Welcome
Welcome to the 72nd TREAT-NMD newsletter. Articles featured this week include:
- Details of the third course on childhood neuromuscular disorders in Barcelona
- TREAT-NMD on YouTube
- Duchenne Ireland's call for grant applications
- University of Alberta is seeking to appoint senior positions

We would like to thank those who have contributed to this week's edition. This newsletter relies on input from our readers. If you have anything you wish to be included in the next newsletter please contact us at info@treat-nmd.eu

We look forward to hearing from you!

at a glance...

26-27 Feb 2010   Towards a Brighter Future - Sydney, Australia.

28 Feb 2010   Rare Disease Day - Worldwide Event.

18-20 Mar 2010   International Conference on Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs - Buenos Aires, Argentina

25-26 Mar 2010   Asian Oceanian Myology Center Annual Meeting - Seoul, South Korea


10-17 Apr 2010   American Academy of Neurology, Annual Meeting - Toronto, Canada

3-7 May 2010   International Child Neurology Congress 2010 - Cairo, Egypt

10 May 2010   The George Karpati Symposium on Neuromuscular Disease: Innovation and Application, Montreal, Canada.

Research Chair in Muscular Dystrophy and Chair in Neurology positions - University of Alberta

The University of Alberta and the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry are committed to fostering education and research and as such, the establishment of two Chair positions is targeted to significantly increase national and international research capacity to make the ultimate difference: to find a cure for neuromuscular disorders.

The first position, the Henri M. Toupin Chair in Neurology, is to attract an accomplished researcher committed to advance research, show leadership, facilitate collaboration and develop programs in translational neurology. Closing date for this position is 12th March 2010.

Additionally the Friends of Garrett Cumming and Muscular Dystrophy Canada have established a fully funded Research Chair in the Faculty. Applications are invited from basic and clinician-scientist researchers who have a primary interest in and track record of innovative and creative research in the area of Muscular Dystrophy. Closing date for this position is 5th March 2010.

Further details can be found in the jobs page of our website.

TREAT-NMD on YouTube

As part of its science communication work, TREAT-NMD has made a number of films of patients talking about their daily lives. The videos were put together by the Policy, Ethics and Life Sciences (PEALS) Research Centre at Newcastle University.

Pauline McCormack of PEALS says, “Film is a very captivating medium and easy to engage with. Some of the films are funny, some are moving but they are all interesting and perceptive and provide a glimpse of life with a disability”.

TREAT-NMD hopes the videos of patients talking about the issues they face every day will be useful for patient organisations, researchers and clinicians, for awareness raising and communication. They can be found at: www.youtube.com/TREATNMD

Duchenne Ireland Grant Application

Duchenne Ireland aims to raise awareness of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy at local, national and government level. Their objective is to raise funds which shall go directly to the researchers and clinicians who have the best chance of developing improved therapies which will benefit this generation. They also work towards achieving an infrastructure which is on a par with best international practice.
It is anticipated that Duchenne Ireland will have €200,000 to allocate in this round of funding and they welcome applications that target some or all of this money. All research project applications will be assessed by their scientific advisory panel and final decisions on funding allocations are expected within 6-8 weeks of the closing date for receipt of applications.

The application form can be downloaded from here.

The closing date for applications is 31st May 2010.

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**Third Course in Childhood Neuromuscular Disorders - Barcelona, Spain**

Hosted by one of the largest neuromuscular departments in Spain, this two-day course will cover the latest advances in diagnosis, management and treatment in childhood neuromuscular disorders. The focus of this year’s course is on muscular dystrophies (Duchenne and Becker Muscular Dystrophies, Limb-Girdle Muscular Dystrophy and Congenital Muscular Dystrophies).

A centre that has made important contributions to the advancement of this field during the last 20 years, in particular in the areas of muscular dystrophies, congenital myasthenias, metabolic myopathies and peripheral neuropathies, the Neuromuscular Unit based in the Hospital Sant Joan de Deu Barcelona is part of a national consortium for rare diseases (CIBERER) and participates in the PTC 124 Clinical Trial for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

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