ECH Autumn Meeting and Symposium

17-18 November 2017

Prague, Czech Republic

European Committee for Homeopathy

Venue



Grand Majestic Plaza Hotel
Truhlářská 16
110 00 Praha 1
Czech Republic

Phone: +420 211 159 100
Fax: +420 211 159 159
E-mail: reception@hotel-grandmajestic.cz
Website: www.hotel-grandmajestic.cz/en/

How to get there?

Arrival by Train
From Hlavní Nádraží train station or Nádraží Holešovice train station: Take underground C (Red line) to Florenc station, where you change the line from C (red) to B (yellow), then travel to Náměstí Republiky (1 stop).

Arrival by public transport
Take bus No. 100 from the airport to the terminal metro stop Zličín where you change to the metro Zličín, B line (yellow), then travel to Náměstí Republiky (12 stops).

Hotel Accommodation

Please note that hotel bookings do not go through the ECH Secretariat but a reservation form must be sent to the hotel. The reservation form is available in the attached document.

Dinner



The Dinner on Friday, November 17 will be held on 'Prague Boats'.
Enjoy Prague's beautiful sights by night!
Rate: € 45,00 per person

Includes:

- 3-Hours Cruise
- Buffet Dinner with Czech and International dishes
- Welcome Drink
- Unlimited consumption of Beer, Wine, Softs, Water, Coffee and Tea

PLACES ARE LIMITED

RESERVATION IS MANDATORY THROUGH THE REGISTRATION FORM:
http://www.eiseverywhere.com/ech-prague

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Friday 17 November	
9.00-16.00	Council meeting (only for Council members)
16.30-18.00	Subcommittee sessions
19.00	Dinner – Reservation is mandatory - € 45,00

Saturday 18 November HOMEOPATHIC CLINICAL CASES REPORTS AND COLLECTION: A NECESSITY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HOMEOPATHY Moderator: Hélène Renoux	
09.00	Introduction by Dr Anna Pla ECH Research subcommittee co-ordinator
09.10	Brief presentations of guidelines and ongoing projects HOM-CASE CARE Guideline; quality criteria in homeopathic clinical case reports Dr Robbert Van Haselen Identification of 'best homeopathic cases' within a registration project in the Netherlands Dr Christien Klein-Laansma Homeopathic Clinical Case Reports And Collection: Assessing Effectiveness Of Homeopathy Dr Anna Pla
10.20	Questions and Answers
10.30	Coffee Break
11.00	Clificol: The Tool and first result of cases investigation – ECH 18 November 2017 Dr Carlo Rezzani
	Empirium – Research and quality improvement through case documentation **(CANCELLED)** Dr Rainer Schäferkordt
11.40	Questions and Answers
11.50	Collection and analysis of a large set of clinical cases (Vithoulkas Compass) Drs Theodore Lilas & Leifteiris Tapakis
12.30	Questions and Answers
12.40	Conclusion Dr Hélène Renoux – ECH President
13.00	Lunch Buffet - Reservation is mandatory - € 25,00
14.00	Sub-Committee Sessions
15.30	Coffee Break
16.00	Sub-Committee Sessions
18.00	End of Day

Sunday 19 November	
9.00-12.00	Council Meeting (only for Council members)

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Speakers and abstracts



Dr Anna Pla was graduated as medical doctor at University of Barcelona in 1981 and is working in homoeopathy at own private clinic in Barcelona since then.

She started studying homeopathy with Jacques Imberechts groups of Homeopathia Europea and Internationalis in 1978 and later on in the AMHB (Academy of Homoeopathic Medicine of Barcelona) and with Paschero, Proceso S. Ortega and Eugenio Candegabe.

She has been co-ordinator of working teams in homoeopathic clinical research and study and teaching homeopathy in several universities and seminars in Europe.

Co-ordinator of sub-committee Research of ECH (European Committee for Homeopathy) since November 2014.

Member of the Board of the Homeopathic Section of C.O.M.B.

