



LIGA NEWS

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66th LMHI World Homeopathic Congress, 1-4 December 2011, New Delhi/India

Liga Congress 2011: Final Countdown



Only two weeks are left until the beginning of this year's LIGA Congress 2011 in New Delhi, India. Titled "Homeopathy for Public Health", the 66th World Homeopathic Congress

of the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI) will offer an exciting congress program covering the entire scope of the speciality. The congress promises a lot of learning about and awareness of homeopathy and how it can make a difference in the public health scenario. A state-of-the-art trade exhibition will be held concurrent to the congress for showcasing the various aspects of and trends in homeopathy and it offers great exposure and opportunity to network with key professionals in the field from across the globe.

It is the declared mission of the Congress Organizing Committee to provide an international forum to homeopathic physicians, homeopathic societies and researchers who are interested in the development of this science and its role in the promotion of public health. LIGA 2011 aims to offer both the exchange of ideas and the enhancement of knowledge. It is meant as a platform that will bring practitioners and researchers under one roof in order to benefit from such a rare opportunity.

The congress will be inaugurated by Shri Ghulam Nabh Azad, Minister of Health & family Welfare, Government of India and will be presided by Smt Sheila Dikshit, Chief Minister, Government of Delhi. Dr.A.K.Walia, Minister of Health & family Welfare, Government of Delhi and Shri Rao Narendra Singh, Health & Medical Education Minister, Government of Haryana will be the Guests of Honour.

Dear LMHI-Members,
dear Readers,

the work the LMHI is carrying out is based on the perception of how all people involved can best promote the interests of homeopathy and especially of all homeopathic doctors in the world. The role of the National Vice Presidents and National Contact Persons as representatives of the national homeopathic doctors' associations and teaching centers is essential in this respect.

In addition, the Liga does its best to provide information by means of e-mails, minutes of governance meetings, its annual publication Liga Letter, the electronic newsletter, and the new LMHI website to keep the associations and their members updated about the ongoing projects. But we want to do even better! To ensure that homeopathic doctors at national level get exactly the information they are looking for, all Presidents of the national homeopathic doctors' associations present at the LMHI Congress 2011 in New Delhi are invited to a special **Presidents' Meeting in Hall 4 on Friday, 2 December from 4-6 pm**, for a mutual exchange of ideas. This meeting will provide an ideal opportunity for reflection on how the LMHI is playing its role in the world. The LMHI Executive Committee is looking forward to your presence and to a lively discussion!

Kind regards, Caroline Geiser
LMHI Media Team



Congress Update

Interview with Dr. R. K. Manchanda, Organizing Secretary of the LIGA Congress 2011.

How many participants have registered already?

So far, 1850 delegates have confirmed their participation in this great event, including 150 overseas delegates from more than 25 countries, among them Austria, Bangladesh, China, Germany, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, the United States, and some other countries. We will be having about 2000 delegates in total.

We will also accept provisional registration of overseas delegates at the same fee, provided that they register in time and pay the fee on arrival. We shall prepare their folders for their onsite completion of registration.

Will you make promotion for "LMHI India"?

We have also registered a "LMHI India Chapter" for the promotion of Liga Membership in India, and we will be encouraging all the participants to become members. We have allocated a common space for LMHI/LMHI Indian Chapter for this work.

There will also be Trade Show? How many exhibitors do you expect from how many countries?

Besides a brilliant scientific program, the Congress will also have a Trade Exhibition from most of the leading companies in Homeopathy, Government Organisations, Institutes and Publication Houses. Exhibitors will come from India, Greece, Germany and the USA. There are about 15 - 20 exhibitors; we have limited space for this. The LMHI will be represented with its own stand to inform participants about the current activities of the LIGA and to answer questions of homeopaths interested in LMHI membership.

What are the highlights of the social program?

There will be cultural program open to all on the first day of the congress at the Reception Dinner that includes Indian and German Music with Dances of India. In addition, a state of art set of tours to showcase Indian couture, heritage and to popularize Indian Homeopathic Institutions have been arranged for the overseas and the Indian delegates. The social program includes a visit to the National Museum of India and to art galleries, New and Old Delhi city tours, as well as spectacular demonstrations of the traditional art of Sari Tying, carpet weaving, and henna application. We have selected about 290 Papers for discussion during the congress, we have grouped them into 16 sections as given on the website under Call for papers. We plan to have long oral and short oral presentation with E posters. There will be 4 halls, two for presentations and two for focused group discussion on various subjects of the congress. The theme of the congress "Homoeopathy for Public Health" which mean we wish to showcase how successful institutionalization of homeopathy at various levels such as University education, posting of homeopaths at Primary Health Centers, organized research and adequate drug control measures can contribute in providing for the public health.

