

INS e-Newsletter



Summer 2010

Message from the New Newsletter Editor

With this issue, I begin my term as editor of INS Newsletter. Being editor of the newsletter is a great honor and a great responsibility. As the editor of the premier newsletter for Neuromodulation Specialists, I have now been given the task to both maintain the reputation and quality and, with any luck, even enhance it.

A good newsletter requires input from a quality team. I would like to take this opportunity to call on everyone to submit articles or other items that would be beneficial to the journal. If you have relevant articles already in publication, [please let us know](#). We can provide links to those articles through the website, and in the newsletter, to help promote those publications.

Again, it is an honor to serve in the capacity of editor. I appreciate the input of each and every one of you in helping to continue the tradition of quality.

Sincerely,
Timothy R. Deer, MD
INS Secretary & Newsletter Editor

President's Address

Firstly, I wish to thank all of you who have supported the growth and development of the International Neuromodulation Society. Many of you have simply done this by maintaining your membership, attending the scientific meetings and encouraging all those around you who are clearly involved with neuromodulation to join our society.

Secondly, I wish to thank the members of the executive and full boards for their efforts and achievements under the leadership of Elliot Krames and his predecessors who have moved our society from "a medical interest club" to a modern, interactive scientific and educational society.

Our worldwide membership stands at over 1,200 and is likely to continue to increase. There are plenty of colleagues who have a serious interest in neuromodulation who still have not joined our society. I encourage you to do so. One

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of our aims is that the INS becomes the independent voice for the science and education of all matters pertaining to neuromodulation. Our vision, aims and objectives are now clearly defined.

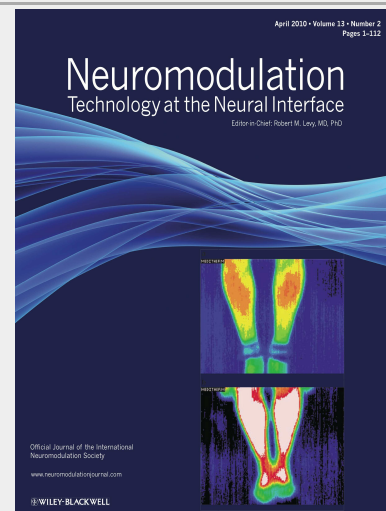
The development of an interactive website (www.neuromodulation.com) has at last been achieved. Each chapter has its own web pages that can be independently edited by the chapter's website lead. There is a secure area in which members can edit their profile, renew membership, contact others and take part in the global forum discussions. Please log in and start some threads so that others can learn from your thoughts.

In 2007-09 the INS and NANS initiated their first public relations endeavor, with the assistance of public relations companies who were hired to develop the campaign. Although this initial work was a good learning experience and is useful in continuing the strategy, we will refocus our resources on developing our own, in-house campaign, using our existing website to build aspects of the campaign over time. We will also build a resource centre with in the main website, primarily for our members; however, it will allow for patient and referrer education, as well as project to a wider web-based audience. Many of you will have materials and experiences of such web based learning so please don't hesitate to contribute your ideas. Also, please advise us of your publications in other scientific, web or media outlets, so that we can link to them in our "Newsroom". I hope to set up a steering group of interested members to help drive this project forward. If you would like to participate in this endeavor, please notify our [INS Executive Office](#).

Some neuromodulation therapies are considered medical mainstream. Sadly, this is not the same all over the world. Furthermore, there are many neuromodulation therapies and applications that are frankly still in development and do not have sufficient evidence to support their widespread use. I think it is important to understand that there is a difference between these two scenarios. It is important that we understand how best to develop the medical evidence and present it in such a way that health care purchasers have their questions answered. We need to keep generating high quality science and we need to understand that this science must be designed in order to meet the information needs of whatever healthcare economy we work within. The INS and the journal "Neuromodulation" will help to achieve this through education and peer review.

As a society we are fortunate to have a successful journal, largely due to the efforts of Dr. Elliot Krames, who launched the journal and served as its passionate and tireless Editor-in-Chief for 12 years. Elliot built a solid foundation on which the journal will continue to grow under the leadership of its new Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Robert Levy. I wish all the best to Dr. Levy as he embarks on his editorship, and I encourage you, our members contribute your best articles. With your help and plans for improvement that are well underway, we expect to build upon our success.

The INS is a truly worldwide organisation. We are expanding in numbers of chapters and members. As with all organisations we have to keep looking at how we do things and try and make changes for the better. We will be submitting ideas to the INS full board on how in future we wish to provide successful scientific meetings without compromising the INS or its chapters.



