



International Society for Quality of Life Research

Volume 7 Issue 1

Newsletter for ISOQOL Members

March 2002

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*David Osoba, MD
West Vancouver, Canada*

We are nearing the midpoint of the ISOQOL year, since we measure our year from the first of November. It's spring and the Spring Meeting of The Board of the Society is upon us. (Sorry, folks in the southern hemisphere – I know it's autumn for you, but you are outnumbered, so far). So, first, here's some administrative news. Following our plans to have more committees chaired by members of the Society who are not Board members and, thus, to achieve greater opportunities for members to participate, we have continued to find new Chairs for Committees and Subcommittees. You need to know who these members are so that you can reach them with your complaints, needs, inquiries and compliments, too. They are listed in a table in this Newsletter and you can find their addresses on the ISOQOL website: www.isoqol.org. Please keep in direct touch with your organization by becoming a volunteer for one of these committees. Call or write the Chair of the Committee or Subcommittee you are interested in, or let Laura Degnon know.

Planning for this year's annual meeting in Orlando (ISOQOL IX, or ISOQOL 2002, if you prefer) is well underway. The Program Committee Co-Chairs, Carolyn Schwartz and Jeff Sloan and their Committee have done a great job in planning the meeting. Their plans include excellent plenary session speakers, adequate opportunity for proffered papers in oral and poster sessions, and a slight shortening of the length of each day. Several attendees at last year's meeting found the days to be a little long

and, hence, tiring. We have added a half-day to the meeting, so that should help. Even though each day will be shorter, more papers will be accepted and the intensity of each day should be as great as ever. Also, the Workshops will be held before the scientific meeting and this should also help those who participate to feel fresh and alert for them.

Elections are coming up. Please be sure to vote! We want the end result to truly reflect the wishes of the membership. This will only happen if each of us takes a few minutes to cast a ballot. It will not happen if only a 'vocal few' are heard from.

Finally, I feel that my message in the last Newsletter was too long, so there's only one remedy. Make this one shorter! I will quit now, and wish you a very pleasant summer, no matter what you are going to do with it!

JOIN AN ISOQOL COMMITTEE TODAY!

Interested in Participating more actively in ISOQOL? Opportunities to make change happen within the Society abound.

Visit the ISOQOL website, www.isoqol.org, click on the "ISOQOL Committees" button, and click on committee chairs' names to contact them via e-mail and express your interest today!

EDITORS COLUMN

*Ulrike Ravens-Sieberer, Berlin, Germany
Cindy Lam, Hong Kong, China
Patrick Marquis, Boston, MA (USA)
Ted Ganiats, La Jolla, CA (USA)*

Two years have passed since Mirjam Sprangers took over the editorship of the ISOQOL Newsletter. With her having done such a great job in improving our Newsletter we feel tremendously honoured to be the ones to continue her work.

So let's take a minute and look back at the development of this Newsletter during the past two years: The Newsletter has become a veritable source of information and it represents now a unique platform for communication and discussion among ISOQOL members. Still the Newsletter is growing in pages and above all in informative contents. Thank you Mirjam!

Also we would like to express our thankfulness to the ISOQOL management – without their expert support this progress hardly could have been achieved. That is why we are very glad to know them at our side in our efforts to help the Newsletter grow further. As Mirjam has stated in her farewell message, today you find not only one editor but an editing group. With each of your new editors representing a part of the globe, we hope to be capable of offering you first hand information on the wide range of worldwide ISOQOL quality of life activities and research. That way we will try to present inside information from all corners of the world, especially North-America, Europe and Asia.

Continued on page 8



The ISOQOL Newsletter is published three times a year by the International Society for Quality of Life Research with the cooperation of Degnon Associates.