She has 2 international prizes for her research on homoeopathic treatment of asthma.

Abstract

Homeopathic Clinical Case Reports And Collection: Assessing Effectiveness Of Homeopathy

CCDHom – Barcelona Project

Publication and collection of clinical cases of high quality is a priority to better document EVIDENCE based homeopathy from “real life” and also, but not only, as first step towards other clinical studies

This project started in Barcelona in November 2014; since last year, several teams are applying the consensus guidelines to new or published case reports.

The main targets are,

1. to improve quality of clinical cases (case reports)
2. to enhance publication of good clinical cases
3. bank of data of quality available to the homeopathic community

Our team is also promoting and supporting new teams over Spain.

We meet monthly and share clinical cases checking them according the guidelines.

This work promote the generation and presentation of high quality clinical cases.

We will present the conclusions after one year of periodical sessions analyzing our own or journal case reports and checking the guidelines and case collection (CliFiCol).

Our challenge is to spread the project and data and involve interested teams and people at Local, National and European level.

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Dr Robbert Van Haselen



Robert Van Haselen is a Dutch epidemiologist and homeopath. He has held positions as Deputy Director for Research at the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital, Co-ordinator of the Research Subcommittee of ECH, Head of Research of Heel and Chief Editor of the Journal "Complementary Therapies in Medicine".

At present, Robert is the Director of the International Institute for Integrated Medicine, Chair of the Clinical Documentation Committee of the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States (HPUS), Director of the World Integrated Medicine Forum and Chair of the Collaboration Steering Group between HPUS and the Indian Ministry for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy.

Robert Van Haselen is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal "Homeopathy", the International Society for Complementary Medicine Research and the Netherlands Epidemiological Society.

Robert is fluent in English, French, Spanish, German and Dutch.

Abstract

HOM-CASE CARE Guidelines; quality criteria in homeopathic clinical case reports

Introduction: There is a need to improve the quality and reliability of clinical case reports for both teaching and research purposes. The HOM-CASE CARE reporting guideline was developed for homeopathic clinical cases.

Objective: Explaining why the HOM-CASE CARE guideline in conjunction with 'critical thinking' are prerequisites for improving the reporting and analysis of clinical cases in homeopathy.

Method:

The development of the HOM-CASE CARE guideline will be explained.

Critical thinking involves the constructive exploration of possible biases in medical decision making. The need to apply 'critical thinking' to case analysis will be illustrated

Conclusion/ Discussion:

Applying clinical case reporting guidelines in conjunction with critical thinking to case analysis can contribute significantly to improving homeopathy's evidence base.

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Dr Christien Klein-Lansmaa



Christien participated in clinical research on homeopathic treatment since 2007. Her main project is about homeopathic treatment of women with Premenstrual Syndrome, in collaboration with the Louis Bolk Institute, Bunnik, the Netherlands.
In 2015-2016, she coordinated a project on practice based registration and case reporting for the Dutch association of doctors for integrative medicine (AVIG), department of homeopathy, with a follow-up conference in 2017.
Christien graduated as a medical doctor in 1982, worked in a psychiatric hospital and as a teacher in medical subjects for nurses. In 1990 she started to study homeopathy. In 1993 she started as a homeopathic doctor in a private practice in Oosterbeek, the Netherlands. She was president of the Dutch Homeopathic Doctor's Association from 2000-2004.
At the ECH conference she will report about the recent developments of the Dutch project on practice-based registration and case-reporting.

Abstract

Identification of 'best homeopathic cases' within a registration project in the Netherlands

Starting April 2015, 25 doctors for Integrative Medicine, specialised in homeopathy, participated in a practice-based registration pilot project (PRO) in the Netherlands. They registered details of a maximum of 20 patients each, with 6 months follow-up per patient (and extended follow-up for 'best homeopathic cases'), in an Excel sheet or in the Homeopathic Administration and Registration Program (HARP).
Informed consent was obtained from each patient. Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) were: general health on a 0-100 VAS-scale and change of main complaint on a 7-point Likert scale. 'Best homeopathic cases' were defined by: treatment with one homeopathic medicine only, ≥2 months follow-up, result score +2 -+4 on a 9-point Likert scale by the doctor and changes could be attributed to the homeopathic medicine.

