.”

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Eventually her father went to live with her sister, Karen, before passing away.
In Memoriam - Tuula Pirttilä (1958-2010)

Alzheimer Europe is sorry to announce the death of Tuula Pirttilä, Board Member of the Alzheimer Society of Finland (Muistilitto ry) and key note speaker at Alzheimer Europe conferences. She passed away on 24 March 2010.

Alzheimer Finland said:

"Tuula Pirttilä fulfilled her vocation as professor of Neurology at the Kuopio University. Her research, focused on Alzheimer’s disease, encompassed the development of diagnostic aids, clinical drug trials as well as rehabilitation. Professor Tuula Pirttilä was the first scholar in Finland to start talking about rehabilitation in connection with people with a dementia. She headed the rehabilitative work carried out both at the University of Kuopio and at the Alzheimer Society of Finland. She was the invited keynote speaker on rehabilitation both in the Oslo AE Conference in 2008 and in the EU-seminar arranged by President Sarkozy in Paris.

Tuula Pirttilä’s choice of career was influenced by the fact that her mother had Alzheimer’s disease. Apart from her scientific work Professor Pirttilä was active in many NGOs and organisations both nationally and locally. She was a board member in the Alzheimer Society of Finland as well as the local association of the Kuopio region for many years.

Tuula Pirttilä’s untimely death is a great loss to her family and close ones, but also to the entire field of science and research in Finland and worldwide. Her energy and ability contributed to the work of numerous organisations. She was an excellent speaker who could translate complicated medical terminology into language understood by everybody. The work goes on, but nobody can replace Tuula Pirttilä in the uniqueness of her expertise.

According to Tuula Pirttilä’s wish a fund carrying her name has been founded. Donations to the fund will be directed to dementia work carried out by the Alzheimer Association of Kuopio (IibanFI86 46000010 2133 67 BIC HEISFIHH)."

New resources and publications

By reporting on recently published books, reports and information videos on dementia we hope to offer updates on the current resources available to anyone who is affected by dementia.

28 February 2010: New book published for people with dementia

"Ich spreche für mich selbst" (I speak for myself) is a new (German) book in which people with dementia speak for themselves.

The publishers (Demenz Support Stuttgart) state "People with dementia are frequently portrayed as being old, in need of care and helpless, which is a fairly negative image. A lot is said about them but little with them, even when it is about their needs and how they can be supported. In this book people with dementia are given the chance to speak for themselves. They express their wishes and demands even those from countries in which there is already an established movement representing their interests. It is an inspiring book which stirs your conscience. Its contribution will be that people with dementia will be consulted in the future when it comes to discussing their needs."

1 March 2010: New book published on dementia

The book “Understanding Dementia” is aimed at helping lay people understand more about dementia. The book gives case studies at the beginning of chapters, which include:

- What is dementia?
- Symptoms of dementia
- Treatments for dementia
- Getting help
- Living with dementia – tips
- Future prospects
- Questions and answers
- How your brain works

Written by Dr Nori Graham (Emeritus Consultant in the Psychiatry of Old Age at the Royal Free Hospital and Dr James Warner (Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry at St Charles Hospital, London), the book has been published by Family Doctor Publications Limited in association with the British Medical Association.
8 March 2010: US Alzheimer’s Association releases 2010 facts and figures report

The Alzheimer’s association have published their 2010 Facts and Figures report, which includes a special report on race, ethnicity and Alzheimer’s disease. The report includes chapters on:

- An overview of Alzheimer’s disease (including its definition, characteristics, symptoms, risk factors and treatment).
- Prevalence (the report found that 5.3 million Americans have Alzheimer’s disease and more women than men have dementia).
- Mortality (Alzheimer’s disease was found to be the seventh-leading cause of death across all ages in the US and the fifth-leading cause of death for those aged 65 and over).
- Care giving (the report found that there are 10.9 million unpaid care givers in the US and it also considered the impact baby boomers will have in years to come).
- Use and costs of health care, long-term care and hospice (annual costs were estimated to be USD 172 billion dollars).
- Special report: race, ethnicity and Alzheimer’s disease (older African-Americans and Hispanics were found to be considerably more likely than older white people to have Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias).