Ulrike Ravens-Sieberer, PhD, MPH
Newsletter Editor
 Berlin, Germany
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Deadline for articles for our next issue is May 15, 2002

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ISOQOL Committees - 2002

Committee	Chair (Country)	Board Liaison (Country)
Communications Internet/Website Newsletter	Jane Scott (USA) Albert Wu (USA) Ulrike Ravens-Sieberer (Germany)	Albert Wu (USA)
Education Conferences/Workshops Policies/Guidelines Scholarships/Training	Claudette Varricchio (USA) Madeleine King (Australia) Ted Ganiats (USA) Diane Fairclough (USA)	Rick Berzon (USA)
Finance Fundraising Grant Development	Dennis Revicki (USA)	Not required: Treasurer's position
Health Policy and Practice Oral History Media Contacts QOL in Policy Decisions Good Practices	Frank Baker (USA) Ivan Barofsky (USA) Frank Baker (USA)/seeking chair Frank Baker (USA) Kathleen Wyrwich (USA)	David Cella (USA)
Membership	Carol Moinpour (USA)	Jordi Alonso (Spain)
Nominations and Elections	Ivan Barofsky (USA)	Not required: Past-President's position
2002 Scientific Program for Annual Meeting	Carolyn Schwartz and Jeff Sloan (USA)	David Osoba (Canada)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Clinical Significance for Quality of Life Measures in Oncology Research**
 April 5-6, 2002, Mayo Clinic Cancer Center, Rochester, MN (USA)
 Visit www.mayo.edu/cme/QOLmeeting for more information
- **International Congress on "Quality of Life in Clinical Practice"**
 April 5-7, 2002, Chalkidiki, Thessaloniki, Greece
 Contact: www.qol-congress.gr
- **International Network on Health Expectancy (REVES) Annual Meeting**
 April 24-26, 2002, Hammamet, Tunisia. Further details displayed on the REVES website, www.prw.le.ac.uk/reves.
- **Special Session on Outcomes Research/Health Service Research in Internal Medicine**
 May 28 from 2:00-4:00 pm, during the 26th International Congress of Internal Medicine (ICIM), May 26-30, 2002, Kyoto, Japan. E-mail deadline is Jan. 20, 2002 (posted abstracts deadline passed). For submission guidelines, visit the website at www.icim2002.org; e-mail: isim26@mx6.nisiq.net.
- **Quality of Life Research in Medicine Conference**
 Oct. 3-5, 2002, St. Petersburg, Russia, abstracts due May 30, 2002. For more, contact Tatyana Ionova, e-mail: tion@atlant.ru.
- ***ISOQOL 9th Annual Conference**
 Oct. 29-Nov. 3, 2002, Orlando Florida, USA, abstracts due April 30, 2002
 *Sponsored by ISOQOL

International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL)

Invitation to Attend

3rd Annual Methods Workshops

Offering Two Tracks

June 10-11, 2002, Forum Hotel, Munich, Germany

Who should attend? Social and medical scientists, government, industry and academic health care researchers, managed care administrators, health care consultants, third-party payers, policymakers, statisticians

Faculty: Paul Kind, PhD, *Centre for Health Economics, University of York, Heslington, United Kingdom*; Hanne Thorsen, MD, *Department of General Practice, Copenhagen, Denmark*; Thomas Kohlmann, PhD, *Department of Social Medicine, University of Lübeck, Germany*; Stephen McKenna, PhD, *Galen Research, Manchester, United Kingdom*; Francis Guillemin, MD, PhD, *Faculty of Medicine, Nancy, France*; Monika Bullinger, PhD, *Department of Medical Psychology, University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany*; Ulrike Ravens-Sieberer, PhD, *Research Psychologist, Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany*; Jakob B. Bjorner, MD, PhD, *National Institute of Occupational Health, Copenhagen, Denmark*; Jakob B. Bjorner, MD, PhD, *National Institute of Occupational Health, Copenhagen, Denmark*; Desmond Curran, PhD, *Department of Biostatistics, ICON Clinical Research, Dublin, Ireland*; Kathleen Wyrwich, PhD, *St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, USA*.

ISOQOL presents workshop series...

You are invited to attend the third ISOQOL-sponsored series of seminars in state-of-the-art research methods. These intermediate and advanced workshops are intended to provide a hands-on training experience for those persons interested in developing HRQL instruments, evaluating their measurement characteristics, and designing studies and analyzing data from their use within longitudinal studies.

