

CLOSING REMARKS



The World Association of Sarcoidosis and Other Granulomatous Diseases (WASOG) organises meetings for physicians involved in interstitial lung diseases especially sarcoidosis and other granulomatous diseases, and offers an opportunity to exchange scientific experiences.

The combined 10th WASOG Meeting and the 12th International Conference on BAL was a great success. We had 275 attendees from more than 30 countries. It was a great honour and an enormous privilege to organize this meeting in Maastricht, the Netherlands.

At the end of the meeting in Maastricht Professor Ulrich Costabel, the past president of WASOG handed over the WASOG medal to Professor Bob Baughman. He will be the president of WASOG until the next meeting in 2014. For an impression please visit the website (www.wasog.org; link: wasogbal2011).



Later this year, Dan Culver, will organize a meeting supported by WASOG in Cleveland, USA, from 4-6 October 2012. In Paris, the 6th international WASOG Conference on Diffuse Parenchymal Lung Diseases will be held on 6-7 June 2013. The next 11th WASOG meeting will be held in October 2014 in Izmir, Turkey. More information, announcements and programmes can be found on the website www.wasog.org.



Before the WASOG meeting June the 15th a symposium for patients was organized with 350 attendees entitled: 'coping with a chronic disease'.

Furthermore, on the WASOG site you can find information about WASOG, patients' societies, literature and upcoming meetings. We have also started a topic about sarcoidosis and other ild around the world. To inform you about sarcoidosis and other ild in different countries we asked colleagues to summarize the prevalence, the research and important websites, etc. We would like to ask for your collaboration: If a column about your home country is not available yet, please feel free to write a nice one concerning this particular item (sarcoidosis and/or ild) in your own country. Instructions can also be found on the website.

Finally, I would like to challenge you to become a member of WASOG. Why join WASOG? The benefits of your WASOG membership are: to get information, keep updated, join the international network, receive reduced fees for WASOG meetings, get full access to the WASOG home page (e.g. members roster) and receive the Journal Sarcoidosis, Vasculitis and Diffuse Lung Diseases, the official journal of WASOG (editors in chief: professor Robert B. Baughman and Prof. Cesare Saltini).

Help to make people more conscious of ild!

Prof. dr. Marjolein Drent