26 March 2010: Multimedia website for carers of people with Alzheimer’s disease developed

A website designed to help carers of people Alzheimer’s disease by suggesting strategies to “better care for people with dementia, especially how to adapt the home environment to meet the behavioural and physical needs of people with Alzheimer’s disease” has been created by researchers from Weill Cornell Medical College, USA.

ThisCaringHome.org is an interactive multimedia website which features videos, animations, photographs as well as reviews of home furnishings and smart technologies. Visitors can go on a virtual tour through each room of a house and see how different measures may be taken to help care.

It took four years to develop and won the 2009 e-Healthcare Leadership Award.

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Alicja Sadowska (Poland)
Charles Scerri (Malta)
Marc Schaefer (Luxembourg)
Maria do Rósario Zincke dos Reis (Portugal)
## AE Calendar

The following meetings will be attended by representatives of Alzheimer Europe:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>AE Representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 April 2010</td>
<td>Binsfeld publishers (Luxembourg, Luxembourg)</td>
<td>Julie</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-20 April 2010</td>
<td>EU Presidency Conference “Mental Health and Well-being in older people” (Madrid, Spain)</td>
<td>Jean</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 April 2010</td>
<td>Elan meeting “Progress in Alzheimer’s Research: Today’s perspectives, tomorrow’s hope” (London, UK)</td>
<td>Jean</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 April 2010</td>
<td>AE Board meeting (Brussels, Belgium)</td>
<td>AE Board and staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 April 2010</td>
<td>European Parliament lunch debate “Joint programming initiative on Alzheimer’s disease” (Brussels, Belgium)</td>
<td>AE Board and staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 April 2010</td>
<td>EFPIA Think Tank meeting (Brussels, Belgium)</td>
<td>Annette</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-28 April 2010</td>
<td>EFGCP-EUCROF workshop on “Ethical challenges in clinical research at both ends of life – Common lessons to be learnt from paediatric and geriatric clinical development” (Antwerp, Belgium)</td>
<td>Dianne</td>
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## Future Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tr>
<td>26 April 2010</td>
<td>25ème Colloque Médecine et recherche sur la maladie d'Alzheimer de la Fondation Ipsen</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-14 May 2010</td>
<td>7th Biennial Conference Barcelona/Pittsburgh, <a href="http://www.fundacioace.com">www.fundacioace.com</a></td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-27 June 2010</td>
<td>1st International Congress on controversies in longevity, health and aging (CoLONGY), <a href="http://www.comtecrnmed.com">www.comtecrnmed.com</a></td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-11 September 2010</td>
<td>International Conference on evidence-based policy in long-term care, í<a href="mailto:tconcference2010@itse.ac.uk">tconcference2010@itse.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>London, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17 September 2010</td>
<td>26e Congrès de la Société de Psychogériatrie de Langue Française (SPLF), <a href="http://www.nexcom-events.com">www.nexcom-events.com</a></td>
<td>Limoges, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-25 September 2010</td>
<td>5th Croatian Congress on Alzheimer’s Disease with international participation, <a href="http://www.alzheimer2010.com">www.alzheimer2010.com</a></td>
<td>Zadar, Croatia</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-9 October 2010</td>
<td>Gemeinschaft leben, <a href="http://www.deutsche-alzheimer.de">www.deutsche-alzheimer.de</a></td>
<td>Braunschweig, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-21 October 2010</td>
<td>Coming of Age: Dementia in the 21st Century, <a href="http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk">www.dementia.stir.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>London, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-23 October 2010</td>
<td>10th Congress of European society for clinical neuro-pharmacology, <a href="mailto:ivan.rektor@fnsusa.cz">ivan.rektor@fnsusa.cz</a></td>
<td>Zagreb, Croatia</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-5 November 2010</td>
<td>Third Conference: Clinical Trials on Alzheimer’s Disease (CTAD), <a href="http://www.ctad.fr">http://www.ctad.fr</a></td>
<td>Toulouse, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-17 April 2011</td>
<td>The VII International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) – European Region Congress “ Healthy and Active Ageing for all Europeans II”, <a href="http://www.iaggbologna2011.com">www.iaggbologna2011.com</a></td>
<td>Bologna, Italy</td>
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