The purpose of the workshops is to help those in the research community, private industry, managed care companies, third-party payers, policymakers, and statisticians better understand HRQL measurement and interpretation of self-report data.

The seminars are divided into two tracks. Track I includes workshops that address Introduction to Health-Related Quality of Life; Often Neglected Aspects of Questionnaire Development; Cross Cultural Issues in HRQL; Cross Cultural Issues in HRQL; and Children and Youth. Track II includes workshops that focus on Modern Psychometric Methods, Adaptive Testing, Dynamic Health Assessment, and the Internet; Item Response Theory and Rasch Models; Analysis of Longitudinal Studies With Incomplete HRQL Data; and Clinical Significance - Evaluating Change.

Eight hands-on workshops are offered during this two-day block. Registrants may select from both tracks. Each workshop will last for three hours. Participants may register for and attend only one day if desired. The workshops begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 10 and end at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11. The atmosphere of the workshops the previous two years has given many opportunities for attendees to interact with faculty and other participants. In addition, valuable workshop handouts, two lunches, one reception and several refreshment breaks are all included in the registration fees.

The workshops will be held on 10-11 June 2002 at the Forum Hotel, located at Hochstrasse 3 in Munich, Germany. Each workshop will be limited to 50 participants to allow for maximum interaction between faculty and participants.

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ISOQOL.ORG

GUEST COLUMN:

The Measurement of Quality of Life in Older Adults and Its Relationship to Healthy Aging: the “WHOQOL-OLD”

Mick Power, on behalf of the WHOQOL-OLD Group

The European Union Framework 5 program has provided major funding for the development of a measure of quality of life in older adults and for its use in a study of healthy ageing. Although the EU only provides funding for European Member States and Associated States, the project has proven of considerable interest outside the EU and now includes 22 partners from countries including China, Japan, Australia, the US, Canada, Brazil and Uruguay. In addition to a major collaboration with the WHO (Euro) office, the other centres involved in the study include centres in Edinburgh and Bath (UK), Barcelona (Spain), Paris (France), Leipzig (Germany), Umea (Sweden), Oslo (Norway), Copenhagen (Denmark), Beer-Sheva (Israel), Izmir (Turkey), Geneva (Switzerland), Prague (Czech Republic), Budapest (Hungary), and Vilnius (Lithuania).

The first main aim of the research will be to develop a reliable and valid measure of quality of life for older adults. An existing measure that has been developed simultaneously across a wide range of cultures, the WHO's WHOQOL (WHOQOL Group, 1998), will be adapted for use with older adults. There is ongoing work with the WHOQOL to adapt it for certain populations and uses, such as in the work being carried out on HIV/AIDS and the further development of the WHOQOL Spirituality module. In this context, the WHOQOL Group considered that one of the key priorities was the adaptation of the measure for use with older adults in order to develop a cross-culturally valid generic QOL measure for use with this population.

The methodology for the development of the measure will follow the process

that has now been well-established by the WHOQOL Group. This process will include an initial collection of focus group information from older adults, their carers, and relevant professionals, in 22 different participant groups. The focus group information will be used to devise a pilot Older Adults WHOQOL, in which both supplementary items for existing facets and new facets will be added initially to the WHOQOL-100. In fact, the focus group work has just been completed in the different centres, in addition to a Delphi exercise in which expert opinions were sought about gaps in the present WHOQOL instrument. This exercise has suggested that new additional facets for the pilot WHOQOL-OLD should include Sensory Functioning, additional items on Social Relationships and community participation, Control over one's environment, and Perspective on Life.

Once the pilot WHOQOL-OLD has been agreed between the participant centres over the next couple of months, data will then be collected from 300 older adults in each centre and the data will be used to test the psychometric properties of the pilot measure. The pilot data will be collected in three age groups including 60-70, 70-80, and 80+ years; in addition, data will be collected from equal numbers of ill and well and equal numbers of men and women. The collection of these data in over 20 centres will provide a substantial dataset of 6000+ respondents, which will allow further development of the instrument together with the testing of interesting hypotheses about quality of life in older adults.