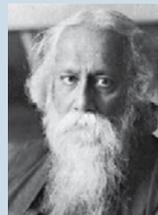
What are your expectations to the congress?

What would you like to be the result at the end?

The mission of the LIGA Congress 2011 is to provide an international forum to homeopaths, homeopathic societies and researchers who are interested in the development of this science. We welcome you to this grand event which is going to open up new horizons for homeopathy and going to embed scientific milestones on your way to a rational practice.

Contact: rkmanchanda@gmail.com

Online-Registration at www.liga2011.in > Registration



Nobel laureate

Rabindranath Tagore

(7 May 1861 – 7 August 1941)

"It is not merely a collection of few medicines but a new Science with a rational philosophy as its base. We require more scientific interest and inquiry into the matter with special stress upon the Indian environments." Rabindranath was a Bengali "polymath" who reshaped his region's literature and music. He became the first non-European Nobel laureate by earning the 1913 Prize in Literature.



Professor Dr. Diwan Harish

Chand, President of Honour, LMHI

"The 66th World Congress of LMHI will showcase the present situation of homeopathy in India to the world and in turn the Indian homeopaths will gain tremendously from the interaction with the learned colleagues and researchers from other countries."



Dr. S. P. S. Bakshi, President, LIGA Congress 2011

"India has emerged as a hub of homeopathic activities in the world... The LMHI Congress 2011 will provide a platform where diverse thoughts, ideas and experiences can be shared to cherish the dream of "Homoeopathy for Public Health". India invites and welcomes you all!

Liga Congress 2011, New Delhi/India

Travelling Exhibition “The History of Homoeopathy”

A travelling exhibition on “The History of Homeopathy”, that toured 21 major cities in India from January 2010 to March 2011, will be presented at the Liga Congress 2011 in New Delhi. The exhibition focuses on the history of homeopathy as a medical approach and uses texts in combination with photographs to draw the visitor’s attention to the origins and worldwide development of homeopathy since Samuel Hahnemann (1755–1843). Already during his lifetime, the German physician Hahnemann to whom the creation of homeopathy is credited,



was well-known in India where homeopathy continues to undergo a unique development process compared to elsewhere. It is more common than in most other countries in the world and is a recognised part of the Indian public health care system. The tour through India was presented in cooperation with the Goethe Institutes in India. A supporting programme invited visitors to take a more in-depth look at the diverse history of homeopathy.

Institute for the History of Medicine, Stuttgart/ Germany – Keeper of the LMHI Archives

The exhibition was prepared by the German-based Robert Bosch Foundation’s “Institute for the History of Medicine” (Institut für Geschichte der Medizin, IGM) under the scientific direction of the internationally renowned researchers Prof. Dr. Robert Jütte and Prof. Dr. Martin Dinges. Since its foundation, research in the history of homeopathy has been one of the main focuses of the Institute that also keeps the archives and proceedings of the LMHI and its congresses. The exhibition flyer is available on the Bosch Foundation’s homepage www.igm-bosch.de/content/language2/html/11956.asp, a web special will be started at the occasion of the LMHI conference in Delhi

India as a Role Model in “Medical Pluralism and Homoeopathy”

Parallel to the homeopathy exhibition touring through India, the Institute organized a conference on „Medical Pluralism and Homoeopathy in India and Germany (1810-2010). Practices in a Comparative Perspective“ in early July 2011 to answer the question of whether we now face a “new medical pluralism” these days from an interdisciplinary point-of-view involving medical practitioners, ethnologists, historians and philosophers. While biomedicine as the dominating modern medicine taught in universities and practiced by the majority of all physicians is no longer the only option in offering medical treatments to sick people, homeopathy and other CAM therapies have become an alternative for an increasing number of patients. India is the country in which homeopathy has received an amazing reception and developed a main role in the medical market. “There is no other country, where medical pluralism is institutionally recognized such as in India where homeopathy and other complimentary therapies (Ayurveda und Yoga) are integrated into the national health system,” highlighted Prof. Dinges in an IGM press statement. Some of the reasons why homeopathy experienced such a warm welcome in India and could develop such a strong role in the medical market were presented in the lectures: The advantages of homeopathic therapy, such as the simplicity of learning it and the quick possibilities for self-help, as well