[Submit a manuscript](#)

[The International Neuromodulation Society](#)

is a non-profit group of clinicians, scientists and engineers dedicated to the scientific development and awareness of neuromodulation - the alteration of nerve activity through the delivery of electrical stimulation or chemical agents to targeted sites of the body. Founded in 1989 and based in San Francisco, CA, the INS educates and promotes the field through meetings, its quarterly, peer-reviewed journal *Neuromodulation: Technology at the Neural Interface* and chapter websites.

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Chapters in Formation
Central Europe / Danube Region
Scandinavia

Finally, our 10th World Congress will be in London on 21-26 May 2011. London is a true world city with its worldwide travel hub, excellent entertainment and historical sites. The meeting will attract an excellent faculty and a large number of members and non members. This meeting will be a further milestone in our society's evolution.

I encourage you to save the date and join us in London in 2011!

Dr Simon Thomson, MBBS, FRCA, FIPP, FFPMRCA
INS President

Message from Neuromodulation's New Editor-in-Chief

To the Members of the International Neuromodulation Society:

Thank you very much for your strong vote of support in naming me the new Editor-in-Chief of your journal, *Neuromodulation*. We all owe a great debt to Elliot Krames, the founding editor, and Tia Sofatzis, managing editor, for their tireless work in building *Neuromodulation* to its current level. Times have changed, however, and science, medicine and society now demand historically unequalled levels of scientific rigor, academic integrity and fiscal transparency. It is toward these goals that I have been directed to steer *Neuromodulation*. We have already initiated a comprehensive reassessment and redesign program for the journal with our publisher, Wiley-Blackwell, and a strategic planning process with the members of the editorial board that should result in a new, more impactful journal with a more contemporary look and feel. We anticipate a successful application for listing by the National Library of Medicine. We look forward to serving the needs of the *Neuromodulation* community by providing a high quality, academically rigorous, peer reviewed source of state of the art information on the basic and clinical science that is the critical framework of our field.

Robert M. Levy, MD, PhD
Editor-in-Chief, *Neuromodulation*

Neuromodulation Articles Are Now Available in "Early View"

We are happy to announce that *Neuromodulation: Technology at the Neural Interface* is now part of the Wiley-Blackwell Early View service. Articles will now be published on a regular basis online in advance of their appearance in a print issue. These articles are fully peer reviewed, edited, and complete – they only lack page numbers and volume/issue details – and are considered fully published from the date they first appear online. This date is shown with the article in the online table of contents. Because Early View articles are considered fully complete, please bear in mind that changes cannot be made to an article after the online publication date even if it is still yet to

Switzerland



Dr. Simon Thomson, INS President



Dr. Timothy Deer, INS Secretary & Newsletter Editor

appear in print.

The articles are available as full text HTML or PDF and can be cited as references by using their Digital Object Identifier (DOI) numbers. For more information on DOIs, please see <http://www.doi.org/faq.html>.

To view all the articles currently available on Early View, please visit the [journal homepage](#) and simply click on the "Early View" area at the top of the list of issues available to view. Upon print publication, the article will be removed from the Early View area and will appear instead in the relevant online issue, complete with page numbers and volume/issue details. No other changes will be made.

The implementation of Early View for Neuromodulation represents our commitment to get manuscripts available to view to the academic community as quickly as possible, reducing time to publication considerably without sacrificing quality or completeness.

To access the full-text articles, you will need to log-in to your account on the INS website, and follow the link to the online journal. For technical support, please contact the [INS Executive Office](#).

Neuromodulation in Europe

Neuromodulation launched its foray in Europe ten years after Shealy, an American doctor, performed the first implantation worldwide in 1967. Advances have followed one another since that event, and part of this progression was due to the development of the systems in Europe.

Looking back at the beginnings of the INS —our representing society— some six European doctors counted among its founding members, and the first meeting of this organization was held in Europe, more precisely in Rome, chaired by prof. Mario Meglio in 1992. Since then, INS has spread into the continent and nowadays we have seven European national chapters, with other four formation processes underway, and three-hundred active members approximately.

Despite the fact that, historically, the development of this therapy has been very similar in USA and Europe, this cannot be said in the practical aspect. Incidence of chronic pain in Europe is about 19%, with a prevalence of 46,000 people approximately. Only 5% of these patients are treated with neurostimulation, representing about 10,000 systems per year against the 30,000 units implanted yearly in the USA.

This difference is even stranger taking into account that the range of indications is probably wider in Europe, where the application of this technique to diseases such as PVD and Refractory Angina Pectoris is approved and widely accepted by pain physicians.

The same happens when looking at the types of systems implanted in Europe. Despite the fact that all available devices (both rechargeable and non rechargeable) are approved in most countries, only 10% of implants are rechargeable, compared to 70% in the USA, Ireland being in

the lead of these implants in Europe.

