



World Stroke
Organization

World Stroke Organization (WSO)

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



one voice

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one voice

WSO Background and Mission Statement

The World Stroke Organization (WSO) is recognized as the lead global organization for stroke by the World Health Organization. It was established in October 2006 through the merger of the International Stroke Society and the World Stroke Federation with the purpose of constituting once world voice for stroke.

OUR MISSION

is to reduce the global burden of stroke through prevention, treatment, and long-term care.

OUR AIMS

are to foster the best standards of practice, to increase stroke awareness, to influence policies for prevention of stroke and vascular dementia, to improve health services, to provide education through collaboration with private and public organizations, to facilitate stroke research, and to advocate and foster systems for long-term support of stroke survivors and their families.



17,000,000
worldwide

Each year **17** million people suffer stroke worldwide, of these nearly 6 million die and another 5 million are permanently disabled. Stroke is the second leading cause of disability. Yet, 80% of stroke is preventable with appropriate awareness and prevention.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



2014

was a remarkable chapter in the history of the WSO. The organization continues to deliver excellence in advocacy and capacity building activities around the world. Some of the highlights included a very successful World Stroke Congress in Istanbul, the launch of our Action Plan and Guidelines for Global Stroke Services and a Global Stroke Bill of Rights.

The year began with the launch of International Journal of Stroke iPad® Application and the news that the 2013 Impact Factor for IJS was 4.029. This was a huge increase on the 2012 Impact Factor of 2.748. This result reflects the outstanding leadership of our Editor in Chief Geoffrey Donnan, supported by the innovative work of our Managing Editor, Carmen Lahiff-Jenkins. After a rigorous tender process, we have decided to change the publisher from Wiley to SAGE from 2016. Several new CME accredited e-learning modules were launched on WSO's on-line learning resource, the World Stroke Academy (WSA). A WSA app has also recently been launched.

We have conducted a range of educational activities, led by our Chair, Michael Brainin. These included a WSO stroke education course in Changsha, China. In June 2014, Peter Sandercock represented WSO at the 6th regional training course in Sub-Saharan Africa in Lusaka, Zambia in June. Many international and European scientific societies as well as the Zambian Government supported this meeting, attended by 124 doctors and trainees from 17 Sub-Saharan countries. We support the European Stroke Masters program, conducted in Krems each year and there was a strong educational program at the World Stroke Congress, including the successful "ABC of Stroke".

In terms of advocacy, 2014 was a year full of achievements and challenges, and WSO had an active year in its work relating to the WHO and UN. WSO maintained close collaborations with WHO to promote stroke as a part of the action on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), led by Bo Norrving, Chair of our Global Policy Committee. We are publishing 6 monthly updates from the WSO/WHO (Shanthi Mendes, Bo Norrving and myself) in Stroke. Many WSO Executives were invited to address congresses and other high level events around the world. All of this activity has contributed to make the voice of stroke heard at a global level!

We launched a new theme for 2014-15 for the World Stroke Campaign "I am Woman: Stroke affects me." We chose this theme because women are disproportionately affected by stroke and have a higher stroke mortality rate than men. In addition, there are particular stroke risk factors and subtypes that are specific to women. World Stroke Day in October 2014 was a focal point for these advocacy activities. There were many exceptional campaigns around the world, and thousands of people in over 40 countries helped to raise awareness of the risks of stroke in women. Congratulations to the American Stroke Society for the top award and also to the second and third prize winners, the Brazilian Stroke network and the Pakistan Stroke Society. A special individual award was made to Rosette Kajungu in Uganda. I attended a World Stroke Day event in Istanbul organized by our Turkish colleagues, shortly after the World Stroke Congress, the meeting attracted clinicians, patients and caregivers.

We launched a Global Stroke Bill of Rights in October which has already been translated into 16 languages. This is an initiative of the WSO and has been developed by a group of stroke survivors and caregivers from each region of the world, facilitated by the Chair of our Campaign Committee, Erin Lalor. The aim of the Global Bill of Rights is to help improve the stroke care that people are able to access, resulting in better diagnosis, treatment and support, in any region of the World. If you haven't signed the document yet, please do so at <http://www.worldstrokecampaign.org/learn/global-stroke-bill-of-rights.html>.

The Stroke Solidarity String launched in 2012 continues to gain visibility. There was a most successful launch of the string in Australia in 2014. I encourage everyone to wear the string and show that we are all connected as one global voice to combat stroke.

The 9th World Stroke Congress which was held in Istanbul last October was a great success, reflecting the leadership of Werner Hacke and our Turkish colleagues, led by Kursad Kutluk. We had around 2,500 participants from 112 different countries. The program was exceptional with many superb sessions and late breaking trial results. A particular highlight was the special WSO award lectures. Bo Norrving received the WSO Leadership in Stroke Medicine award, Leonard Cohen received the BB Johansson award in stroke recovery, Valery Feigin received the WSO President's award for Clinical Stroke Research and Peter Langhorne received the WSO President's award for Services to Stroke. We are now already in full swing, organizing the 10th WSC which will take place in Hyderabad, India on October 26-29, 2016.

Another achievement in 2014 was the launch of an Action Plan and Guidelines for Global Stroke Service during the WSC in Istanbul. This landmark document was developed by a group led by Patty Lindsay, using evaluation of existing guidelines and independent appraisal, a detailed consultation process and then a 4-round Delphi process to identify specific stroke practice recommendations and key quality indicators. The Action Plan and Guidelines, published in the IJS, is intended for all providers of stroke care but is specifically targeted at low and middle-income countries. Our aim is to particularly promote the move from minimal stroke services (present in much of the world) to at least basic services which incorporate the principles of stroke unit care but to promote the development of advanced services in comprehensive stroke centers.

