Welcome

Welcome to this news update from INPA. This is a regular digest of information from across the neurological physical therapy world. It is aimed to share what has happened, is happening, and what is planned.

The INPA executive committee meets every 2 – 3 months by Skype. The focus of these meetings has been to prepare for WCPT 2015. I’m very grateful for the superb support the committee members have given me over the last couple of years.

The first INPA General Meeting will be held on Saturday 1st May. Elections to specific posts and objectives for 2015 – 2019 will be agreed at this meeting. Member groups of INPA can nominate individuals for the committee elections.

INPA invites any physiotherapy neurology specialist interest groups from around the world to join. Membership is currently free! Contact hammondr@csp.org.uk for more information.


Best wishes
Ralph

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INPA committee
The interim committee consists of the following representatives of their national neurology specialist interest group:

Name and subgroup member organisation  Position in subgroup

Ralph Hammond, ACPIN, UK Chartered Society of Physiotherapy  President
Tara Martin, Neurology Group of Physiotherapy New Zealand  Secretary
Louise Ada, National Neurology Group of the Australian Physiotherapy Association  Membership Secretary
Judith Deutsch, Neurological Section of American Physical Therapy Association  Committee member
Cherry Kilbride, ACPIN, UK Chartered Society of Physiotherapy  Committee member
Mindy Levin, Neurosciences Division of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association  Committee member
Andrea Turolla, Special Interest Group on Neuroscience of the Italian Physiotherapists Association  Committee member
Sue Witney, Neurological Section of American Physical Therapy Association  Committee member
INPA will attend WCPT 2015 and host a series of events and sessions:

**INPA reception**
*What:* an informal networking opportunity for neuro delegates, with cash bar
*When:* evening of Saturday 2nd May (time to be confirmed)
*Where:* Atrium Living Room, Pan Pacific Hotel Singapore

**Neuro networking Session (NWS-20)**
*What:* An opportunity for delegates with an interest in neuro-physiotherapy to meet and discuss issues such as: the implications of trend to move from hospital based rehabilitation towards more community/home based rehabilitation; the enablers and barriers in knowledge translation on neurological physical therapy practice; asserting the expertise of physical therapy in international (neurological) health policy programmes
*When:* Saturday 2 May 2015, 12:15-13:45,
*Where:* Room 310-311
*More info:* [http://preview.tinyurl.com/p6mtwr9](http://preview.tinyurl.com/p6mtwr9)

**Subgroup seminar: Neurology - INPA (SG-6)**
*What:* International special interest groups as a way to support neurological physiotherapy practice and continuous professional development in different health systems
*When:* Monday 4 May 2015, 08:30-10:00,
*Where:* Room 331-332
*More info:* [http://preview.tinyurl.com/pagf9oj](http://preview.tinyurl.com/pagf9oj)

**Subgroup seminar: Developmental disabilities (SG-2)**
*What:* Lessons to be learned: Transition from childhood to adulthood for individuals with lifelong disabilities
*When:* Monday 4 May 2015, 10:45-12:15
*Where:* Room 331-332
*More info:* [http://preview.tinyurl.com/kyk8sbw](http://preview.tinyurl.com/kyk8sbw)

**INPA General Meeting**
*What:* formal meeting to elect officers to INPA executive committee and agree 2015 – 2019 objectives and plan
*When:* Monday 4th May 2015 15:45 - 17:15

**INPA Outstanding Presentation Awards 2015**
INPA will be supporting WCPT in judging the best neuro presentations at WCPT Singapore, 2015.

**INPA Review 2011 – 2015**
A more complete review of INPA work 2011 – 2015 will be presented at the General Meeting (see above) when a written report will be circulated and made available

**Communications 2011 - 2015**
1. Newsletters: these are produced 1 – 2 a year
2. Facebook page and Twitter account have been established

**INPA Projects 2011 - 2015**
**Membership recruitment**
INPA has written to all WCPT member organisations that have a neurology specialist interest group, inviting them to join INPA. INPA has made membership free for the time being to encourage all potential groups to join, and engage in the development and directions of INPA work.
INPA will repeat this invitation during 2015. We would welcome any advice on the language, tone and content we use in this invitation to reflect national styles of communication, to improve our recruitment rate.

**Seed funding**
Our members have pledged several thousand dollars (US) to help establish INPA: this will be spent on WCPT 2015 costs, INPA web pages on WCPT website, and the construction of INPA promotional materials.

**INPA website pages**
These have been drafted. Once the INPA bank account is in place, and payment made to WCPT,
February 2015

these will be submitted to the WCPT webmaster for uploading.

**INPA Plans for 2015 – 2019**

These will be discussed at the General Meeting and are therefore subject to change.

1. Set up INPA bank account (2015)

2. Strengthen engagement with national member groups (2015)
   - Communications (Facebook, Twitter, newsletter, web pages)
   - Greater involvement in INPA activities
   - Membership fees
   - External, public facing voice

3. Draft terms of reference for sub-committee and specialist interest group structure (2015)

4. Establish 3 – 4 sub-committees (2016)
   - Education, Research, Clinical practice; Public (health) policy
   - Conference engagement (WCPT presence)

5. Establish 5 special interest groups (2017)
   [subgroup focus could be, for example, 1. brain injury, 2. neuro degenerative conditions, 3. neuro muscular conditions, 4. stroke rehabilitation, 5. vestibular rehabilitation]

6. Identify how to ensure ongoing and sustainable INPA engagement with WCPT conference (2017)

7. Strengthen links with other international neuro groups (2019)

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**Future communications**

- Any INPA member groups who wish to contribute to the General Meeting are invited to contact Ralph beforehand
- Any alterations to INPA events at WCPT 2015 will be advertised by Facebook, Twitter and on notice boards at the conference

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**Professor Janet Carr 1933-2014**

Professor Janet Carr, one of the profession’s leading lights, with a life-long passion for advancing physiotherapy, died on the 4th November 2014.

Janet joined the staff at the School of Physiotherapy in Sydney as a lecturer in 1973. This was the beginning of a long and illustrious academic career, a career which changed physiotherapy practice globally. Much of her scholarly work has been in collaboration with Roberta Shepherd. Collaboratively, they authored/edited 13 books from 1976 to 2010 and inspired many more. One book alone sold over 16,000 copies worldwide, and their books have been translated into most European languages and many Asian ones.

INPA sends its condolences to all Australian physical therapists and indeed physical therapists around the world. She was the inspiration for so many in her thoughts, words and deeds.

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**Next edition**

INPA hopes this update provides useful information. Please send suggestions of content for the next edition to hammond@csp.org.uk. I will be preparing this to go out in June 2015.

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