

## Notes and Announcements

### XXII Congress of Neurological Sciences

The XXII Congress of Neurological Sciences was held in Vancouver, June 24th - 27th, 1987. The Congress was preceded by a satellite Symposium on "Myelination and Demyelination: Implications for Multiple Sclerosis" held on June 22nd, 1987 and the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Child Neurology on June 23rd, 1987.

The first day of the Congress was devoted to three special courses, one dealing with management of chronic pain, a second focusing on evoked potentials, and the third providing a detailed update on neurogenetics. During the main part of the Congress a total of 236 free communications were presented either as poster or platform presentations.

Special lectures were delivered by **Dr. Albert Aguayo** of Montreal (A spectrum of responses to neural injury in mammalian CNS); **Dr. Roger Rosenberg** of Dallas, Texas, The Royal College Lecturer (Molecular genetics and neurological disease; recent advances); **Dr. Blaine Nashold** of Duke University, South Carolina, the Penfield Lecturer (Deafferentation pain and the dorsal horn of the spinal cord) and **Dr. Arnold Starr** of University of California, Irvine, the Special Guest of the Canadian Society of Clinical Neurophysiology (Long latency evoked potentials and cognition). **Dr. Peter Camfield** of Dalhousie University, Halifax, winner of the Julius and Katherine Metrakos Award for the Canadian League against Epilepsy, presented a Special Lecture entitled "Do all convulsive disorders need anti-convulsant therapy?"

One of the highlights of the meeting was a plenary session on "Regenerative and restorative neurology" chaired by Dr. Albert Aguayo. Speakers included **Dr. Fred Gage** of the University of California — San Diego, **Dr. Tom Reese** of N.I.H., and **Dr. Richard Stein** of the University of Alberta. Another feature of the Congress was a plenary session on amyotrophic lateral sclerosis chaired by Drs. Arthur Hudson and Andrew Eisen. This session which will be summarised in a future issue of the Journal included several well known speakers such as **Dr. Carleton Gajdusek**, **Dr. Asao Hirano**, **Dr. Peter Spencer** and **Dr. John Steele** from Guam.

The Francis McNaughton Memorial Prize of the Canadian Neurological Society was awarded to **Dr. N.M. Bornstein** of Toronto for his paper "The value of carotid Doppler ultrasound in asymptomatic extracranial artery disease". The KG McKenzie Neurosurgical Award of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society went to **Dr. M.G. Fehlings** of Toronto whose paper was entitled "Functionally significant spinal cord regeneration induced by an applied direct current field". **Dr. Tim Watson** of Calgary was the recipient of the Jasper Prize from the Canadian Society of Clinical Neurophysiologists. His paper was entitled "Investigation into the mechanism of action of somatostatin on cortical neurons". The André Barbeau Memorial Prize was presented to **Dr. G. Rouleau** of Boston for a paper entitled "Glucocorticoid excess induces preferential depletion of myosin in denervated skeletal muscle fibers".

As is customary the Canadian Association of Neurosciences Nurses held a parallel scientific meeting, and members of all the participating Societies in the Congress joined for a social

evening at the University of British Columbia Faculty Club on Friday, June 26th, 1987. In addition to a delicious salmon barbeque, this evening featured the traditional athletic event (tug-of-war) to determine the relative physical superiority of neurologists, neurosurgeons, clinical neurophysiologists, and neuroscience nurses. As is often the case, no clearly identified winner emerged from this contest.

Much credit for a very successful Congress should go to the local Arrangements Committee chaired by Dr. Stanley Hashimoto and to the Scientific Programme Committee chaired by Dr. Andrew Eisen.

### Deprenyl and Tocopherol Antioxidative Therapy of Parkinsonism (Datatop) — A New Clinical Trial

The Parkinson Study Group, a multi-institutional consortium of clinical investigators in the United States and Canada, has been awarded a five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health (NINCDS) to examine the effects of deprenyl and tocopherol as interventions that may slow or arrest early Parkinson's disease (PD). This double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial is designed for those patients with early PD who are not receiving or requiring anti-PD drugs. Eligible subjects will be evaluated at regular intervals for up to two years to determine if and when symptomatic therapies are required to treat emerging disability from PD.

DATATOP is coordinated by the University of Rochester with participation of 28 medical centers in the United States and Canada. Physicians may refer interested patients or obtain further information by writing to the DATATOP Coordination Center, University of Rochester Towne House, 1325 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 or calling toll-free 800-223-3117.

### Epilepsy Canada Parke-Davis Research Fellowship

The goal of the Epilepsy Canada Parke-Davis Research Fellowship is to develop expertise in clinical or basic epilepsy research, and to enhance the quality of care for epilepsy patients in Canada. The Fellowship is primarily a training program and is not intended for individuals holding faculty appointments. Research must be carried out at a Canadian facility with emphasis of the project on the study of epilepsy itself and not on epilepsy as part of the study of another field.

The amount of the Fellowship is \$35,000 awarded annually. The presentation of the award will be made at the annual meeting of the Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences. The applicant must have an M.D. or Ph.D. and must have completed his/her residency training. Application forms will be available September 1, 1987. Deadline for submission is December 1, 1987.

For further information please contact: Rebecca Rupp, Program Co-ordinator, Epilepsy Canada, 2099 Alexandre DeSève, Suite 27, Montreal, Quebec H2L 4K8 (514) 876-7455.

**Epilepsie Canada****Bourse de Recherche Parke-Davis**

Cette bourse de recherche d'Epilepsie Canada Parke-Davis est offerte en vue d'encourager la recherche fondamentale ou clinique et d'améliorer la qualité des soins aux personnes atteintes d'épilepsie au Canada. Il s'agit d'une bourse de perfectionnement. Elle ne s'adresse pas aux chercheurs détenant déjà un poste dans une université. La recherche doit être effectuée dans une institution canadienne; le projet doit porter sur l'étude de l'épilepsie proprement dite et non sur l'épilepsie entant que partie d'une étude sur un autre sujet.

La bourse, accordée sur une base annuelle, est de 35 000 \$. Elle sera présentée à l'assemblée annuelle du Congrès Canadien des Sciences Neurologiques. Les candidats doivent détenir le titre M.D. ou de Ph.D. et doivent avoir terminé leur entraînement en spécialité. Les formulaires de demande seront disponibles à compter du 1er septembre 1987. Les demandes devront être soumises au plus tard le 1er décembre 1987.

Pour plus amples renseignements, s'adresser à: Rebecca Rupp, Coordinatrice de Programmes, Epilepsie Canada, 2099 Alexandre DeSève, Suite 27, Montréal, Québec H2L 4K8 (514) 876-7455.