WSO also formed the Stroke Young Professionals Committee in 2014, involving 12 young stroke experts from around the world. The committee is chaired by Professor Atte Meretoja from Helsinki. Atte and his committee are actively working on a paper on the general theme of "Stroke doctors – who are we? A WSO survey."

With new partnership agreements with regional stroke societies, WSO is growing. We now have 2,600 financial members, an increase of over 60% since 2013. We have strong relationships with major national and regional stroke organizations around the World, both scientific bodies and stroke support organizations. I want to also welcome our new WSO sponsors Covidien, Bayer, Astra Zeneca, Siemens and our continuing sponsors Allergan, Boehringer-Ingelheim, BMS/Pfizer, Lundbeck, Stryker and Ever NeuroPhama. These are valuable partnerships which provide sponsorship for many WSO educational and advocacy programs and accord with our industry policy, which ensures ethical and professional relationships.

To conclude, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the WSO Secretariat, to Bo Norrving our Immediate Past President and the other WSO Executives for their continuous support. I would also like to thank all of our members and partners for their determined and firm commitment towards reducing the global burden of stroke through prevention, treatment and longtime care. Together, we are one global voice for stroke.

Stephen Davis, WSO President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephen" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Davis".

The Year in Brief

AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY

World Stroke Campaign

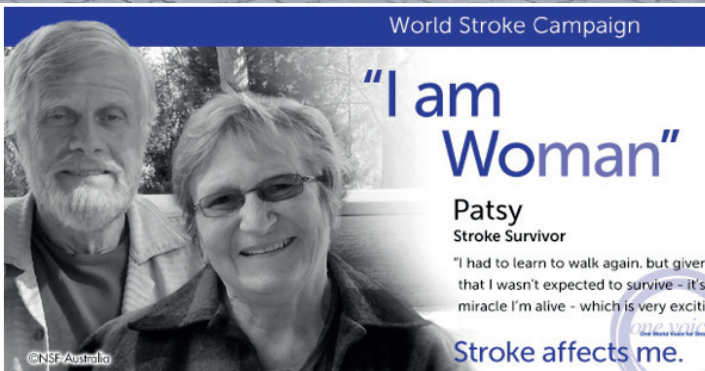


World Stroke Day (WSD) celebrated on October 29, 2014, marked a day of global collaboration towards the shared goal of raising stroke awareness and improving stroke care. WSO is very grateful to all those who devoted their enthusiasm and energy to ensure the success of each campaign across various countries.

This year World Stroke Day promoted the campaign of Women and Stroke with the slogan "I am Woman: Stroke affects me." The theme focused on women and the effects of stroke on women and sought to educate the public about the higher stroke mortality rate amongst women. Stroke is largely preventable through lifestyle management, but to beat stroke, women need gender-specific information, preventative practice, and acute and long-term care and support. WSD was highly successful in facilitating discussion on women and stroke and the message to women was particularly impactful as many female empowerment organizations and societies publicized WSD to their respective audiences.



Top left: WSD in Nigeria
Top right: WSD activities in Kolkata, India
Bottom right: WSD in Myanmar



40
countries
8,000
visitors



Coverage from Catalan to Ukrainian.

Campaign Highlights

- Event submissions from over 40 different countries, all posted on the WSO website
- Over 8,000 visitors to the WSO website
- Coverage across various media: Newspapers (print and online), Radio and Social Media
- Increased awareness through the use of local stroke organizations and governmental departments as well as local media
- Coverage in various languages from Catalan to Ukrainian.

61 campaigns across the world were submitted to WSO. The prize for the most successful campaign was awarded to the American Stroke Society, with the Brazilian Stroke Society being awarded second place and the Pakistan Stroke Society being awarded third place. The individual award went to Rosette Kajungu Mutambi from Uganda. She led a one-month long stroke campaign carried out throughout Mbarara which targeted women and was aimed at breaking the myth that "being fat is a sign of success"

Global Stroke Bill of Rights



Stroke specialists, stroke survivors, neurologists, leading medical professionals and advocates came together to launch the Global Stroke Bill of Rights at the opening ceremony of the 9th World Stroke Congress in Istanbul.

The Bill of Rights has been created to ensure that every person affected by stroke has access to all elements of appropriate stroke care, to optimize their best chance of survival and recovery.

Delivered in 16 different languages, the Bill is the culmination of more than 12 months' work, bringing together input from survivors and caregivers across the world.

The Bill's working group was supported in the development by thousands of survivors and caregivers from different countries, cultures and languages who completed surveys to understand if there were differences in parts of the world. Their responses demonstrated what is considered to be important in stroke recovery is consistent regardless of where people affected by stroke live.

The Bill was created because of the urgent need for:

- Increased stroke awareness among the population and government;
- A global policy on stroke prevention
- Improved health services and long term support for survivors.

The Bill identifies the aspects of care that are important for all stroke survivors and caregivers from across the world. WSO and its partners across the world are now calling on governments, ministries of health and healthcare systems to rise to this challenge and ensure that the Bill of Rights is fully supported and implemented.

More information and the full Bill of Rights in your language can be found at <http://www.worldstrokecampaign.org/learn/global-stroke-bill-of-rights.html>

Stroke on the Global Health Agenda



With a major focus on global policy, WSO continues to work closely in an official relationship with the World Health Organization and was granted special consultative status by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in 2013. With WHO, WSO seeks to promote stroke as a part of the actions on NCDs.