A revised version of the measure will then be included in a series of field trials. The field trials will be designed to test further the psychometric properties of the WHOQOL-OLD including its test-retest reliability and sensitivity to change. In addition, they will allow the WHOQOL-OLD to be compared to a range of other measures and for the testing of universality aspects of quality of life in an older adults population.

The second main aim of the research will be to use the Older Adults WHOQOL

in a cross-cultural study of healthy ageing. One of the key demographic changes for the European Union, in addition to most other parts of the world, is the increasing proportion of older adults within the population. This group is likely to make heavy demands on welfare and health services, therefore it is crucial to examine healthy lifestyle factors on which policy can impact and thereby improve quality of life for all concerned. This study will examine a variety of characteristics of healthy ageing that include the following:

- 1) lifestyle factors such as diet, alcohol and drug use, and exercise
- 2) psychological factors such as coping style, emotion regulation, and attitudes
- 3) family and other social factors including community versus institutional settings, social network, and roles and goals
- 4) and cultural factors, including views of ageing within the culture, and social and economic policies impacting on older adults (e.g. retirement and pension policies).

One of the items of particular interest will be the examination of attitudes to ageing in different cultures and how these impact on different aspects of quality of life such as psychological and physical health, and personal and spiritual values. Pilot work on the development of an attitudes to ageing measure has already shown how older adults (at least so far in Western cultures) themselves may hold “ageist” attitudes, often without realising that their attitudes are in fact ageist as such.

Taken together, the research program will provide a reliable and valid cross-cultural measure of quality of life in older adults that can be used in a variety of normative population, policy evaluation and clinical outcome studies. The programme will also offer guidelines on healthy ageing and quality of life that should impact on policy making and research in this area.

Continued on page 8

MEMBER NEWS

Editor's Note: *This column about ISOQOL members will appear as often as there is news worthy of note. Members are encouraged to submit information about new positions, awards, assignments, and memberships of themselves and/or their colleagues.*

Please keep announcements brief, ie, one or two short paragraphs maximum length. Given space limitations, the editor reserves the right to abbreviate contributions exceeding the recommended length.

Santosh K. Chaturvedi, MD, (India) Additional Professor of Psychiatry, National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences, Bangalore, India, was awarded the Indian Council of Medical Research's Dr. Vidya Sagar Award for Mental Health, for his contributions, research and activities in the area of HRQL. The award was presented by the Honorable Minister of Health, Government of India, at a function in New Delhi, Jan. 18. Dr. Chaturvedi had organized the first ever Symposium and Workshop on Quality of Life in Health & Disease, in December 1999, and the Proceedings of the same were released in November 2000.

Ezequiel Consiglio PhD (Argentina) is coordinating "Introduction to Health-Related Quality of Life Study" on Oct. 30 through Nov. 1, 2002 in: Escuela de Salud Pública de la Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires Argentina. Waldo Beloso, MD and Rodolfo Quirós, MD, will be the instructors. For more information contact Ezequiel Consiglio, PhD, Tel: 54.11.4508.3851 Fax: +54-11-4508-3666; e-mail, econsiglio_ar@yahoo.com.

Lori Frank PhD (USA) has been named Senior Research Scientist at MEDTAP International, Inc. Her research centers on outcomes measurement for a range of conditions including depression, dementia, and gastrointestinal disorders. Dr. Frank was promoted from Research Scientist.

Mapi Research Institute (France) is organizing two training sessions on Health-related Quality of Life. The first, "Health-Related Quality of Life Assessment in Diabetes*", is the result of a collaboration with Prof. Frank Snoek, Vrije Universiteit. It will be held in Budapest, Hungary on August 31st, 2002. It is divided into two courses chaired respectively by Prof. Clare Bradley, and Prof. Frank Snoek. The latter will be more specific on HRQL assessment and depression in diabetes. Contact : smuller@mapi.fr. The second, "Health-Related Quality of Life Assessment In Asthma and COPD,**" will be held in Stockholm, Sweden on September 13th, 2002. Prof. Elizabeth Juniper will coordinate the course in collaboration with experts in the field. Contact: mmouly@mapi.fr. *sponsored by the European commission; **sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline.

