



WHL · NEWSLETTER

News from the World Hypertension League (WHL).
A division of the International Society of Hypertension, and in official relations with the
World Health Organization.

No. 104, December 2005

WHL Focus Edition World Hypertension Day



The first annual World Hypertension Day (WHD) 2005 was a resounding success, with 25 countries reporting their participation: Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, India, Iran, Italy, Lithuania, Myanmar, Paraguay, Peru, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, and the United States.

The purpose of WHD is to communicate the importance of hypertension and its serious medical complications, and to provide information on its prevention, detection and treatment. To this end, an enormous number and variety of activities were developed and implemented in many countries world wide. They ranged from featuring blood-pressure checks, informative talks, poster and brochure distribution, demonstrations of exercises for hypertension patients, recipe contests, and many more. Often, these activities resulted from cooperations of health care professionals, media, volunteer organizations and governmental institutions.

In this and the following editions of the WHL Newsletter, the WHL is pleased to feature the WHD 2005 activities of various countries. The first report is about the **Hypertension Committee of the National Heart Foundation (NHF) of Bangladesh**. Their Chairman, Professor R.K. Khandaker, organized the program.

Observation of WHD included arrangement of a rally and seminars, heart camps, a discussion

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WHL News

During the WHL Board meeting in June this year, a new Secretary General was elected. After serving for 10 years on this position, Dr. Patrick J. Mulrow stood no longer for election. New Secretary General as of December 2005 is Dr. Arun Chockalingam.



Arun Chockalingam

Dr. Arun Chockalingam, born in Kandamur, Tamilnadu, India moved to Canada in 1977. He is involved in hypertension prevention and control at the local, regional, national and international level since 1980, and works with the WHL since 1985. Currently, he is the Professor and Director of Global Health at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.



Patrick J. Mulrow

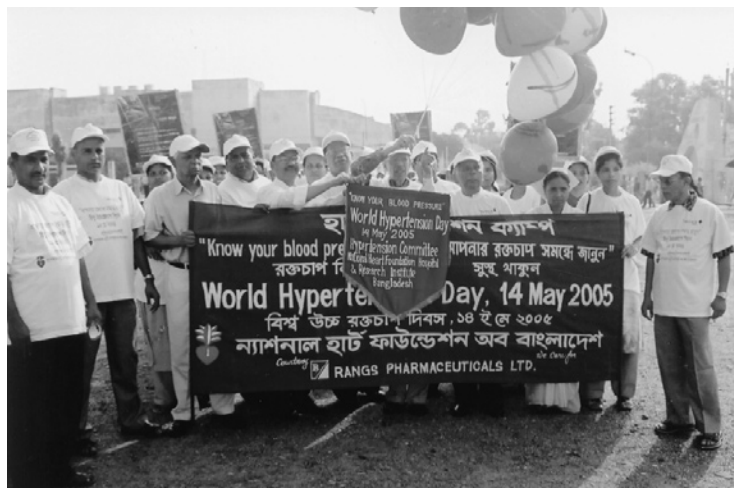
For the last ten years **Dr. Patrick J. Mulrow** has served the League as its Secretary General. His tireless commitment to promote the aims and goals of the League has been truly exceptional; during his tenure, the League has increased its membership and also its activities.

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World Hypertension Day continued

program regarding significance of hypertension management and control on national radio and television, along with an art competition. A poster and a pamphlet on hypertension were also pub-



Inauguration of observance of WHD 2005 by the rally

lished. Several affiliated bodies of the National Heart Foundation also observed similar programs at a district level.

The activities of the WHD began with a colorful rally from Sher-e Bangla National Stadium to the National Heart Foundation Hospital & Research Institute. About 300 people attended the rally from various groups of society. Prof. R.K. Khandaker, Prof. K.M.H.S. Sirajul Haque and Prof. Brig. Abdul Malik, along with other prominent physicians and cardiologists, led the rally. The rally passed through important roads of the locality and participants were wearing T-shirts and caps printed with World Hypertension Day messages.

After the rally, a general seminar on hypertension control was arranged at the auditorium of the National Heart Foundation Hospital and Research Institute. Mr. Mizanur Rahman Sinha, State Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh, attended the seminar as chief guest. Mr. Sarwar Kamal, Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh, and the World Health Organization Representative & Chief Mission to Bangladesh attended the general seminar as special guests.

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There were about 300 participants in the seminar: Among them local opinion leaders, such as

school teachers, religious heads, government and non-government employees, along with health professionals, such as nurses and paramedics. The prize giving ceremony for the art competition was held during the seminar.

The NHF may be reached at Plot 7/2, Section 2, Mirpur, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh; Tel: (+880-2) 806 1314-6, (+880-2) 805 3935-6; Fax: (+880-2) 801 6694; e-mail: nhf@bdonline.com.