There may be two basic explanations to this fact: on one hand, economic issues associated to most European countries and, on the other, the poor scientific development of the therapy, possibly due to the lack of specific educational programmes in Pain Management as a chronic disease and not as a mere symptom.

The main cause for this deficit of implants in Europe could possibly be rectified by adopting the S.A.F.E. principles instead of the KISS, which is the one most followed in the Old Continent. The second —and most important— way to avoid this deficit is the joint elaboration, throughout Europe, of global education programmes in Pain Medicine and, more precisely in the Neuromodulation Science. The most straightforward way to settle these problems will be the mutual collaboration of all European countries so that we, together, can continue contributing to the development of this science that began with the support of European professionals and that, certainly, will continue to grow with the emergence of new indications and therapies and with the improvement of the existing ones

David Abejón, MD, FIPP
President, Spanish Neuromodulation Society (SENEMO)
Pain Unit. Hospital Universitario Puerta de Hierro
Majadahonda
Madrid, Spain

INS Chapter News & Events

New! Argentinean Neuromodulation Society (SANE)

The Argentinean chapter has formed under the leadership of Dr. Fabián Piedimonte, President, Dr. Juan Carlos Andreani, Vice-President, and Dr. Fabián Cremaschi, Secretary. Congratulations and welcome!

Joint Meeting of the Argentinean Neuromodulation Society, Brazilian Neuromodulation Society & Brazilian Pain Society

November 18-20, 2010

Goiania, Brazil

For more details, please visit the [Argentinean Neuromodulation Society website](#).

Australian Neuromodulation Society

Dr. Marc Russo is the President, and the Board Members are Dr. Richard Bittar, Dr. Paul Verrills and Dr. Ian Tucker.

For more details, please visit the [Australian Neuromodulation Society website](#).

Benelux Neuromodulation Society (BNS)

Prof. Michiel Staal is the new President.

The Benelux Neuromodulation Society's meeting was scheduled to take place in April 2010, but due to the eruption of the Icelandic volcano and the subsequent grounding of flights in and out of Europe, the chapter has

rescheduled the event to take place on January 27-29, 2011.

First Joint Meeting of the BNS with the Nordic and Baltic States

January 27-29, 2011

Groningen, The Netherlands

For more information, please visit the [Benelux Neuromodulation Society website](#).

Brazilian Neuromodulation Society

Dr. Osvaldo Vilela-Filho, is the new President.

Joint Meeting of the Argentinean Neuromodulation Society, Brazilian Neuromodulation Society & Brazilian Pain Society

November 18-20, 2010

Goiania, Brazil

For more details, please visit the [Brazilian Neuromodulation Society website](#).

Canadian Neuromodulation Society

Dr. Ivar Mendez is the new President.

4th Annual Canadian Neuromodulation Society Meeting

June 4-6, 2010

Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

For more details, please visit the [Canadian Neuromodulation Society website](#).

New! Chinese Neuromodulation Society

The Chinese Neuromodulation Society has formed under the leadership of Dr. Guoming Luan, President. Congratulations and welcome!

2010 Annual Meeting of Chinese Neuromodulation Society and the First Asian Congress of Neuromodulation

October 30- 31, 2010

The International Convention Center, Beijing, China

For more details, please visit the [Chinese Neuromodulation Society website](#).

German Neuromodulation Society (DGNM)

The German Neuromodulation Society elected a new Board of Directors in November 2009:

- Dr. Werner Braunsdorf, Head of Neurosurgery, Klinikum Magdeburg, Magdeburg, President
- Dr. Frank Hertel, Director of Neurosurgery, Academic Hospital Luxembourg, Vice-President
- Dr. Johan Moreau, Neurosurgeon, Aachen, Treasurer
- Mr. Christian Mantsch, CEO OMT, Minden, Secretary

The Chapter will participate in the Neuromodulation in Europe Conference in Madrid on June 16-18, 2010.

The German Neuromodulation Society (DGNM) Congress

November 26 - 27, 2010

Luxembourg

For more details, please visit the [German Neuromodulation](#)

[Society Website.](#)

Italian Neuromodulation Society

Dr. Paolo Poli is the President.

The Italian Chapter will participate in the Neuromodulation in Europe Congress in Madrid, on June 16-18, 2010. For more details, please visit the [Italian Neuromodulation Society website](#).

Japan Neuromodulation Society (JNS)

Professor Takamitsu Yamamoto is the new President of the Japan Chapter.

The Japan Neuromodulation Society held its annual meeting on May 22-23, 2010, in Tokyo. For more details, please visit the [Japan Neuromodulation Society Website](#).

Korean Neuromodulation Society (KNS)

Professor Uhn Lee is the President.

The Korean Neuromodulation Society will participate in the 2010 Annual Meeting of Chinese Neuromodulation Society and the First Asian Congress of Neuromodulation. For more details, please visit the [Korean Neuromodulation Society website](#).