Susan Mathias MPH (USA) has accepted a position as Vice President, Patient Reported Outcomes with Ovation Research Group. For over 10 years Ovation has been one of the leading health economics and outcomes research groups. Feel free to contact Susan at: smathias@ovation.org or call her at 415/435-2645.

MEDTAP® International, Inc. (USA) announces that **Chris Barker, PhD** has joined the organization in the new Palo Alto, CA satellite office as of Jan. 22, to help the firm meet its clients' growing needs for analyzing patient reported quality of life and economic data in clinical trials and other outcomes research studies. Dr. Barker will serve as Director of Statistical Research, providing statistical consulting expertise, including, linear mixed effects models, survival analysis, Cox regression and methods for analyses involving missing data, e.g., multiple imputations.

Marcie Parker, PhD, CFLE (USA) was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the Minnesota Council on Family Relations. She will be presenting at the 7th Hmong National Conference in Milwaukee Wisconsin April 14-16, 2002, on "Culturally Responsive

Healthcare: the example of the Hmong in America" [with LoNeng Kiatoukaysy].

Ljiljana Trajanovic (Yugoslavia), neuropsychiatrist, the Head of the Day Hospital, Clinic for Mental Health Protection, Clinical Center Nis, Yugoslavia has been inducted into the WPA Educational Liaisons Network for 2002.

Curtis Waycaster PhD (USA) just left Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, PA where he was an assistant professor of Pharmacy, to take a new position (Jan. 2, 2002) as a Senior Outcomes Researcher in Health Economics at Alcon Laboratories in Fort Worth Texas.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

ESRC Well-being and Development Group, Univ. of Bath, UK, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Quality of Life: Full-time

The UK Economic & Social Research Council has awarded a £2.85 million grant to Univ. of Bath to study Poverty, Inequality and Quality of Life. This 5 year program will develop a conceptual & methodological framework for understanding the social & cultural construction of well-being in Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Peru & Thailand through a collaboration of researchers in Psychology, Social Policy, Economics & International Development. The QOL work draws on 10 years experience in cross-cultural research with WHO.

We seek to appoint a Post-doctoral researcher in social/health psychology to a 3 year full-time post from October 1st 2002 (possible 2 year renewal) to focus on QOL assessment & cross-cultural psychology. The work requires quantitative, psychometric and qualitative skills. S/he will coordinate fieldwork with collaborating groups and take a lead in dissemination, publications and administration. Inquiries to Prof. Suzanne Skevington on 00-44-1225-826830: s.m.skevington@bath.ac.uk. Closing date May 1st 2002: interviews May 30th & 31st. Details from Peter Hill, Personnel, Univ. of Bath, Bath, BA2 7AY, UK: p.j.hill@bath.ac.uk.

THE SECOND NATIONAL QUALITY OF LIFE SYMPOSIUM IN CHINA

Professor Ji-qian Fang, School of Public Health, the Sun Yat-sen University, China

Mr. Kwok-fai Leung, Manager, Occupational Department, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hospital Authority, Hong Kong SAR, China

ISOQOL may be able to reach out to developing countries and Asia more by helping them develop QOL research that are most relevant to them. For example, there is an urgent need to develop a subjective health status questionnaire that incorporates the Chinese concepts of health, to facilitate further research in traditional Chinese medicine in China.