WSO representation was strong at the 67th WHO General Assembly, May 19-25, 2014, Geneva, Switzerland, where several important decisions were made including the resolution on action plan indicators for NCDs, recommendations on terms of reference for a UN Task Force and a Global Coordinating Mechanism on NCDs.



*Ralph Sacco
and Bo Norrving
at the UN NCD
Review July 11,
2014*

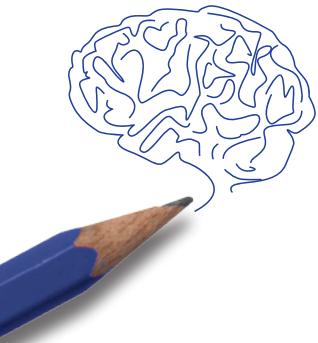
WSO was also well represented at a high-level meeting at the UN General Assembly on 10-11 July, 2014 to review the progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs, following the UN declaration on NCDs in September 2011. The meeting was preceded by NGO hearings on June 19 at the UN, also attended by B. Norrving. Progress has been made since 2011, evidenced by the development of common concepts and common language among Member States, governmental organizations, and NGOs to combat NCDs. The collaboration and commonality of messages used by civil societies will be a major driver for progress.

The outcome of the UN review in July called for the scaling up of efforts in regards to NCDs. There was a large emphasis on countries to integrate NCDs into health planning and national development plans, to set national NCD targets and develop national NCD multi-sectorial plans by 2015, and to implement policies and interventions to reduce NCD risk factors by 2016. The UN will convene a third high-level meeting in 2018 to review progress made in individual countries to which WSO will be a major contributor.

WSO is committed to supporting and promoting the actions plans recently adopted. A unified organization, political support, and leadership are vital for the fight against stroke and other NCDs.

SHARING SCIENCE AND BUILDING CAPACITY

World Stroke Congress



The 9th World Stroke Congress (WSC) was held in Istanbul from 22-25 October, 2014. This was a wonderful congress with over 2400 delegates, from 112 countries, a superb scientific program with some exciting late breaking news, excellent educational content and a vibrant social and cultural setting, warmly hosted by our Turkish Colleagues.

At the final session, the positive results of the Dutch MR CLEAN trial were presented, showing a highly significant benefit from endovascular thrombectomy in selected patients with acute ischemic stroke, widely seen as an important step forward for our field.

The global stroke *Bill of Rights* and the *WSO Global Stroke Services Guidelines and Action Plan* were launched at WSC and another highlight was the Virtual Stroke Art Exhibition.

Several awards were distributed during the congress. Bo Norrving received the WSO leadership in Stroke Medicine Award. This prestigious award recognizes his outstanding leadership at a global level.

This includes his leadership work at the WHO and UN, his contributions to the NCD Alliance, his vision and achievement of ECOSOC status for WSO and his leadership in the stroke section of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD 11) at WHO. Leonard Cohen received the B. B Johansson award in stroke recovery. Dr Cohen has performed seminal research on brain plasticity, together with translational research of new treatment modalities for stroke, such as transcranial brain stimulation and brain-machine interfaces. Valery Feigin received the WSO President's award for Contributions to Clinical Stroke Research. Dr Feigin is a world leading stroke neuroepidemiologist and has made pivotal contributions in his research on regional and global burdens of stroke and many aspects of stroke epidemiology. Peter Langhorne received the WSO President's award for Services to Stroke. Peter is credited with having made one of the greatest impacts internationally with proof of the benefits of organized stroke care, from the early 1990's until the present time. He has also shown that organized stroke care in stroke units is effective in low-income settings.

Left and center:
2014 WSC Opening Ceremony
Right:
WSO Award winners: (from left to right) Professors. L. Cohen, P. Langhorne, W. Hacke, S. Davis, V. Feigin, B. Norrving



The preparations of the 10th WSC, which will be held in Hyderabad from October 26-29, 2016, are already in full swing. We are certain that Hyderabad will be another successful congress in a country where stroke is a major cause of disability and death.

International Journal of Stroke



The International Journal of Stroke (IJS) concentrates on the clinical aspects of stroke with basic science contributions in areas of clinical interest. Under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief, Geoffrey Donnan and the innovative work of Managing Editor, Carmen Lahiff-Jenkins, IJS has made significant strides this past year, increasing its impact factor from 2.748 to 4.029 and being ranked 13/65 in the “Peripheral Vascular Disease” category. IJS includes high quality articles from all regions of the world, and it provides eight publications per year, supporting multidisciplinary stroke practitioners from all over the world. WSO also launched an IJS App which will facilitate access to the journal via multiple mediums.

