



EPICURE e-newsletter

Issue n. 1

June 2007

**Acknowledgement of support from the European Commission contract
number LSH-CT-2006-037315 (EPICURE)
FP6 - Thematic priority LIFESCIHEALTH**

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LATEST NEWS

LET START WORKING – KICK OFF MEETING

The FP6 EPICURE contract (LSH-CT-2006-037315) started on January 1st 2007. To plan the project activities, a 'Kick Off' meeting, arranged by the Project Coordinator, Prof. Giuliano Avanzini, has been organised in San Servolo (in the Venice lagoon, Italy), from January 12 to January 14, 2007. More than 80 participants, representing the 29 partners to the project, attended the meeting. Dr Patrizia Tosetti, the European Commission Project Officer also travelled to Venice to provide advice as required. Over the course of 3 busy days, workshops focussing on the 5 subprojects took place, with discussion and debate on the workpackages included under each subproject and on general issues related to the management of the project and the dissemination of project results. At the time of the release of this newsletter, EPICURE is already organising the next Annual Meeting in Valletta, Malta, from January 10 to January 13, 2008. Details will be published on the website as soon as available.



LET EPICURE BE KNOWN ALL OVER THE WORLD

Since the beginning, the EPICURE project contributed significantly in raising public participation and awareness through a wide-ranging dissemination plan that involves all relevant stakeholders. A **project website** has been created (www.epicureproject.eu) to address not only the scientific community, but also the general public thanks to a news section and to lay language contents that will be published during the project lifetime. Partners added the **link to the EPICURE website** to their department/unit's webpages. A **flyer** and a **press release** have been issued and distributed during the main congresses and conference in the field of epileptology which took place during this period, such as the 1st Eastern Mediterranean Epilepsy Congress, Luxor (Egypt). In addition, the International Bureau of Epilepsy dedicated 2 pages of the **IE News** to the EPICURE project. The IE News is distributed in 117 countries to IBE and ILAE member associations, to selected MEPs, selected UN officials, WHO Regional Health Advisors, pharmaceutical companies, libraries and individuals.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS IN EPILEPSY

CONFERENCES AND CONGRESSES FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2007

Several scientific national and international conferences and congresses took place in the first months of the EPICURE project. The EPICURE project was well acknowledged during these events, thanks to the participation of several project investigators as part of the Scientific Committees or as speakers.

In February, the **1st East Mediterranean Epilepsy Congress** took place in Luxor (Egypt) from February 21 to 24. The following EPICURE participants attended as speakers: Dr. Wolf – CR8 CHARITE', Dr. Baulac – CR2 INSERM, Dr. Glynn – CR28 Brainwave, Prof. Avanzini – CO1 INN CB, Dr. Vezzani – CR22 IRFMN, Prof. Perucca – CR15 FMPV, Prof. Ozkara – CR14 IU. Further details on the programme could be found at <http://www.epilepsyluxor2007.org/scientificprog.html>

In April (from 12 to 14), the **London Colloquium on Status Epilepticus** took place in London, involving in the faculty, among others, the following EPICURE Investigators: Prof. Avanzini – CO1 INN CB, Prof. Dimitri Kullmann and Dr. Walker - UCL, Prof. Perucca - FMPV, Prof. Baulac – INSERM, Prof. Pitkänen – UKU, Prof. Sperk - MUI, Dr Vezzani - IRFMN, Dr Rosenow, UNIMAR

In May, the **4th Conference on Epileptogenesis** took place in Pisa (Italy) from May 23 to 26. The following EPICURE participants attended as speakers: Prof. Avanzini, Dr. De Curtis and Dr. Uva – CO1 INN CB, Dr. Beck – CR6 UKB, Dr. Bernard – CR2 INSERM, Prof. Guerrini – CR30 AOU MEYER, Dr. Vezzani – CR22 IRFMN, Prof. Simonato and Dr. Paradiso – CR19 UNIFE, Prof. Pitkanen – CR16 UKU, Dr. Kokaia – CR9 ULUND, Prof. Heinemann – CR8 CHARITE'. Further details could be found at <http://www.in.pi.cnr.it/epilepsy/>

From May 4 to May 6, 2007, “**Update Epilepsy**” took place in Zurich (Switzerland), involving, among its speakers and discussant: Prof. Avanzini and Dr. Spreafico - INN CB, Prof. Pitkanen - UKU, Dr. Lerche – UULM.MF, Prof. Serratosa - FJD-UTE, Bluemcke - FAU, Dr. Beck - UKB.

THE VI EDITION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF EPILEPSY

On **May 6** the VI edition of the **National day of epilepsy** took place in Italy, organised by the Italian League against Epilepsy (LICE).

Several initiatives were organised during the week after and before this day.

Among others, information points were present all over Italy thanks to the help of volunteers. One of them was placed at Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta, the EPICURE coordinating organisation and one at Istituto Neurologico Mondino in Pavia, which is one of the participating centre.