The Second National Quality of Life Symposium of the People's Republic of China was successfully held from 10 to 13 January, 2002 in Shenzhen, China. There were 390 participants from all parts of China and about twenty from overseas countries. The main theme of the conference, "Quality of Life (QOL)—Concepts, Measures and Application," was well explored in the plenary sessions. Professor Rutt Veenhoven from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands spoke on "Advances in the understanding of QOL" and "An Overview of Major QOL Theories." Dr. Tara Symonds from Pfizer Global Research & Development, Pfizer Ltd, UK gave an enlightening presentation on "Clinical Significance in QOL Measures." The other plenary presentations were "QOL Activities in Europe" by Dr. Bernard Jambon of Mapi Group; "The Application of QOL Measures in Clinical Trials and Epidemiological Research" by Dr. Harry Guess of the Merck Research Laboratories, Merck & Co., USA; and "The Concepts of Health and Indicators of Health in Chinese Medicine" by Professor Guang-xin Lu, Researcher in traditional Chinese medicine and former Vice Director of the Institute of Basic Theory of Traditional Chinese Medi-

cine, China. Other themes that were discussed in depth included "the Design and Planning of QOL Research," "QOL Research in the Elderly," "Promotion of QOL in Health Services," "QOL Research in China," and "Concepts and Selection of QOL Measures."

A topic that was unique to this meeting and of great interest to the participants was the application of QOL measures to traditional Chinese medicine (TCM). Apart from the plenary by Professor Lu, there were many other stimulating presentations by experts from China including "The 2000 WHO Health Report and Quality of Life" by Professor Rui-chong Pang, former Chancellor of the Beijing University of Medical Science; "A Review on the Current State of QOL Research in China" by Professor Ji-qian Fang of the School of Public Health of the Sun Yat-sen University; "The Need and Feasibility of Developing a Patient Report Health Status Questionnaire for Clinical research on TCM" by Professor Feng-bin Liu of the First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou University of traditional Chinese Medicine; and "Similarities and Differences in Health Concepts between the East and the West" by Professor Hong-zhong Qiu of the Guangzhou University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. The discussion concluded with a one-hour forum, which came to the consensus that there was an urgent need to develop a subjective health status questionnaire that incorporates the Chinese concepts of health, to facilitate further research in TCM.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for over 60 researchers to present their work on QOL at the free paper sessions. The second National QOL symposium was a greater success in terms of its size and scientific standard suggesting that there was rising interest and development in QOL research in China. We are looking forward to welcoming many old and new QOL researchers from China and other parts of the world in the third Chinese National QOL Symposium to be held in 2004. Further information on the symposium and presentations are available on the web site: <http://www.Gzsums.edu.cn/public/qol/qol/htm>.

QUALITY OF LIFE WORKSHOP IN SINGAPORE

Dr. Melvin Toh

Pharmaceutical Development Centre, Pharmacia (Singapore)

The Pan-Pacific Conference of the ISOQOL in Tokyo, 2001 has created opportunities for collaboration among QOL researchers in Asia. One of this was the Quality of Life Workshop held in Singapore leading to the establishment of AQUARIUS (Asian QUALITY of Life Research Initiatives Utilizing Synergies) to allow Asian HRQOL researchers to collaborate in & share research, to raise awareness and to train future researchers in order to promote patient-related outcomes research in Asia.

A Quality of Life Workshop on "QoL Assessment in Clinical Trials for Global Drug Development" was conducted in Singapore on 8 December 2001. Sponsored by Pharmacia Corporation, it was a full-day workshop attended by Quality of Life researchers from around Asia. Participants came from Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, Japan & the United States. Topics covered at the workshops included regulatory perspectives and harmonization efforts in Health-related Quality of Life (HRQOL) research. A section of the workshop featured short presentations by regional researchers on their HRQOL research, involving the translation & validation of HRQOL instruments into different Asian languages. Common problems encountered when translating existing QoL instruments into Asian languages were highlighted, including inappropriate questions that could be invalid, embarrassing or irrelevant to the local population. Methodology issues were also raised for future discussion: What is the standard of validation required for registration purposes? What is expected in terms of "clinical meaningfulness"? How do we pool data across countries? What are future regulatory standards for the acceptance of Patient-Reported Outcomes data?



~ Call for Abstracts ~

**Submit Abstracts Online
at www.isoqol.org**



~ Wednesday: Workshops &
Opening Reception
~ Thursday through Saturday:
Invited Speakers, Symposium Sessions, Debates,
Panel Discussions, Papers & Posters

The International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL) invites you to our 9th Annual Conference at the Caribe Royale Resort Suites & Villas in Orlando, Florida, USA. Join colleagues in the field of HRQL for state-of-the-art lectures by distinguished professionals.

