

Fostering networking activities in dermatology

20 years' experience

The Fondation René Touraine (FRT) is a non-profit organisation founded in 1991 by Louis Dubertret and recognised as being of public utility by the French government. Its activities are developed thanks to the income of an endowment capital of €2,5m. As a public utility organisation, the FRT's endowment is controlled by the government and donations to it can be deducted from taxes, which makes FRT a safe and convenient organisation.

FRT is supervised by a Board of Directors, where three Ministries are represented. Two dermatologists are present on the board: Professor Louis Dubertret and Professor Erwin Tschachler (Secretary General of EADV).

FRT works through a Scientific Board integrating high-profile personalities in dermatology from all over Europe. Irene Leigh (UK) has been chosen as President for the next two years and Thomas Luger (Germany) as President-elect. Gerhard Tappeiner (Austria) has taken the position of Secretary-General for the next four years.

Core activities

The aim of the Fondation René Touraine is to connect people in order to improve healthcare access and quality. In addition to the 96 fellowships awarded for a total of €567.000 to 24 countries, the Fondation hosts every year a very high-level scientific meeting on a different skin cell and sponsors, in collaboration with the European Society for Dermatological Research (ESDR): the ESDR René Touraine lecture. The FRT has built a worldwide directory connecting

more than 1000 opinion leaders in dermatology in collaboration with the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) and the "WHO & HOW" worldwide directory of opinion leaders in dermatology.

Networking health services

In addition, FRT focuses on three networking actions, driven by three specific committees within the Scientific Board:

- **Psoriasis International Network** (joint action with the **EADV Psoriasis Task Force**)
- **Together Against Genodermatoses - Europe and Mediterranean**, supported since 2008 by the European Union (grant agreement TAG 2007335)
- **e-dermatology portal**, a project opening exchanges on the management of skin diseases all over the world, hopefully in collaboration with the EADV.

The main goals of networks such as Psoriasis International Network and Together Against Genodermatoses are:



Participants at the Together Against Genodermatoses Meeting, Rome, 22-23 October 2010

- to foster the development of specific outpatient consultations once a week for genodermatoses and psoriasis in each dermatology dept in the world.
- to share information and expertise by connecting the experts in charge of these consultations through national and international networks.
- to develop, through these networks, training activities and clinical and therapeutic research.
- to foster the organisation of regular national, regional or international meetings to discuss difficult cases and collaborative projects.

The e-dermatology portal network aims to be a permanent e-congress focusing on the management of skin diseases. This portal is based on the translation into English of Prof Dubertret's book *Thérapeutique Dermatologique*, written by 333 authors and made



National co-ordinators' meeting at PSO 2010 Congress, Paris, 1-4 July 2010

Fondation René Touraine and EADV

available online for free by the Fondation René Touraine in 2005. This e-book has become a reference in French-speaking countries, with 1 million visits per year from 137 countries. Once translated, this book will integrate comments from experts from all over the world and will be open to discussion on the different therapeutic strategies, in order to give value to the diversity of opinions and expertise as well as to consensus and guidelines.

FRT and healthcare strategy

Thanks to the success of the Together Against Genodermatoses network, the

Fondation René Touraine has been nominated as an expert of EUCERD - European Union Committee of Experts on Rare Diseases. One of the new developments and major challenges in medicine nowadays is the constitution of health care networks not only in rare diseases but also in common ones.

This seems the best way to co-ordinate all European efforts in dermatology in order to:

- 1) improve access to skin care in collaboration with patient associations
- 2) improve medical training

3) better defend the specialty.

FRT looks forward to a lasting collaboration with EADV to better serve dermatology and patients. ●

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Scientific Board Committees

Psoriasis International Network Committee:

President: C Paul (France)

President-elect: L Naldi (Italy)

Members: M Bagot (France),
C Griffiths (UK), L Kemeny (Hungary),
T Luger (Germany), L Puig (Spain)

Genodermatoses Committee:

President: J Bauer (Austria)

President-elect: C Bodemer (France)

Members: L Bruckner-Tudermann (Germany), A Hovnanian (France),
M Jonkman (The Netherlands),
S Karpati (Hungary), I Leigh (UK),
J Mellerio (UK), H Trauppe (Germany),
G Zambruno (Italy)

e-Dermatology Portal Committee:

President: S Aractingi (France)

President-elect: P Filipe (Portugal)

Members: L Borradori (Switzerland),
N Dupin (France),
M de Rie (The Netherlands),
G Tappeiner (Austria)



2011 Joint AAD/EADV International Symposium



Please join us on Thursday, 3 August 2011 during the
American Academy of Dermatology
Summer Meeting, 3-7 August 2011, New York

World renowned dermatologists from Europe and the United States will take the stage to present a variety of cutting-edge topics in medical dermatology.

Registration for AAD members and non-members is now open.

For more information, please visit www.aad.org.