399 patients were included, 195 patients were treated with a single homeopathic medicine only. In these, 66 'best homeopathic cases' were identified, 14 with psychological complaints (including sleep) as a main diagnosis, 10 with 'fatigue' and 11 with respiratory tract complaints.

In March 2017 a follow-up conference about registration and case-reporting was organised in the Netherlands for doctors for Integrative Medicine including homeopathy. Participants reported cases, using a case report form based on the HOMCASE-CARE guidelines. The adapted Naranjo algorithm was used to assess causality.

Christien Klein-Laansma, Lex Rutten, Paul Fruijtier, Huib Wijtenburg.

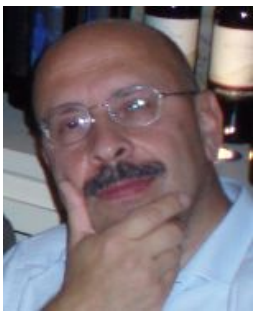
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Dr Carlo Rezzani



Dr. Carlo Maria Rezzani born on the 19th of May ,1954 in Carate Urio, (CO) ITALY.

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Medical Doctor with medicine degree at the University of Milano and qualifying examination to medical practice. Homeopath since 1978.

Homoeopathic introductory course, Teachers Jacques Imberechts, Carlo Cenerelli, Mario Garlasco

He participated from 1977 till 1985 to the Homeopathia Europea Seminars. Founder member of the Lycopodium Group, Homoeopathia Europea (since then he has actively participated to all group seminars).

Buenos Aires (Argentina): from April till November 1982 he frequented the Tomas Pablo Paschero School, the A. Masi Elizalde seminars, and some seminars with Dr. Eizayaga and Dr. Solvey.

In Florence, from November 1982 till April 1985 he frequented the A. Masi Elizalde International schools and he has received the diploma. From 1985 he is member of the “Instituto des Altos

Estudios Homeopathicos J.T. Kent

Namur: 1° Congress on Clinical Research; he presented a project on a computerized clinical file: this project became C.H.I.P (Computerized Homeopathic Investigation Program).

Como (Italy) and Haifa (Israel), Seminars with J. Reves from 1986 till 1990.

Bruxelles, he was invited to the Belgium Royal Society to present the clinical file WinCHIP, with a lecture “Dossier clinique médical informatisé: avantage pour le patient, facilité pour le médecin, et…progrès pour l’homéopathie ! ”

Como and Bruxelles: he coordinated the extension in the conventional medical fields of the WinCHIP Clinical File. WinCHIP became Computerized Health Investigation Program.

Barcelona, European Committee for Homeopathy Congress: presented a work on Clificol (Clinical File collection).

Now he practices homeopathy and coordinate the RadarOpus Creative Team inside the Zeus software company.

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Abstract

Clificol: The Tool and first result of cases investigation – ECH 18 November 2017

Author: Carlo Maria Rezzani

Background
Clificol is an International databank able to store and analyze clinical cases collected from over 30.000 RadarOpus users and in future from any homeopath via dedicated web page.

The homeopath will first collect the data in WinCHIP which guarantees the completeness of information with the standardization of the information (thanks to the use of dedicated pick list). The stored data will be validated by WinCHIP and after will be sent to Clificol databank where it will be however checked by a qualified staff in order to ensure the integrity of all the data.

Description
We analyze the output of the data from different side:

- Epidemiological: patient age, gender, acute and chronic illness distribution
- Homeopathic: frequency of prescription, guiding symptoms and methodological approach that we consider important for the completeness of the case.