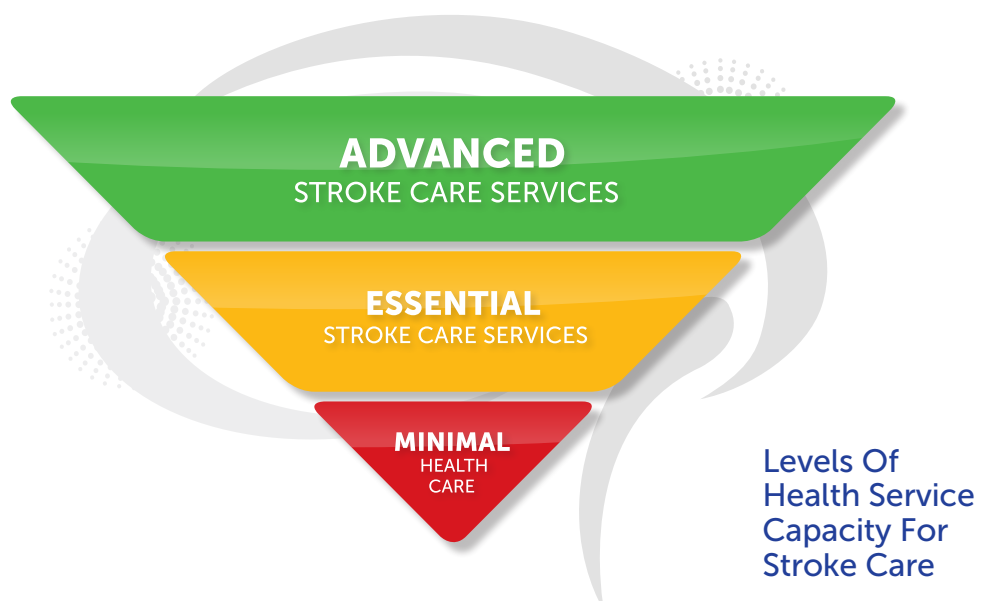
IJS will continue to be published by Wiley Blackwell until end of 2015. After a rigorous tender process for the publishing of IJS, the decision has been taken that SAGE will be the new publisher, starting in 2016.

Global Stroke Guidelines and Action Plan



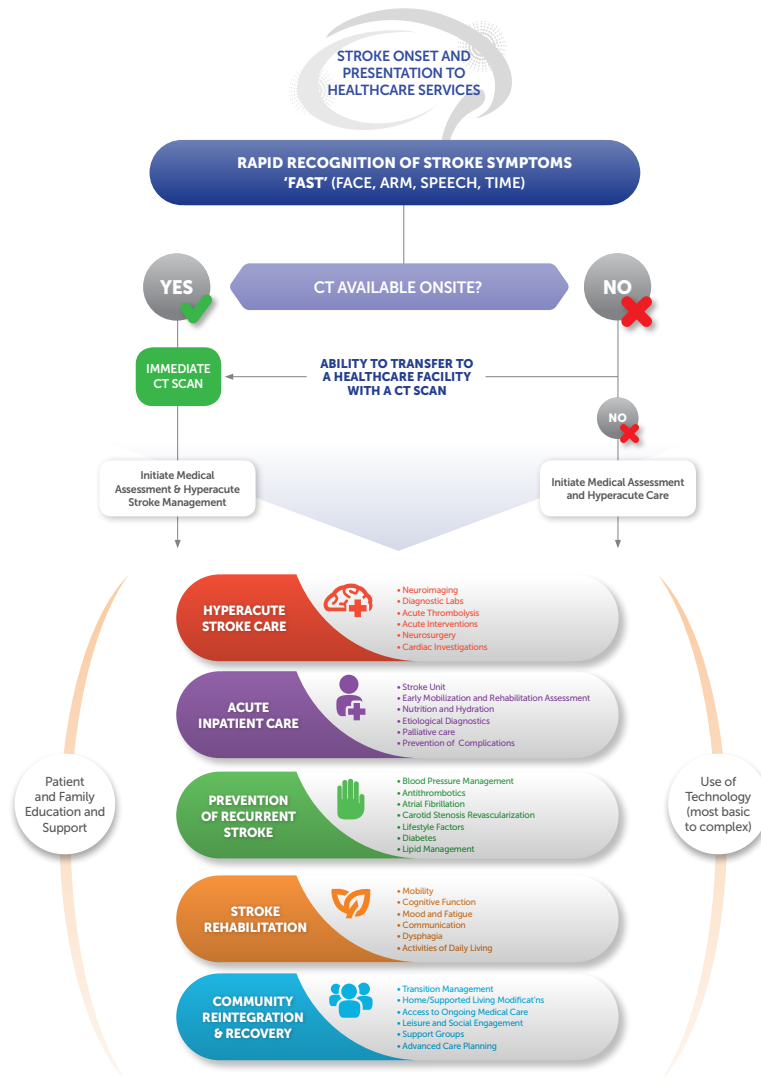
The WSO Global Stroke Guidelines and Action Plan, completed by the WSO Guidelines and Quality advisory committee and working groups under the leadership of Patrice Lindsay, Bo Norrving and Karen Furie, was successfully launched at the WSC congress in Istanbul.

The Action plan was also published October 2014 in IJS (Patrice Lindsay, Karen L. Furie, Stephen M. Davis, Geoffrey Donnan and Bo Norrving). Aimed at organizations and governments, the Action Plan is to be used to identify essential stroke services and for planning the range of stroke services required across the continuum. As stroke systems of care vary across geographic regions, the Action Plan has been developed with components applicable to all regions of the world and all levels of health service availability. The Action Plan was developed using evaluation of existing guidelines and independent appraisal, a comprehensive consultation process and a 4-round Delphi process to identify the most critical and specific stroke practice recommendations and key quality indicators.



WSO recognizes the variability in stroke care services, and has strived to clearly identify the activities and actions that should take place in areas with minimal healthcare services, areas capable of essential stroke services, and those areas with advanced stroke services. Key quality indicators are also provided to facilitate a standardized approach to measuring implementation and impact.

Global Stroke Action Plan Framework



Establishment of Research Priorities



The WSO Stroke Research Committee sponsored the first course in clinical research methods which was conducted at the WSC in Istanbul. The course will soon be transcribed onto the WSA courses, and the Committee is planning another course at the 2016 World Stroke Congress in Hyderabad.