Plenary Topics Include: *What are the Primary Alternative Theoretical Models of QOL? ~ What are the Contributions of Qualitative Methods to QOL Research? ~ Is There a Relationship Between Findings of Patient Quality of Life and Adherence/Compliance within Clinical Research Studies?*

~ New for 2002 - Call for Workshops and Symposia ~

ISOQOL Conference ~ October 30 - November 2, 2002

Plan now to attend the 9th Annual Conference of the International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL). The meeting will be held at the Caribe Royale Resort Suites & Villas in festive Orlando, Florida. Special sleeping room rates of \$149 US are being offered for ISOQOL meeting attendees. Orlando is the playground for all ages and ISOQOL is planning activities for family members and friends.

March, 2002 ~ Call for abstracts (submit abstracts on-line: www.isoqol.org)

April 30, 2002 ~ Abstracts due (**DEADLINE EXTENDED!**)

June 30, 2002 ~ Notifications sent about abstracts

July 30, 2002 ~ Early registration deadline

ISOQOL is committed to promoting excellence in quality of life research, by developing a peer-reviewed program of state-of-the-art presentations and by offering the following programs:

~ **Early Career Investigator Awards** ~ **Scholarship Program** ~ **Mentoring Program**

If you know of someone who might want to submit an abstract and get involved in ISOQOL, please let us know and we will gladly add them to our list!

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ISOQOL WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS SINCE DECEMBER 15, 2001:

Rikard Althin

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High Wycome, Buckinghamshire
United Kingdom

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Albert Bailey BS, MA

Science Applicatoins International Corp
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Beate Bestmann MA

Deference Center Quality of Life
Kiel Germany

Joan Bloom PhD

University of California, Berkley
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Nigel Bush

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle WA (USA)

Gilbert Carrara

Battalia Winston
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Hilary Colwell MPH

Ovation Research Group
San Francisco CA (USA)

Montserrat Ferrer MPU

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Health Care Financing Administration
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WHO Field Centre for the Study of QOL
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Christian Schmidt

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Mehul Soni

Institute for Health Services Research &
Policy Studies
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Sally Stapley MSc

CHSR, University of Newcastle
Newcastle-on-Tyne United Kingdom

Erin Sullivan MPH, PhD

Boston Scientific Corporation
Natick MA (USA)

Saskia Teunisse PhD

University of Aberdeen, Psychology Dept
Aberdeen United Kingdom

Vilayvanh-Celine Vetsmany

MAPI Research Institute
Boston MA (USA)

Marjan Westerman Mphil

Vrije Unversity/EMGO/Soc Medicine
Amsterdam The Netherlands

Kathleen Yost PhD

Evanston Northwestern Healthcare
Research Institute
Evanston IL (USA)

Maarten Yzerman PhD

Roessingh Research and Development
Buschede The Netherlands

Editors Column

continued from page 1

It is the aim of whole Newsletter group to present you three Newsletter issues annually. We would like to invite you to contribute by providing reviews, articles, or announcements on ISOQOL related meetings that might be interesting to all of us to be published.

We wish you a pleasant reading!

**If you have a colleague
that would be interested in
joining the Society, please
have him/her contact
ISOQOL
at info@isoqol.org**

Deadline Extended for Catherine Pouget Research Award



Description

The Catherine Pouget award is intended to encourage young investigators to study the impact of quality of care on, or to improve the quality of

life of the terminally ill. Applicants may include students, degree candidates, fellows, or faculty members early in their research. The selection committee will consider a wide range of research projects including studies of the impact of interventions on the quality of life of the terminally ill and studies of measures and determinants of quality of life and patients'/families' perspectives about the quality of care and or life experiences.

The **Application Due Date** for this award has been extended to April 30, 2002. Announcements of funding will be made in the Quality of Life Newsletter (QOLNL) of September 2002. Visit the ISOQOL website and click on the "awards" button for further details.

Guest Column

continued from page 4

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