North American Neuromodulation Society (NANS)

Dr. Robert Foreman is the President.

North American Neuromodulation Society 14th Annual Meeting

December 2-5, 2010

Wynn Encore Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

For more details, please visit the [NANS website](#).

South Eastern Europe Neuromodulation Society

Prof. Damianos Sakas is the President.

The South Eastern Europe Chapter will participate in the Neuromodulation in Europe Congress in Madrid, on June 16-18, 2010.

For more details, please visit the [South Eastern Europe Neuromodulation Society website](#).

Spanish Neuromodulation Society (SENEMO)

Dr. David Abejón is the President.

The Spanish Neuromodulation Society is hosting:

Neuromodulation in Europe Congress

June 16-18, 2010

Madrid, Spain

For more details, please visit the [SENEMO website](#).

Neuromodulation Society of the United

Kingdom and Ireland (NSUKI)

Dr Francis Luscombe is the President of NSUKI. Dr Jon Raphael was elected to succeed Dr Luscombe as President from November 2010 and Dr Sam Eldabe was elected to chair the local organising committee for the INS meeting in London in 2011.

NSUKI Annual Scientific Meeting

October 4-5, 2010

Leeds Royal Armouries Museum

Leeds, England, UK

For more details, please visit the [NSUKI website](#).

New Chapters

New chapters are being formed in Central Europe/Danube Region, France and Switzerland.

If you are interested in joining these chapters or in starting a new chapter, please contact the [INS Executive Office](#).

Chapter Formation Criteria

To be recognized as a chapter of the INS, each interested national or regional group must:

- Form a legal, not for profit organization
- Recruit at least 20 paid members
- Welcome all members regardless of discipline
- Draft bylaws in compliance with INS bylaws
- Organize annual scientific meetings - either independently or in collaboration with other chapters
- Maintain its own financial independence from the INS
- Report regularly to the Executive Office of the INS

INS Website: New Features

Breaking News Section

This is a new section on our Homepage and Newsroom with brief summaries of the latest news in the medical device field, and links to the original sources. We realize there is more information out there than you have time to find and read, so we'll compile stories from a variety of outlets for you and keep this section updated with neuromodulation-related news. The INS homepage will feature the most current stories and link to the full news page. The INS recognises its role in public education in matters that concern neuromodulation.

News articles that attempt to explain neuromodulation therapies to a lay audience are a useful resource. We would like to collect these links and collate them on our website. If you have been involved with a journalistic article perhaps you might send us the link. Many of you might also have a talent for writing descriptions of neuromodulation therapies that can be easily understood by lay and journalist audiences. We are developing our media centre and need unbranded content. Please could you [make contact with us](#) should you wish to become involved?

Online Database of Neuromodulation Products

Members of the International Neuromodulation Society now have access to an online database of neuromodulation products. INS has partnered with Neurotech Reports, the publisher of the Neurotech Business Report newsletter, to

offer this unique online product to INS members. The database only is available through the members' section of the INS website. The database contains information on existing and forthcoming products in a number of product categories, including spinal cord stimulation, deep brain stimulation, leads, power supplies, and many others. Users can search by product category, company name, or medical condition. The database reports details such as current approval status, reimbursement, and product description. In addition to checking out the new product database, we encourage you to make use of the other features available to you through our members website:

- Access Neuromodulation: Technology at the Neural Interface online. You can download articles from your current subscription as well as content from 12 years' worth of back issues.
- View and edit your member profile in the INS database
- Find fellow members from around the globe in the searchable member database
- Post a comment or question in the discussion forum for other members to respond
- Download your media toolkit – a reference guide for speaking with the media

To login, go to the INS website and enter in your username and password. This will take you to the Members-Only section where you can access all the features available to you as an INS member. If you have any questions or if you experience difficulty logging in, please contact our web administrator at ins@neuromodulation.com. We hope you enjoy these new features!

Facebook Login for the INS Website

Members can now login to the INS website with their Facebook IDs and passwords with Facebook Connect authentication. To activate this feature for your account, visit the website [login page](#), click on "Connect with Facebook" and follow the instructions.

INS 9th World Congress Seoul, South Korea

The INS extends its sincere thanks to everyone who attended the INS 9th World Congress in Seoul in September. We were very pleased with the excellent science presented, and we had close to 350 people in attendance from around the globe, 70 oral posters and 135 traditional poster presentations. We also appreciate the gracious support of our invited speakers and 19 sponsors and exhibitors. Select slides and audio recordings of the presentations now are available to INS members, in the members' section of the INS website.

There were 24 countries represented.

Specialties Represented:

Anesthesiology/Pain: 55%
Neurosurgery: 32%
Neurology: 4%
Physiatry: 4%

Other: 5%

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