Currently, the Stroke Research Committee is working to establish a set of research recommendations relevant to the WSO mission for Stroke Treatment, Prevention, and Recovery. The Committee has assembled, organized, and reviewed research recommendations from various other national, regional, and patient-centered stroke organizations. The Committee has also asked the WSO Board members to review and rate these research recommendations based on how strongly they should be included among the top recommendations related to the WSO mission.



The top recommendations approved by the Board in October 2014 were:

Stroke Treatment

1. Establish stroke centers and stroke units to assist patients with acute stroke
2. Expand and integrate existing stroke trial networks to accelerate translation

Stroke Prevention

1. Establish a global chronic disease prevention initiative that includes stroke as a major focus among a cluster of conditions including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, mellitus and dementia.
2. Prevent vascular cognitive impairment

Stroke Recovery

1. Standardize the practice of post stroke rehabilitation based on best evidence
2. Evaluation of the best ways to address and improve life after stroke:
 - a. Improve cognition after stroke
 - b. Help people come to terms with the long-term consequences of stroke
 - c. Enhance recovery from aphasia
 - d. Improve arm recovery and function

These draft recommendations are currently posted for member and public comment.

World Stroke Academy



Under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief, Michael Brainin, the World Stroke Academy (WSA) is an ongoing project that aims to improve stroke education on a global scale. WSA is an online portal which provides information about stroke for health professionals and medical doctors in order to improve prevention, therapy, and management of stroke.

Several new modules including Dizziness and Stroke, Treatment of Post-Stroke Spasticity, and 'Management of the Hyper' Link in Acute Ischemic Stroke: Hypertension, Hyperglycemia, Hypothermia have been launched in 2014.



WSA is also now available as an App on iPad™ and iPhone™, where you can access CME credits in original content, videos, podcasts, webinars, and further reading.

Teaching Programs



A number of WSO Executives gave keynote presentations at the 14th Chinese Congress of Cerebrovascular Diseases, and a WSO teaching course including cutting edge issues such as stroke therapy, brain recovery and neurogenesis was presented. The congress attracted 3000 delegates. WSO leadership also attended the Tiantan Conference in Beijing in June, which was even larger with around 5,000 delegates.

Michael Brainin, in addition to Stephen Davis, and Craig Anderson, attended the 13th Welsh Stroke Conference on 4-5 June, 2014. The Conference attracted around 300 delegates. Stephen Davis, as the guest of honor, delivered the Bhowmick lecture with the given title "The penumbra in real time – prospects for individualized therapy." This annual lecture is given in honor of Professor Bimal Bhowmick, a leading geriatrician in Wales and a pioneer in stroke medicine.



Teaching Courses



In June 2014, Peter Sandercock represented WSO at the 6th regional training course in Sub-Saharan Africa in Lusaka, Zambia. A consortium of international, European scientific societies and the Zambian government supported this meeting, which covered a range of neurological topics, including stroke. 124 doctors and trainees from 17 Sub-Saharan countries attended this meeting. The next meeting in 2015 will be in Khartoum, Sudan.

On October 27th the fifth course of the postgraduate Master programme "European Master in Stroke Medicine" started at the Danube University Krems. WSO supported scholarships to students from developing countries to attend this course. The Chairmen Prof. Michael Brainin and Prof. Wolf-Dieter Heiss welcomed 29 students from 21 different countries in Krems.



Class of October 2014

During the first module in October/November, 18 leading experts in Stroke Medicine gave lectures in "Imaging and Pathophysiology". Prof. Dr. Heinrich Mattle from University Neurological Hospital, University Hospital of Bern (Switzerland) gave a Special Lecture on "PFO related stroke and migraine".



RTC Participants and Faculty

Stroke Support

2014 saw the continuation of the initiative to further develop Stroke Support Organizations (SSO) increase their membership in WSO and improve promotional and informative materials.

World Stroke Congress, 2014

The SSO Committee executed a highly successful pre-conference Working Congress at the WSC, which provided an excellent opportunity for the airing and sharing of service delivery at all levels. This year marked the attendance of new representatives from Sub-Saharan Africa.

Stroke Art Exhibition

A Virtual Stroke Art Exhibition was launched by the SSO Committee during the congress. There was an excellent media build-up to the Exhibition, which was positively received at the Congress itself. Over 140 stroke survivors produced beautiful and inspiring artworks and commented that their artistic creativity has played a huge role in helping them cope with their disabilities, including fatigue and depression.



Jessica Sheehan, Australia



Yoshiaki Aoki, Japan



Franc Pernat, Slovenia

Stroke Patient Education Repository

The SSO Committee continued collecting information for the Stroke Patient Education Repository. As stroke clinicians all over the world face the challenge of providing education information to a diverse population of patients and family members, this repository seeks to support patient education globally by gathering patient education materials from around the world. Over 50 resources have been submitted in a variety of languages. The Repository will be launched in 2015.

Development of Stroke Support Organizations (SSO's)

The Toolkit was initially produced to assist in establishing or developing a SSO. The Toolkit is available as an online and in print publication and in 10 different languages. It provides a step-by-step template for organizations to follow, including advised outcomes and case-study examples.

Most recently, the toolkit was successfully used by Ugonna (Julius) Ezeifedi, who created the Masa Stroke Foundation in Nigeria.

Additionally, progress is also being made in Ghana with the Stroke Association Support Network as well as in Thailand, Vietnam, India and others.

Due to the limited abilities of some countries to access resources, a second stage was proposed to WSO Board and subsequently accepted. Stage 2 will feature more direct, intensive assistance for those interested in creating and advancing SSO. Stage 2 was made possible through funding received from the UK Stroke Association under the leadership of Jon Barrick. It is expected to be launched in 2015.