Results/ Conclusion/ Discussion
The Author will show the case created with the help of technology aiming to obtain high quality data, though considering the open problems that the homeopathic research involves.

The collected data in its completeness will be the object of study.

Keywords
Clificol, WinCHIP, RadarOpus, data collection, Homeopathic international database, case analysis, clinical methodology, objective and subjective information.

Dr Theodore Lilas
Email: lilas@aegean.gr



Dr. Theodore Lilas is Assistant Professor at Aegean University in the field of Computer Science. He is an Electrical and Computer Engineer from National Technical University of Athens. He holds MSc in Computer Science from Columbia University, New York, where he received graduate research assistantship from Center for Telecommunications Research for Student Electronic Notebook, a predecessor of tablets from IBM. His PhD thesis at NTUA was supported with research assistantship from General Secretary for Research and Technology in the field of artificial intelligence enhancing robotics with computer vision. Has participated in several National and European research projects including expert systems, telemedicine and robotics rehabilitation projects. Has also worked as consultant in industry and participated in intelligent automation projects. Since 2005 is teaching Computer Science and Telematics at Aegean University and in 2012 has been elected Assistant Professor in the same University. Research focuses on intelligent autonomous systems. Since 2011 he is coordinating R&D for VithoulkasCompass expert system algorithms and research in data mining clinical cases.

Dr Leifteiris Tapakis



Lefteris Tapakis is a medical doctor practicing exclusively classical homeopathy since 2005. He graduated from the Medical School of Thessaloniki where he studied as a scholar of the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY). He continued his studies in the International Academy of Classical Homeopathy (IACH) from where he got his Diploma in homeopathy. He also has a Master's Degree in Homeopathy from the University of the Aegean, Greece.

He currently works as a private homeopathic practitioner in Athens, Greece.

He is also the homeopathic coordinator of the project Vithoulkas Compass, a web-based tool for homeopathic practitioners. He is very much interested in improving the homeopathic repertory and in clinical research in homeopathy.

Abstract

Collection and analysis of a large set of clinical cases

Tapakis L.1, Lilas T., 2

Member of Hellenic Homeopathic Medical Society, Chalandri, Greece,

University of the Aegean, Chios, Greece,

Introduction
Online case taking and case keeping in a platform used by a large number of homeopathic practitioners offer the possibility of large-scale gathering of clinical data. Analyzing clinical cases serves mostly two major goals: 1) to provide useful evidence regarding the effectiveness of homeopathic treatment and 2) improvement of materia medica and repertory from clinical experience.

Method
Utilizing VithoulkasCompass online homeopathy platform, which has been on the web as a support toolbox for homeopathic practitioners since 2011. Users of the platform submit anonymously cases that are collected in a database.

Results – Discussion
Working in this field VithoulkasCompass team has released three Research Bulletins and has made announcements in homeopathic conferences. The results concern the following:

Repertory improvement: Particular attention is given to the repertory, as a reliable repertory is crucial for homeopathic practice. Clinical experience has been a valuable source for repertory additions (apart from information from toxicology and provings). Therefore, analysis of cases stored in the database provide a way to create what we can call an evidence based repertory. This can be done through statistical feedback from cases (by assessment of the effectiveness of the treatment) in order to confirm relationships between remedies and adjust the degree of symptoms and keynotes. User feedback has also relieved the real usage of the repertory, which has showed that even in a concise repertory; only a small portion of the whole repertory is widely used.

Further on, epidemiological information has been revealed for people who seek homeopathic treatment in different regions (like age, gender, geographical distribution etc.). Analysis of certain pathologies (like headache, depression and panic attacks) provided useful information on most commonly prescribed remedies, mostly used rubrics etc. Another contribution of VC database has been to provide data to T. Hoover et al., for validating the value of Homeopathic Pathogenetic Trials as prognostic indicators in homeopathy, work that is supported by HPUS. Overall, collection and analysis of clinical cases is promising for improving the repertory and for everyday practice, and as more studies are conducted, more results can be utilized in our community.