as the philosophical ideas of the system fitted perfectly with the positive self-perceptions of Bengali families in the 19th Century. Therefore, the use of homeopathic remedies could guarantee the preservation of familial health in Bengal by ensuring the well-being of various family members while looking after the overall structure of the institution of family itself, as one of the speakers, Prof. Soman, pointed out. Also invited as a speaker was Dr. Raj K. Manchanda, who unfortunately could not attend. His precirculated lecture on the practice of medical pluralism in hospitals and primary health care units in India today, where “biomedicine” and so called Ayush (Ayurvedic) therapies are now offered at the same time, was discussed. R. Manchanda added the interesting fact that the number of patients in homeopathic dispensaries was still increasing and indicating the growing popularity of the system. His study proves that homeopathy is a popular, affordable and efficacious system of medicine at primary health care level, especially seen from the patients’ side. Therefore, homeopathy has the potential to minimize the health care expenditures.

The full IGM-report on the interdisciplinary conference is available at www.hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/tagungsberichte/id=3745.

LMHI Governance Meetings

Important topics on the agenda of the Executive Committee and the International Council

Prior to the official conference opening, the LMHI's governing bodies, the Executive Committee (EC) and the International Council (IC), will hold their annual governance meetings on November 29-30 to share impressions, ideas and proposals about the policy and the future of the LIGA. **Please note that the venue for the International Council Meeting 2011 has changed:** It will now take place at the Hotel Taj Ambassador, New Delhi (Sujan Singh Park, Subra-

mania Bharti Marg, New Delhi - 110 003, India, Phone: +91 11 6626 1000, Fax: +91 11 2463 2252, on Wednesday, 30th November 2011, 10:00 hrs onwards. An Opening Ceremony and Reception will follow the International Council Meeting.

The most important topics on their agendas are the following:

- LMHI Congresses 2012 – 2015: State of affairs and new applications
- Possible relocation of LMHI seat in Geneva
- LMHI Working committees: State of affairs
- International Homeopathic Foundation
- International Homeopathy Day 2011 in Zagreb/Croatia and application for 2012
- LMHI Guidelines for Proving and Clinical Verification
- LMHI Guidelines/Procedure for Members of Honour/ President of Honour
- New LMHI office in Berlin, Germany: State of affairs
- Joint strategy meeting of LMHI and ECH on 16 September 2011 in Berlin: Review and Outcome
- Liga Book Project
- Proposal for a Council of Past Presidents
- Applications for institutional Membership



LMHI International Council

LMHI Research

Draft Guidelines for a Homeopathic Drug Proving

In May 2010, the LMHI International Council decided to collaborate with the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH) regarding the elaboration of LMHI Homeopathic Drug Proving (HDP) Guidelines. A first draft document was submitted to all members of the LMHI International Council in September 2010. The second, amended draft will be presented and discussed at the International Council Meeting in New Delhi. The proposed Guidelines are not strict rules but will ensure that all relevant items necessary for a homeopathic proving respecting Good Clinical Practice (GCP) are taken into account. They will help also to obtain comparable results from provings of a same medicine in different places in the world.

Homeopathic Drug Provings (HDP) are essential in the development of the homeopathic art of healing. After clinical verification of the collected symptoms, HDP provides a necessary tool to find the most appropriate remedy for the patient. Many theories, methods and protocols have been established. Meanwhile, ethical and legal requirements have become more and more important, such as the Declaration of Helsinki (2008) and the ICH Guidelines (January 1997). An HDP nowadays is considered a clinical trial; therefore, these Guidelines are based on the ICH "Note for Guidance on Good Clinical Practice" (CPMP/ICH/135/95).