"I found the toolkit very useful, we have started creating awareness.... The book on stroke for the inauguration was literally re-written with the title Stroke: Misconceptions and facts in Nigeria",

Ugonna (Julius) Ezeifedi



Success Stories

Progress in stroke care in Vietnam: the WSO-National Stroke Care Collaboration:

Dr. Michael Brainin was recently invited to Hanoi, Vietnam, to discuss the National Stroke Care Agenda with the Ministry of Health and medical specialists. The Vice Minister of Health invited WSO to support the establishment of a network of stroke units in Vietnam and to supervise a training program. The training program will be aligned with the needs and the current standards of health care and enable the training of stroke unit specialists in Vietnam. Dr. Brainin will visit again Vietnam later this year to attend a national stroke conference and to deepen the discussions with medical leaders in Hanoi, Ho Chi Min city and Danang.



Promoting the ABC Program at the inaugural lecture on April 23, 2008 in Hanoi, Vietnam

This continues an earlier WSO initiative which started in 2008. Between 2008 and 2011 more than 8'500 medical doctors were trained by adapting the WSO ABC of Stroke Care Management Program to local needs. Dr. Brainin and Dr. Norrving held the ABC lectures in the main cities and in the end 8.500 doctors attended this training under the auspices of the Ministry of Health. A report on this activity was published in the International Journal of Stroke 2013; 148-9.

Dr Brainin outlined that "The most rewarding experience was that medical doctors learnt that stroke comes as a separate disease and deserves attention of its own". Today, Vietnam has a Stroke Training Program, a Stroke Journal (Vietnamese edition of IJS) and annual Stroke Conferences. With this new initiative Vietnam will also develop an efficient stroke unit network of its own.

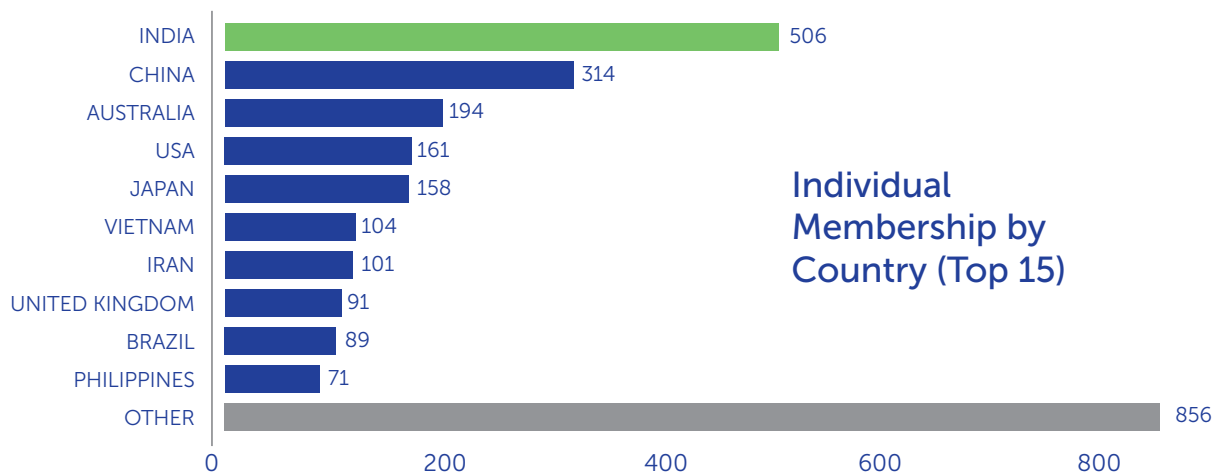
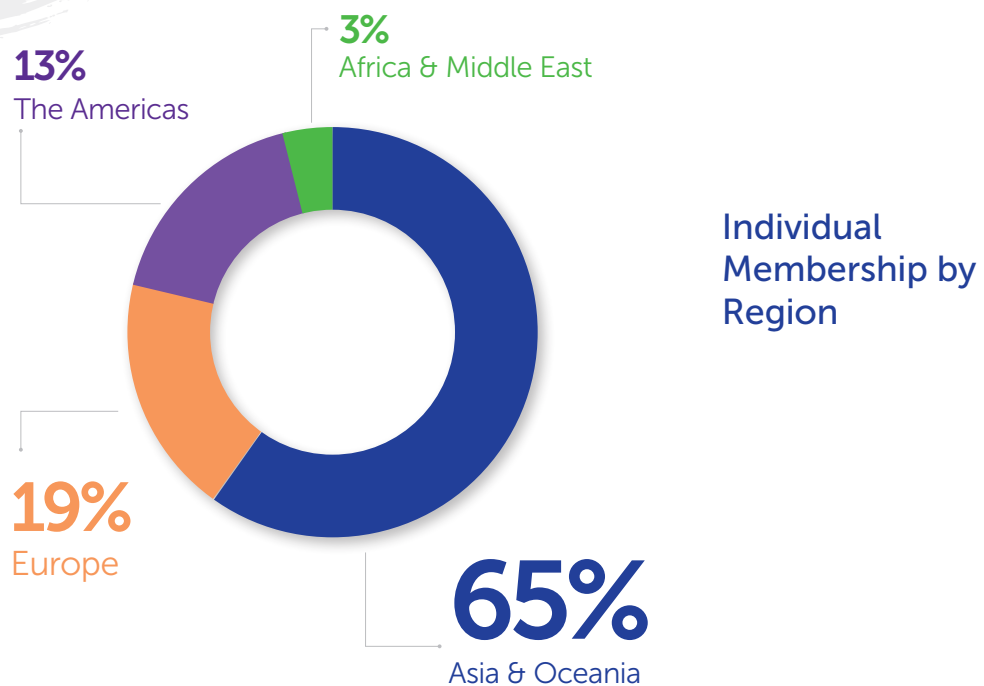
Membership



Counting over 2,600 individual members, 2014 proved to be an extraordinary year for WSO's membership records. WSO welcomed nearly 1,000 new individual members and several new society members. WSO's society members now span 63 organizations in all regions of the world, from large organizations in well-resourced settings to small associations in low-income settings.