Dr. Claude Lenfant
President, WHL

WHD Activity report from Canada

With numerous activities around the country, the WHD in Canada was a big success: Public and private partners worked together enthusiastically to raise awareness of high blood pressure. A total of 25,000 posters and 310,000 brochures were distributed across the country with the help of family physicians, general practitioners and sales forces of the participating pharmaceutical companies during the week before WHD. On May 10, 2005, the WHD was launched by the national Minister of Health. This event was



(From left to right) **Dr. George Fodor** (WHL, Canadian Hypertension Society), **Dr. Terry Ruddy** (Blood Pressure Canada), **Dr. Arun Chockalingam** (WHL, National Coordinator of WHD in Canada), **The Honourable Ujjal Dosanjh** (Canadian Minister of Health), **M. Stephan Samis** (Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada), **Dr. Richard Lewanczuk** (Canadian Hypertension Society) and **Dr. Denis Drouin** (Société québécoise d'hypertension artérielle, Canada)

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World Hypertension Day continued



Minister of Health, Ujjal Dosanjh's blood pressure – cool under pressure. Dosanjh had his blood pressure measured to mark World Hypertension Day on Parliament Hill on May 10, 2005, with fellow colleagues, health care professionals, researchers and voluntary and private sector representatives.

broadly covered by the media, including the blood pressure measurement of various members of parliament and the Minister himself. Blood pressure screening was also conducted in the community, reaching out to thousands of people.

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WHL News continued

The League has greatly benefited from his service and his tremendous experience as a distinguished hypertension researcher, as an academic leader, and as a doctor so entirely devoted to his patients. Fortunately, Dr Mulrow will remain a member of the League's Board.

Report from the WHL Regional Meeting in Beijing, China, on October 16, 2005

The main theme of the symposium was "Hypertension in Women;" however, other topics were also presented. Representatives from six WHL countries were on the program: Bangladesh, Canada, China, Mexico, Slovakia and the United States. The majority of the scientific presentations were from various hypertension units in China. It was an excellent program.

Many thanks goes to Dr. Liu Lisheng and her colleagues for their kind hospitality and for the most interesting tours of a hypertension science laboratory and outpatient clinics.



(WHL delegates from left to right) Dr. Martin Rosas Perata (Mexico), Dr. Jesus Martinez Reding (Mexico), Dr. Stefan Farsky (Slovakia), Dr. Patrick J. Mulrow (USA), Dr. Liu Lisheng (China), Prof. R.K. Khandaker (Bangladesh), Dr. Arun Chockalingam (Canada)

Dr. Patrick J. Mulrow
Secretary General, WHL

Comment on Report from Member Leagues – Newsletter No. 102/2005

The report entitled "Physicians Knowledge and Attitudes about Hypertension in Middle Eastern Countries" from Dr. M. Mohsen Ibrahim was done and followed-up by the Eastern Mediterranean Network on Heart Health based on a suggestion by Dr. Arun Chockalingam from Canada who sent us the whole manual and questionnaires.

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People

Dr. Cheng-Wen Chiang has been elected President of the **Taiwan Society of Cardiology**. Dr. Sheng-Hsiung Sheu is the first Vice-President and Dr. Tsui-Lieh Hsu is the second Vice President. The mailing address remains the same: 7F, No. 27, Min-Chuan West Road, Taipei 104, Taiwan.

Phone: (+886-2) 259 76177
 Fax: (+886-2) 259 76180
 E-mail: tsoc@tsoc.org.tw

The **Uruguayan Hypertension Committee** has a new mailing address: Dr. Ariel J. Reyes, President, Sotelo 3908, 11700 Montevideo, Uruguay.

Phone: (+598-2) 336 2263
 Fax: (+598-2) 336 2341
 E-mail: ajreyes@internet.com.uy

Impressum

The objectives of the WHL are to promote the detection, control and prevention of arterial hypertension in populations. The World Hypertension League (WHL) is a federation of leagues, societies and other national bodies devoted to this goal. Individual membership is not possible. The WHL is a division of the International Society of Hypertension (ISH), and is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO).

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Claude Lenfant (Gaithersburg), President
 Liu Lisheng (Beijing), Vice-President
 Peter Sleight (Oxford), Past President
 Arun Chockalingam (Vancouver), Secretary General

Members:

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 Lawrence Beilin (Perth), Michael Alderman (New York)

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Patrick J. Mulrow (Toledo)
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 Jörg Pöttsch (Berlin), Communications

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Calendar

International Stroke Conference 2006

February 16–18, 2006
 Kissimmee, FL, USA

Information: American Heart Association
 (AHA) 7272 Greenville Avenue
 Dallas, TX 75231-4596, USA
 E-mail: strokeconference@heart.org
 Website: <http://strokeconference.org>

WHL Regional Meeting with the 10th Annual Meeting of the Egyptian Hypertension Society

April 4, 2006
 Cairo, Egypt

Information: Mrs. Rehab Mohamed
 EHS Secretariat, 1 El-Diwan Street
 Garden City, Cairo, Egypt
 Fax: (+202) 794-8879
 E-mail: ehs@link.net

15th European Meeting on Hypertension

June 12–16, 2006
 Madrid, Spain

Information: AISC & MGR – AIM Group
 Via A. Ristori 38, 00197 Rome, Italy
 Phone: (+390-6) 809 681
 Fax: (+390-6) 808 8491
 E-mail: esh2006@aimgroup.it

15th World Congress of the International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy (ISSHP)

July 2–5, 2006

Lisbon, Portugal

Information: Cidália Semedo, Veranatura
 Conference Organizers, Rua Augusto, 12-D
 Escritório 2,
 1600-503 Lisbon, Portugal
 Fax: (+351-21) 712 0204
 E-mail: cidaliasemedo@veranatura.pt
 Website: <http://www.isshp2006-lisbon.org>

21st Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Hypertension

October 15–19, 2006

Fukuoka, Japan

Information: ISH2006 Secretariat
 3-6-13, Awajimachi-Chuo-ku
 Osaka 541-0047, Japan
 Fax: (+81-6) 6229 2556
 E-mail: ish2006@congre.co.jp