



## Course Announcement

### Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy

#### Pilot Project - Blended Learning Course:

Presence phase at 27th International Epilepsy Congress in Singapore  
followed by ~6 months of e-learning

#### Course description

The course will cover the clinical pharmacology of currently available antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) and the principles governing their rational use in people with epilepsy. The program will be practice-oriented and aimed at the general neurologist / paediatric neurologist / paediatrician dealing with - but not exclusively involved in - epilepsy care.

The course will address the optimal use of AEDs in relation to seizure type, epilepsy syndrome, and other patient characteristics, both in newly diagnosed epilepsy and in pharmacoresistant populations. Subject material will illustrate how pharmacokinetic properties, efficacy and adverse effect profiles of individual drugs should be taken into account when individualizing pharmacotherapy in different clinical settings. The course will also address the criteria for a critical assessment of literature data relevant to therapeutics. Practical aspects, such real-life treatment choices in children, women of childbearing potential, the elderly and patients requiring multiple drug therapy will be discussed interactively.

The course will start off with a whole day of teaching sessions (Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007) during the 27<sup>th</sup> International Epilepsy Congress in Singapore, focussing on the general principles of AED therapy and the practical aspects of participation in the course, including an introduction to the e-learning platform of the Virtual Epilepsy Academy.

#### Learning objectives

The course, on completion, will enable the participants to improve their ability to use AEDs rationally. It will help them to make logical decisions on when to start and to stop treatment, which drugs to choose in specific clinical setting, and how best to assess response to treatment and tailor dosage to individual needs. It will also improve their competence in assessing critically the methodology and results of AED trials.

#### Entry criteria:

- Minimum of 4 months of EEG training;
- 3 years of training in neurology, neuropediatrics, clinical neurophysiology, psychiatry or neurosurgery or combinations of these;
- Mandatory participation in the presence phase at the 27<sup>th</sup> International Epilepsy Congress on Saturday, July 7, 2007 from 9:00 – 17:00 hrs.

**Certification:** Successful participation in this course is awarded up to 65 CPs (equivalent of 1 month) for the core curriculum “Clinical AED pharmacology” for the European Certification in Epileptology for Medical Doctors. For successful participation, participants have to attend the presence phase and complete the tasks during the e-learning phase, including a series of general questions and diagnostic tasks which will be presented at the end of the course. During the tutorised distance learning phase, participants are expected to spend about 4 hours per week for individual study of the learning material provided, to take part actively in the discussion fora, and to complete tasks.

**Applications** sent to the EUREPA Secretariat should contain

- a signed confirmation of the neurology department on the 4 months of EEG training;
- a signed confirmation of the neurology department on the 3 years of neurological or comparable training
- CV
- List of publications

**Duration:** The course will start with one day of teaching sessions at the 27<sup>th</sup> International Epilepsy Congress in Singapore (Saturday, July 7, 2007) followed by about 6 months of distance learning starting in September 2007.

**Deadline** for application is April 30, 2007.

**Course Fee:** Euro 600 respectively Euro 500 for EUREPA members. A restricted number of bursaries will be available.

**Number of participants:** 30

**Technical requirements for participation in the e-learning phase:**

Personal Computer with CD-Rom drive

Operating system: Windows 95, 98 / 2000 / NT / XP (incl. windows media player), Apple; Linux

Internet access: Modem, ISDN (64 kbit) or DSL

Browser: Internet Explorer (recommended) 5.5 (and higher) (cookies activated); Netscape Navigation; Safari; Mozilla

**Course Directors:**

Jacqueline A. French, Co-Chair of the ILAE Commission on Therapeutic Strategies and Emilio Perucca, First Vice-President of the ILAE.

For **application** and further **information**, please contact:

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