Draft Guidelines for a Clinical Verification of Homeopathic Symptoms

Systematic clinical data collection must match contemporary reality as a whole. The aim of these guidelines is to promote convergence in publications on the verification of homeopathic symptoms. The proposed data collection system must be flexible and accessible manually or by information technology. The ultimate objective is to use an automatic system allowing collection, recording, extraction, processing, interpretation, evaluation and communication both with regard to the verification of symptoms from remedy provings as well as from clinical symptoms not originating from pathogenetic trials. This is of historical importance but even more important to validate "modern" homeopathic practice, the law of similars and the individualization rule including a global view on the patient.

"With such general LMHI guidelines we can hope for some harmonization of modern proving and modern clinical verification in the world allowing also for the compilation and comparison of data about our homeopathic remedies as a next step", stated LMHI Secretary for Research Dr. Michel van Wassenhoven. The drafts were sent to all members of the LMHI International Council in October together with the invitation for the IC Meeting 2011 where the guidelines will be discussed before they will be finalized and accepted with amendments, if needed.

Obituary

In Memoriam Patricia Le Roux (1958-2011)



Words fail and are inadequate for the sad message that Doctor Patricia Le Roux, General Secretary of the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH), passed away after a terrible traffic accident in Paris on Saturday, 15 October 2011. During her long and eventful career, Dr. Le Roux had not only served for many years on the Executive Boards of the National

French Homeopathic Association SNMHF and the European Committee for Homeopathy ECH (2000-2011) but was also an internationally renowned author of many books and a welcome speaker at homeopathy congresses worldwide. Our thoughts are first of all with her family, husband, children, parents and in-laws. The whole of the Homeopathic Community shares their loss and wishes them strength for the long weeks and months to come where they will have to learn to cope with this enormous loss.

You will find the full-length obituary by Dr. Yves Faingnaert, LMHI/ECH Treasurer, on the LMHI website www.lmhi.net.

Good News from Sweden

Supreme Administrative Court rules that Doctors can Recommend Homeopathy



The Swedish Supreme Administrative Court ruled on 24 September 2011 that "doctors are allowed to recommend homeopathic cures for patients" (Högsta Förvaltningsdomstolen, Stockholm dnr 6634-10). With this decision it overturned a sentence by the Swedish Medical Responsibility Board that put a Swedish doctor on probation who had recommended a homeopathic cure to a patient, a decision that started a highly controversial debate in the Swedish public. The Supreme Court argued instead that the patient was not exposed to any danger, and that the doctor used scientific knowledge when it was necessary, reported the Swedish broadcast. The accused doctor was fully acquitted from all charges and the verdicts of the two lower courts were completely removed after over eight years of struggle.

It remains unclear, however, if the Swedish Medical Association (SMA) will respect this Supreme Court Ruling. A SMA chairperson reportedly clarified the association's position on the matter arguing that "We believe treatment should be evidence-based, and evidence has shown that the absolute majority of homeopathic cures have not been proven effective." The association would call on doctors to state clearly that homeopathic drugs have not been scientifically proven effective. LMHI President José Matuk emphasized that "the LMHI will continue to observe the legal status in Sweden closely and is prepared to offer help to the Swedish colleagues, whenever needed."

As a matter of fact, homeopathy has gained official status in many countries all over the world and has been officially

recognized by the governments as a system of medicine or medical speciality in countries in Central and South America, Asia and Europe. In some of these countries homeopathy has been integrated into national health care systems, namely in Brazil, India, Mexico, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom.

Read more about "Global Homeopathy" in a speech by LMHI Past President Dr. Ulrich D. Fischer that he presented at the International Homeopathy Day 2011 in Croatia. The speech is available on the LMHI website www.lmhi.net, Section "Programs and Projects".



Warsaw/Poland

Homeopathy in Europe: Conference in Poland 2011

Report by Dr. Tomasz Kokoszczyński, NVP Poland, poland@lmhint.net



On 1 October 2011, the Polish Homeopathic Society, host of the Liga Congress 2009 in Warsaw, Poland, organized a conference about "Homeopathy in Europe. Practice – Idea – Research" together with other Polish homeopathic associations and in cooperation with the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI) and the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH). Experienced lecturers from many European Countries ensured the high quality of the topics that were presented. The papers were collected in an abstract book that was distributed to interested journalists in a press conference held prior to the congress opening. Dr. Ewa Czerwinska, President of the Polish Homeopathic Society, opened the meeting and summarized the legal situation of homeopathy in Poland. ECH President Dr. Ton Nicolai talked about homeopathy in a broader perspective as a system of medical health-care. He was critical of the many medical authorities that still refuse to accept homeopathy due to their lack of understanding its mechanism of action. "The problem lies not in the available facts and research, but in people's attitude of supporting curing instead of healing," Nicolai stated and highlighted the efforts of his organization (ECH) in increasing the public awareness about the significance of homeopathy in public health care. Dr. Thomas Peinbauer, General Secretary of the LMHI, gave an insight into the situation of homeopathy in Austria and presented an overview about the role of homeopathy in the world focusing on the achievements