WSO continues to offer a number of benefits to members. Additionally, members now have even more benefits in accessing our Congresses via webcasts. The recent Congress in Istanbul was available as a webcast, and WSO hopes to continue this for all future congresses.

In 2015, we will introduce membership for lay people with an Affiliate Members/Supporters group. The membership for this group is free of charge and linked to the signing of the Global Stroke Bill of Rights. This program will help spread the influence and reach of WSO in regions where there are no stroke support organizations.



WSO Society Members as of December 31, 2014

Regional- National Scientific Societies



Aphasia United, *Australia*
National Stroke Research Institute, *Australia*
Belgian Stroke Council, *Belgium*
Brazilian Stroke Network, *Brazil*
Brazilian Stroke Society, *Brazil*
Society of Cameroonian Neurologists (SCAN), *Cameroon*
Stroke Prevention and Control Society, Chinese Preventative Medicine Association (SPCS, CPMA), *China*
Central and Eastern European Stroke Society, *Croatia*
Egyptian Cerebro Cardiovascular Association, *Egypt*
The Finnish Stroke Society, *Finland*
Société Française Neuro Vasculaire, *France*
German Stroke Society, *Germany*
Hellenic Stroke Society, *Greece*
Yayasan Stroke Indonesia, *Indonesia*
Neurosciences Research Center (NSRC), *Iran*
The Japan Stroke Society, *Japan*
Korean Stroke Society, *South Korea*
Malaysian Society of Neurosciences, *Malaysia*
Iberoamerican Society of Cerebrovascular Diseases Latin America, Spain, and Portugal, *Mexico*
Mongolian Stroke Association, *Mongolia*
Grupo Stroke del Peru, *Peru*
Stroke Society of the Philippines, *Philippines*
Section of Cerebrovascular Diseases Polish Neurological Society, *Poland*
Sociedade Portuguesa do Acidente Vascular Cerebral, *Portugal*
Romanian National Stroke Association, *Romania*
Spanish Society of Neurology (SEN), *Spain*
National Stroke Association of Sri Lanka, *Sri Lanka*
European Stroke Organization, *Switzerland*
Swiss Stroke Society, *Switzerland*
Taiwan Stroke Society, *Taiwan*
Thai Stroke Society, *Thailand*
Turkish Cerebrovascular Disease Society, *Turkey*
Ukrainian Society for Neurohabilitation, *Ukraine*
Ukrainian Anti-Stroke Association (UASA), *Ukraine*
British Association of Stroke Physicians (BASP), *UK*
NIHR Stroke Research Network, *UK*
American Stroke Association, *USA*
Intermountain Stroke Center, *USA*

Stroke Support Organizations



National Stroke Foundation, *Australia*
Amor Vida Cuidado, *Brazil*
Brazilian Stroke Association, *Brazil*
Heart Association Bulgaria, *Bulgaria*
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, *Canada*
Finnish Brain Association, *Finland*
Stroke Association Support Network Ghana, *Ghana*
Indian Stroke Association, *India*
Stroke Foundation of Bengal, *India*
Neeman Association for Stroke Survivors, *Israel*
Alice Italia Onlus, *Italy*
Japan Stroke Association (JSA), *Japan*
Stroke Foundation of NZ Limited, *New Zealand*
Stroke Action, *Nigeria*
The Singapore National Stroke Association, *Singapore*
The Heart and Stroke Foundation, *South Africa*
FRAGILE Suisse, *Switzerland*
The Emirates Stroke Society, *United Arab Emirates*
Stroke Alliance for Europe, *UK*
The Stroke Association, *UK*
International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke, *USA*
National Stroke Association, *USA*
YoungStroke, Inc., *USA*

Financial Report

The level of WSO's activities in 2014 increased and there was a significant increase in both income and expenses, and WSO ended the year in a healthy financial position. However, it should be noted that WSO has committed to many projects in 2014 resulting in total expenses approximately 80% of the corpus.

Funds received from Industry Partners was the primary source of income and were used to support activities in advocacy and education. Other income is primarily derived from membership dues as the income amounting to EUR 215'000 from the 2014 World Stroke Congress will be received in 2015.

The detailed financial report for all WSO activities is shown below, this includes the operations of both WSO Switzerland and WSO USA.

Income and Expenses for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 (in United States Dollars)

		Total	
		2014	2013
Cash & Other Assets		1'027'316	926'707
Liabilities		290'029	190'405
Net funds		737'287	736'302
Income			
	Donations	706'985	368'105
	Membership Dues	105'414	68'517
	Income WSC	0*	84'080
	Interest	680	1'574
	Income SSS	463	1586
Total		813'542	523'862
Expense			
	WS Campaign	282'112	194'208
	WS Academy	163'758	220'073
	WSO Programs	68'581	48'889
	Promotion and Marketing	35'335	19'900
	Meeting expenses (Travel, Accomodation, Support for board members to attend meetings, Room rentals, Catering)	38'039	20'898
	Journal subscriptions for members	93'833	49'337
	Secretariat	80'590	78'678
	Committees	6'887	
	Administrative cost	11'438	12'745
	Exchange difference	31'984	-4'522
	Provision for B. Johansson		388
Total		812'557	640'594
RESULT		985	116'732
	Balance brought forward	736'302	853'034
	Balance carried forward	737'287	736'302

*EUR 215'000 will be received in 2015

Partnerships



The following partners supported WSO's various projects in 2014/2015. We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all our partners without whom WSO could not carry out its work.



