

5^{T H} C E N T R A L
E U R O P E A N
C O N G R E S S
O F R H E U M A T O L O G Y

Hotel Sofitel Atrium
Budapest, Hungary
30 April – 2 May, 2004

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT
Call for Abstracts

Organization

Congress Committee

■ **A. Dunky**

President of the Austrian Society for Rheumatology

■ **A. Filipowicz-Sosnowska**

President of the Polish Society for Rheumatology

■ **L. Hodinka**

President of the Hungarian Society for Rheumatology

■ **B. Lestan**

President of the Slovenian Society for Rheumatology

■ **K. Pavelka**

President of the Czech Society for Rheumatology

■ **J. Rovenský**

President of the Slovak Society for Rheumatology

Scientific Committee

■ **A. Dunky**

■ **A. Filipowicz-Sosnowska**

■ **G. Hittner**

■ **M. Herold**

■ **L. Hodinka**

■ **J. Lukáč**

■ **K. Pavelka**

■ **J. Rovenský**

■ **B. Rozman**

■ **P. Temesvári**

■ **J. Vencovsky**

■ **A. Zubrzycka-Sienkiewicz**

Local Organizing Committee

■ **G. Hittner**

■ **L. Hodinka**

■ **Gy. Poór**

■ **P. Temesvári**

Information, Scientific and Administrative Secretariat

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E-mail: titkarsag@mre.hu

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Welcome address

Dear Colleagues,

The Hungarian Association of Rheumatologists has the honor and pleasure to host the 5th Central European Congress of Rheumatology in Budapest. A very special and significant value and symbolic meaning has the fact that rheumatologists of the participating societies of Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia who launched this regional meeting ten years ago will convene on the day First May 2004 when five of our countries will join to the sixth and will reassemble as full members of the European Community.

The traditional collaboration and communication in our region as it was demonstrated at several bilateral meetings in the preceding decades represent a strong centripetal power of collegiality. This power will act also centrifugally by our decision to invite colleagues from our neighboring countries which are a close borderland to the united Europe and may form the core of a similar, neighboring and friendly professional regional community of rheumatologists. We hope that a useful and effective crosstalk will continue during the 5th Central European Congress.

Another important decision was that this meeting is dedicated to the greatest therapeutic challenge of the New Millennium for our rheumatology practice, the biological therapy. There is no doubt thus this is a breakthrough in arthritides, especially in ankylosing spondylitis. All we know that this innovative therapy has substantial economic limitations in our region perhaps more significant in some countries when compared to others. The task of this meeting is to discuss issues of accessibility and to discover and envoy politics which may help extend this therapeutic modality for the benefit our patients.

A not less important aim of this Congress is to present our clinical and scientific activities to each other in all areas of rheumatology as well as to demonstrate national characteristics of epidemiology, health economy or everyday practice.

This is why we call for and welcome all kind of contributions and presentations serving these intentions and on behalf of Hungarian rheumatologists I confirm that we shall do our best to make this Congress an event worth to remember.

Dr. László Hodinka
President

General Information

Congress venue

Hotel Sofitel Atrium

H-1051 Budapest, Roosevelt tér 2.

Tel.: +36-1-266-8369

Fax: +36-1-266-9101

Official language

English, no simultaneous translation.

Registration fees

Regular fee*	150 Euro
Reduced fee**	100 Euro
Accompanying persons	100 Euro
Participants from other countries	200 Euro

* for participants from organizing countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia)

** Applies for health professionals, medical students and trainees. A letter of the department head certifying the status is required.

Payment modalities

- By bank transfer for the beneficiary to the congress account
"CECR 2004" at the K&H Bank,
Swift code: OKHBHUHB, account no. 10200885-32620030
- Cash on site

Registration fee covers participation in all scientific sessions, receipt of the Abstract Book, the Welcome Reception on Thursday April 30, the Social Evening on Friday May 1, and Saturday May 2, 2004.

Please use the Congress Registration Form to register for the meeting.

Scientific program

1. Plenary lectures:

Invited lectures, state of art type presentations.

2. Scientific sessions:

Biological therapy – *clinical experience and access in Central Europe. Presentations of the six participating countries (the presidents or other delegated lecturers) and a round table discussion.*

Organizer:

Prof. K. Pavelka (Czech Republic)

Autoimmune diseases

Organizers:

Prof B. Rozman (Slovenia) and **Prof J. Rovensky** (Slovakia)

Clinical rheumatology I.

Organizer:

Prof. A. Filipowicz-Sosnowska (Poland)

Osteoporosis

Organizer:

Dr. Gy. Poór (Hungary)

Osteoarthritis

Organizers:

Prof A. Dunky and **Prof. M. Herold** (Austria)

Clinical rheumatology II.

Organizer:

Dr. László Hodinka (Hungary)

The program of the Scientific Sessions will be arranged by the session organizers from the presentations of lecturers delegated by the respective organizer country and presentation selected from the submitted abstracts of registered participants. Video projection and double slide projection is available.

3. Posters:

Submitted works not selected for oral presentations or submitted as poster presentations will be displayed as posters.

Prepare horizontal, max 1m high and 1.5 m wide clearly readable posters, please.

A "Best Presentation Prize" will be offered.

Social program

 30 April: Opening reception

 01 May: Cultural evening

 02 May: Farewell party – all included into the registration fee

Time schedule

		01 May	02 May
8.30	9.15	Opening Main lecture 1	Main lecture 2 Main lecture 3
9.30	11.00	Scientific session 1 Biological therapy	Scientific session 4 Osteoporosis
11.30	12.30	Sponsored symposium 1 <i>Wyeth</i> Anti-TNF therapy	Sponsored symposium 3 <i>Abbott</i> Anti-TNF therapy
12.30	14.00	Lunch Poster viewing	Lunch Poster viewing
14.00	14.45	Scientific session 2 Autoimmune diseases	Scientific session 5 Osteoarthritis
15.00	16.00	Sponsored symposium 2	Sponsored symposium 4
16.15	17.00	Scientific session 3 Clinical rheumatology I.	Scientific session 6 Clinical rheumatology II.

Accommodation

Accommodation is offered in the Hotel Sofitel Atrium, Budapest (the Congress venue) as advertised in the Hotel Reservation Form. After the deadline of 2 February 2004 the Hotel will make efforts to reserve available rooms of its own capacity. In case of no free rooms or on special requests the Hotel will offer rooms in other Accor Hotels.

Airport transfer and busyness lunch are optional, may be reserved on the Form.

Send Hotel Reservation Forms and special requests to:

Sofitel Atrium Budapest

Room Reservation Office
H-1051 Budapest
Roosevelt tér 2.
Tel.: +36-1-266-8369
Fax: +36-1-266-9101
E-mail: 43229-re@accor-hotels.com

Send Registration Form and Abstract Submission Form to:

Hungarian Association of Rheumatologists (MRE)

H-1023 Budapest, Ürömi u. 56. Hungary
Fax: +36-1-336-0464
E-mail: titkarsag@mre.hu

Abstract Submission deadline: 2 February 2004

Certification of attendance

A certificate of attendance will be included in the Congress bag.

Responsibility and insurance

The organizers cannot accept any responsibility for personal injuries, or loss, or damage to private property. It is recommended that participants and accompanying persons possess travel and additional insurance of their own.

Currency and payment

The Hungarian currency is Forint (HUF). International credit cards are accepted in hotels, restaurants and major shops.

