



NEWSLETTER 6

The 7th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress (AOEC) will be held in Xiamen, China, from the 15th – 18th May 2008.

Good News! You can get **CME Accreditation** points for the 7th AOEC. ASEPA are to award 12 points for the 7th AOEC; this shall be stated in the certificate of attendance. In addition, those attending from China can also receive an extra 6 points from the China Medical Association. The pre-congress educational course will be credited with 3 points; a separate certificate of attendance shall be produced for this course.

The Scientific Advisory Committee have put together a comprehensive **scientific programme** that will be of substantial interest and benefit to all those involved in epilepsy research and patient care in the Asian and Oceanian region. In a change from the format of previous AOEC meetings, there will be five main sessions followed by post-main sessions mixed with interesting parallel sessions and platform sessions. The main sessions are focusing on Social Issues, Paediatrics, Surgical Treatment, Genetics and Co-morbidities. In addition, a Chairman's Symposium has been added to the first full day of the congress and on the last day a Highlights Session will take place which will sum up the main topics discussed at the 7th AOEC. Please visit www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org/scientificprog.html to view the scientific activities of the 7th AOEC.

Due to the particularly high number of abstracts received for the 7th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress (over 450 submitted); there is a much higher number of platform presentations scheduled and a larger poster area too. There will be 15 **platform sessions** at this congress; the schedule is as follows:

Friday 16 th May 11:00-12:30: Surgery A Paediatric Epileptology A AED Issues A Adult Epileptology A	Friday 16 th May 16:30-18:00: Psychiatry, Neuropsychology and Social Issues Neuroimaging and Others Adult Epileptology B Surgery B Basic Science A
Saturday 17 th May 11:00-12:30: AED Issue B Paediatric Epileptology B	Saturday 17 th May 16:30-18:00: Paediatric Epileptology C AED Issues C Clinical Neurophysiology Basic Science B

The 7th AOEC will feature six **didactic lectures** given by world-renowned experts in their respective field. They are Martin Brodie (UK), Emilio Perucca (Italy), Edward H. Bertram (USA), Nico Moshe (USA), Samuel Wiebe (Canada) and Michael Saling (Australia).

There will be a total of five **satellite symposia** at the 7th AOEC. Janssen-Cilag, UCB Pharma, Pfizer, Eisai & Dainippon Sumitomo and Novartis are all participating; the schedule can be found on the congress website.

It is hoped that the slides presented at the main sessions and a selection from the post main and parallel sessions will be **translated into Chinese**. In addition a **Chinese language session** on Global Campaign Against Epilepsy; China Practice is scheduled for Saturday 17th May. More details may be found on www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org/scientificprog.html

A special highlight of the 7th AOEC is the **Educational Course** "Ion Channels and Epileptogenesis" on the afternoon of Wednesday 14th May and on the morning of Thursday 15th May which is held under the auspices of ASEPA and organized by the Subcommittee on Basic Research of the Educational Commission of the ILAE. The target group are young postgraduates and PhD students with a research interest (clinical or basic science) in epilepsy. They will receive lectures from a selection of senior international scientists that focus on the role of channelopathies in epilepsy, their contribution to the genetics of epilepsy and their impact on our nosological understanding of the epilepsies. The registration fee for this course is US\$40 including a light dinner and two coffee breaks; please contact xiamen@epilepsycongress.org for registration details.

Applications for the **EEG Exams Parts I and II** are now being accepted. Please view <http://www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org/asepa.html> for full details.

A wonderful programme organised by the Western Pacific and South East Asia Regional Committees of the International Bureau for Epilepsy will run conjunctly with the 7th AOEC from Thursday 15th to Saturday 17th May 2008. Keynote addresses, the HOPE project, informative training sessions, group discussions and a full day tour of Xiamen are some of the highlights of this **IBE programme** for people with epilepsy and their carers. Please view www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org/carersprog.html

A trade **exhibition** will be held in conjunction with the 7th AOEC. This is an integral part of the congress, offering delegates the opportunity to learn the latest developments in products and services relevant to the field of epilepsy. Please visit the exhibition area on the 3rd floor of the XICEC.

Register before 2nd May 2008 to avail of a discounted registration fee of US\$230. Trainee registrations fees are also offered. For full registration details please view www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org/registration.html

A fantastic **BBQ** will be held in the grounds of the Seaside Hotel, adjacent to the convention centre, on the evening of Saturday the 17th May. The BBQ is included in the registration fee of all delegates of the 7th AOEC main programme. Make sure to visit the Social Events desk which shall be in the Exhibition Hall to collect your admission ticket.

Accommodation has been especially reserved for delegates of the 7th AOEC in a wide range of accommodation. Full information can be found on www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org/accommodation.html Two hotels are already booked out, the Seaside International Hotel which adjoins the Xiamen International Conference & Exhibition Centre and the Megaboom Hotel. There are a few hotels now offering a free shuttle service to and from the convention centre; the Xianglu Grand Hotel, the Millennium Hotel and the Best Western Central Hotel. Book early in order to avoid disappointment.

News on **catering**: Halal food will be available at the XICEC convention centre and for the Opening Ceremony and BBQ event. A number of hotels also offer halal food. Please email xiamen@epilepsycongress.org for further details.

Wonderful **Pre and Post congress tours** in the Fujian province and elsewhere in China may be booked by contacting travelbooking@sino-trip.com; please quote "7th AOEC" as reference.

Need help in securing the best **airfare** to Xiamen? C&D Tours and Travel will be happy to provide routes and prices for your selection. Please email travelbooking@sino-trip.com

Transfers for individuals and groups in Xiamen can be arranged by contacting travelbooking@sino-trip.com; please quote "7th AOEC" as reference.

The **venue** for the 7th AOEC is the Xiamen International Conference and Exhibition Centre (XICEC) located on the east coast of the island looking out over the sea. It is a large state-of-art intelligent exhibition and conference centre consisting of vast exhibition halls and a wealth of different size function halls and smaller meeting rooms. Please visit www.xicec.com for more information.

The International Organizing Committee and the Scientific Advisory Committee of the 7th AOEC are honoured to have the support of the **Ministry of Health P.R. China** for this regional congress in Xiamen.

To visit China, it is necessary to have a passport with a validity of at least 6 months, as well as an **entry visa**. All delegates are advised to get up to date information from their nearest Chinese consulate or embassy before travelling.

Individuals requiring an official **letter of invitation** to attend the 7th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress should write to the Congress Secretariat at: registrations@epilepsycongress.org

Full details on the 7th AOEC can be found on the **congress website** www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org; for any enquiries please **email** xiamen@epilepsycongress.org; tel: + 353 1 2056720 or fax: + 353 1 2056156.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Late Registration deadline	2 nd May 2008
7 th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress	15 th - 18 th May 2008

We look forward to seeing you in Xiamen in May.

The 7th AOEC Congress Secretariat Team
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www.epilepsyxiamen2008.org