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Dear Colleague,

it is our pleasure to invite you to take part to the First International Congress of the International Neuromodulation Society which will take place in Roma on May 3-6, 1992.

The concept of an International Neurostimulation Society was put forward during the ICESS (International Congress on Epidural Spinal Cord Stimulation in movement and vascular disorders) which was held in Groningen - The Netherlands - June 1-3, 1989.

A provisional board, made of representatives of different countries met in Paris on April 21 1990, decided to name the Society "INTERNATIONAL NEUROMODULATION SOCIETY".

What does neuromodulation mean?

Any kind of therapeutical interaction with the function of the nervous system. This can be physical like neurostimulation of chemical like topical delivery of drugs.

Why a new society?

Because this should not be conceived as an exclusive field of interest of a particular specialist in medicine. The effects of neuromodulation are in fact modifying the functioning of other organs and apparati. The only way to avoid data dispersion and abuse of neuromodulation is to put together specialists of different fields interested in the problem and work together to understand the effects not only inside but outside the nervous system.

The Scientific Program of the First Meeting was drawn up by the Provisional Board of the INS. The main goal of our Meeting is to put together specialists of different fields in order to enlarge the possibility of understanding the mechanisms and the applications of neuromodulation. Thus we decided to avoid simultaneous sessions in different rooms. Each topic will first be introduced by invited speakers which will present the state of the art by different points of view: basic science, equipment design and clinical experience. Thereafter free communications will be presented. This schedule should give an unique opportunity to have an overview of the effects and of the questions raised by neuromodulation in fields of application different from those in which each of us is directly involved in everyday practice. We feel that expanding our knowledge to all the aspects of neuromodulation is not only a cultural question but it will immediately affect the efficacy of this treatment modality in our hands.

Several lunch seminars will also be offered to discuss specific topics with outstanding specialists of the field.

Our deliberations will take place in the magnificent setting of Roma. Weather in May is particularly pleasant and the local organizing Committee is making every effort to offer an attractive social program and a wide variety of tours for the accompanying persons. We look forward to welcoming you and those accompanying you to Roma in May 1992.

Sincerely yours

M. Meglio
 President of the Congress

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