PLATINUM SPONSOR PARTNER



Bayer HealthCare



Medtronic



GOLDEN SPONSOR PARTNERS

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“Together

- Medtronic and the World Stroke Organization - highlighted their commitment to stroke patients by raising consumer awareness through a new global campaign successfully launched last October on World Stroke Day. The “Take 2 ... Tell 2” campaign focuses on what can be achieved in just 2 minutes – having every person take 2 minutes to raise their awareness about stroke and then telling two people about those signs. Public events were hosted in New York City, Dublin, São Paulo, and Seoul, South Korea. Healthcare professionals, nutritionists, celebrities, local government officials, and other stroke awareness advocates were at all the events and educated the public on the key risk factors of stroke by providing blood pressure screenings, insight into results, and demonstrations on how to help a stroke victim. We are honored to continue to work with the World Stroke Organization in helping people understand how many of their family and friends may be affected by stroke and educating them to prevent future strokes, which can potentially save lives.”

Andrew Cormack
Vice President, Global Marketing, Medtronic Neurovascular

Executive Committee and Board of Directors

WSO is fortunate to have a world renowned Board of Directors. The members represent a balance of all world regions and include individual stroke professionals as well as representatives from both Scientific Stroke Organizations and Stroke Support Committees.

In 2014, several board members were renewed as well as many Executive Officer positions. We take this opportunity to thank the outgoing board members for their contribution.

Current members are listed below:

Members of the WSO Executive Committee

Stephen Davis, President | Australia
Bo Norrving, Immediate Past-President | Sweden
Michael Brainin, Vice-President | Austria
Natan Bornstein, Vice-President | Israel
Bernard Yan, Treasurer | Australia
Marc Fisher, Co-Treasurer | USA
Ka Sing Lawrence Wong, Secretary | Hong Kong S.A.R.
Erin Lalor, Member at large | Australia
Sheila Martins, Member at large | Brazil
Shinichiro Uchiyama, Member at large | Japan
Warner Hacke, Ex Officio Member | Chairman of the Congress Oversight Committee
Geoffrey Donnan, Ex Officio Member | Editor of IJS
Marc Fisher, Ex Officio Member | Co-Treasurer for US Accounts

Members of the WSO Board of Directors

Individual members

Sub-Sahara Africa, Middle East/East Mediterranean
Foad Abd-Allah | Egypt
Gloria Ekend | Nigeria
Mehdi Farhoudi | Iran
Waleed Khoja | Saudi Arabia

Americas

Marc Fisher | USA
Karen L. Furie | USA
Vladimir Hachinski | Canada
J. David Spence | Canada

Europe

Michael Brainin | Austria
Werner Hacke | Germany
Bo Norrving | Sweden
Peter Sandercock | UK

Asia/Oceania

Julie Bernhardt | Australia
Christopher Chen | Singapore
Stephen Davis | Australia
Valery Feigin | New Zealand
Graeme J. Hankey | Australia
Ming Liu | China
Masayasu Matsumoto | Japan
Shinichiro Uchiyama | Japan
Lawrence Ka Sing Wong | Hong Kong S.A.R.

Scientific Societies

Craig Anderson | Asia Pacific Stroke Organization
Hanne Christensen | Danish Stroke Organization
Vida Demarin | Central and Eastern European Stroke Society
Matthias Endres | German Stroke Society
Dongsheng Fan | Beijing Stroke Organization
Akira Ogawa | Japanese Stroke Society
Gabriel Rodriguez de Freitas | Brazilian Stroke Organization
Disya Ratanakorn | Thai Stroke Society
Ralph Sacco | American Stroke Association
Bernard Yan | Stroke Society of Australasia

Stroke Societies

Jon Barrick | The Stroke Association
Natan Bornstein | The Neeman Association for Stroke Survivors
Amy Edmunds | YoungStroke.Inc
Jelka Jansa | Stroke Alliance for Europe
Erin Lalor | National Stroke Foundation
Patrice Lindsay | Heart and Stroke Foundation
Daria Lisichenko | Russian Stroke Foundation
Sheila Cristina Ouriques Martins | Brazilian Stroke Network
Kazuo Minematsu | Japan Stroke Association
Risto O. Roine | Finnish Brain Association

Ex Officio Members

Geoffrey Donnan | Editor of International Journal of Stroke
Atte Meretoja | Young Stroke Professionals

Join Us in the Fight Against Stroke Now!



Stroke is a largely preventable disease that affects 17 million people every year and is the leading causes of disability worldwide. However, you can act now to fight stroke and save lives.

- Learn more about stroke through the World Stroke Academy, an online education resource, at the Wiley Online Library:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/%28ISSN%292051-333X>

- Set up a Stroke Support Organization with the SSO toolkit:

<http://www.world-stroke.org/for-patients/toolkit>

- Begin membership or invite new members and organizations to do so:

<https://wso.multiregistration.com/>

- Become a leading implementing agency for the Stroke Solidarity String.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.worldstrokecampaign.org/get-involved/stroke-solidarity-string-guidelines-and-information.html>

- Learn more about the Global Stroke Bill of Rights and sign the petition :

<http://www.worldstrokecampaign.org/learn/global-stroke-bill-of-rights.html>