
This is the eighth consecutive General Assembly of our Association. From its humble beginning in 1964, it has grown into an Association of over 700 active members and still continues to expand. Last year's Annual Congress in Barcelona was attended by more than eleven hundred participants.

The call for abstracts for the present Congress had the following results. One hundred and seventy-one (171) papers and twenty-seven (27) scientific demonstrations were submitted to the Programme Selection Committee for consideration. Only 25% of the papers submitted could be accommodated in a two day Congress, which this year, also included a Symposium on Cadaveric Renal Transplantation with special reference to the value of tissue typing.

In the opinion of the Selection Committee, the overall scientific merit of the submitted abstracts was higher than in previous years.

This year your Committee consisted of:

Professor B Watschinger – Chairman
Dr S Shaldon
Dr C van Ypersele

The President, Professor N Alwall, Dr R Natusch, and the Secretary/Treasurer also attended. They met in Berlin/GDR on the 2nd April, 1971.

As a result of the situation which has arisen from the increasing membership of the Association and the record number of abstracts submitted, the Council discussed the possibility of extending future Annual Congresses to three days or as an alternative to continue with a two day Congress, but to have simultaneous sessions. No final decision was taken, but the format for future Congresses will be discussed at the Autumn Council meeting of the Association.

Council Meetings were held at the following venues during the year:

Brussels on the 23rd October, 1970
Berlin/GDR on the 3rd April, 1971
**Baxter/Travenol Grant:** This year the grant amounts to $2,500 US dollars. Thirty-four 'junior' applicants were granted financial assistance to attend the Congress. We wish to express our gratitude to Baxter/Travenol for their continuing financial support.

**The Members' Booklet:** This is in effect, a directory of members and associate members including a list of Dialysis Centres in Europe and adjoining countries. The 1971 edition is due off the press this month (July 1971) and members will receive a copy soon afterwards.

The group compiling the 'Booklet' viz the Secretary/Treasurer and the Registration Committee have taken all possible precautions to ensure that the information contained in it is complete and accurate. We cannot, however, guarantee that we have achieved 100% success in these aims, because of the many difficulties in communication in an organisation growing as rapidly and involving so many different countries and languages.

For the degree of success attained in the production of the 'Booklet' the gratitude and thanks of the members should go particularly to the Keymen in each country who co-ordinated the work at a national level.

Once again our gratitude must be expressed to Messrs A F Verder-Vleuten NV, Vleuten (U), The Netherlands, through whose generosity it was possible to print the 'Booklet'.

It is with regret that we note the death of three of our members during the past twelve months:

- Dr Karl Wolfgang Fritz – Federal German Republic
- Professor R Cuvelier – France
- Professor T Tsaltas – USA

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

1. The annual membership fee of $20 US dollars or its equivalent in your national currency has remained unchanged for the past three years, and Council do not envisage any increase for the following year.

2. The financial state of the Association is satisfactory and we now have an investment account of £4,000.00 pounds sterling ($10,000 US dollars). As a result we have been in the position to pay the travelling expenses of the Council Members to the Autumn and Spring Meetings.

3. Council nominated Dr Mary McGeown, Belfast, and Professor A Walsh, Dublin, as auditors for 1971. They have examined the audit and certified it as correct. We are most grateful to both of these members.

The arrangements for this Congress were made by Dr Rudolf Natusch and the Society of Nephrology of the German Democratic Republic. To them and to everyone else who contributed to the success of this Meeting, the Council wish to express their gratitude.
The Minutes of the Annual General Assembly will be published in due course, and all members will receive a copy.

At this, the end of my second year as your Secretary/Treasurer, I wish to thank the Council and the members for their continuing confidence and friendship.

Last but not least, my thanks to Miss Eileen Mackey, my secretary, whose support and diligence has helped enormously.

Michael Carmody,
Secretary/Treasurer
July, 1971