and challenges of the LMHI. He asserted that "Although homeopathy was founded here in Europe by Samuel Hahnemann about 200 years ago, it has become a global medical system within a very short period of time." Poland is part of the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI) and one of 75 member countries that form the World Association for Medical Homeopathy. Also present was Dr. Barbara Bichsel, the LMHI's National Vice President for Switzerland, who reported about the recent developments in her country where the Swiss population successfully campaigned for in the reintegration of homeopathy and other CAM disciplines into the national health care system. Dr Tomasz Kokoszczyński, Vice-President of the Polish Homeopathic Society and National Vice-President for Poland at the LMHI, introduced the audience to a comparison between "conventional curing" and "homeopathic healing". He not only called for more research in homeopathy but, in particular, for a change in awareness concerning health matters in order to reach Salutogenese. Lectures on research described basic research and about the problems with the interpretation of statistics in clinical research in homeopathy. The conference was closed with a lecture of Prof. Marcin Molski from Poznan University on his "Quasi-quantum model of potentization" in which he presented his very latest findings regarding theoretical explanations of homeopathy.

Read the entire conference report at www.lmhi.net, Sectin "In Focus".



International Relations

Joint Executive Board Meeting of LMHI and ECH

Deutscher Zentralverein
homöopathischer Ärzte



It was an historic moment when, for the first time in the history of these organizations, Executive Officers of the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI) and of the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH) came together in the LMHI Office in Berlin, Germany, on 16 September 2011 to discuss strategic options for a stronger collaboration in the future. The meeting was chaired and moderated by Dr. Cornelia Bajic, Chairperson of the German Association of Homeopathic Physicians (DZVhÄ) that is a strong partner of both organizations. LMHI Past-President Dr. Ulrich D. Fischer pointed out that in addition to the development and securing of homeopathy

worldwide the Liga's main ambition is to create a link between licensed homeopaths with medical diplomas and associations as well as individuals interested in homeopathy. Furthermore, the LMHI promotes the integration of homeopathy in national health systems over the world. Both organizations are faced with limited financial and personnel resources. For this reason, the LMHI is looking for new possibilities of collaboration in the administrative as well as in the public relations fields. In his double function as LMHI Past President and ECH Vice President Fischer strongly demanded the development and optimization of common projects in the future.

One option is to establish a common LMHI/ECH office and secretariat in Berlin/Germany, for which the German Association (DZVhÄ) has presented a concrete proposal. Since August 2010, the LMHI has been sharing an office and manpower with the DZVhÄ and was thus able to establish a permanent LMHI Office, supplementary to the cooperation in the public relations field that started in April 2009. Since it is very important for both organizations to react quickly whenever there are attacks on homeopathy, a common LMHI/ECH public relations and media office would further increase the political standing of homeopathy.

The issue will be discussed with LMHI delegates at the International Council Meeting in New Delhi on Wednesday, November 30.

The LMHI held its regular LMHI Executive Officers Meeting on the following day, September 17, to prepare the upcoming Governance Meetings at the Liga Congress in New Delhi.



f.l.t.r.: Dr. Renzo Galassi (LMHI Prime Vice-President), Dr. Thomas Peinbauer (LMHI General Secretary), Dr. Franziska Polzer-Foreman (DZVhÄ Medical Management), Dr. Ton Nicolai (ECH President), Dr. Patricia Le Roux † (ECH General Secretary), Monika Kölsch (DZVhÄ Treasurer), Cornelia Bajic (DZVhÄ President), Dr. José Matuk (LMHI President), Dr. Yves Faingnaert (LMHI/ECH Treasurer), Dr. Ulrich Fischer (LMHI Past-President/ECH Vice-President)



LMHI Executive Committee