DEAR GUEST,

It is an honour and a great privilege to welcome you to this World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal diseases jointly organised by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) and the European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis (ESCEO). This WCO-IOF-ESCEO 2016 congress, which is held in Malaga, between April 14 and April 17, is the largest event worldwide, fully dedicated to the clinical and economic aspects of osteoporosis, osteoarthritis and musculoskeletal diseases and gathers more than 3,800 delegates.

The Scientific Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Professor René Rizzoli and Professor Cyrus Cooper, had an extremely difficult task, to select oral presentations, among more than 1150 submitted abstracts of the highest quality.

During this congress, prestigious scientists, from all parts of the world, will give you the opportunity of being in touch with the latest scientific developments in various fields. We expect that researchers and clinicians from around the world will experience a diversified and enriching scientific meeting. The final programme includes:

| Stimulating plenary lectures on various ‘hot’ topics delivered by the fields’ leading experts; |
| A large number of special sessions such as the Educational Lecture, the Oral Communication of Selected Poster, the ESCEO Symposium, or the Committee of National Societies Special Plenary session; |
| Clinically-focused Meet-the-Expert Sessions, restricted in the number of participants to enable more effective interactions; |
| For the first time this year, a few non-sponsored workshops selected by a panel chaired by the Scientific Chairs of the Congress, and endorsed according to their topicality and quality. |

Many satellite symposia will take place. Their programmes have been carefully reviewed by the organisers to make sure that an appropriate amount of unbiased science will be outlined.

We are convinced that you will enjoy this congress, in the beautiful surroundings of Malaga and that the key messages that you will take home after the meeting will help you in your daily practice for the benefit of your patients.

We wish you a very successful meeting.

John A. Kanis
IOF President

Jean-Yves Reginster
ESCEO President

Pr. John A. Kanis & Pr. Jean-Yves Reginster

The Opening Ceremony

Pr. Cyrus Cooper
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

This WCO-IOF-ESCEO congress, here in Malaga, is the largest meeting in the field of osteoporosis, osteoarthritis and musculoskeletal diseases, with more than 3500 attendees seeking information on the epidemiology, pathogenesis, prevention, and treatment of these important public health problems. Over 1150 abstracts were submitted addressing all these topics. During the first two days of the congress, a lot of important and interesting communications have been presented either orally or in poster communications. We highlight here only a small part of all the science that has been presented up to now during this congress.

The meeting started on Thursday April 14 with the lecture of René Rizzoli that reviewed the best clinical articles published in 2015. After the opening ceremony, the Honorary Lecture by José Lebrero Stals on the original topic “Expression of human body in Picasso’s work” was a great success.

On Friday, a substantial part of the oral communications was related to the management of osteoporosis, osteoarthritis and musculoskeletal diseases. It was also the case for the plenary lectures and more specifically the one from Professor Eugene McCloskey (P2). He pointed out that a better understanding of the offset of the efficacy of anti-osteoporosis medication is an important issue because of its potential impact on the management of osteoporosis at numerous levels. For example, he noted that prolonged efficacy or slow offset of effect is of importance in health economic modelling and lessens the impact of poor compliance with treatment. He also reminded us that, in contrast, safety concerns suggest that any treatment-induced suppression of bone turnover should be reversible to avoid the consequences of over-treatment and/or to allow bone repair to occur.

Among the oral communications presented yesterday, one showed, in a phase 3 fracture prevention trial involving 2463 postmenopausal osteoporotic women, that there was an 86% relative reduction in new vertebral fractures in the abaloparatide group compared to an 80% relative reduction in the teriparatide group vs. the placebo group at 18 months (OC1). A follow-up of this study showed that 18 months of abaloparatide followed by 6 months of alendronate may improve bone mineral density and reduce fracture risk rapidly (OC2). Another open-label study in 436 women transitioning from BP therapy reported that, romosozumab was well tolerated and was associated with greater bone mineral density gains and improved hip strength compared with teriparatide (OC3). In a 12-month, double-blind, double-dummy study in women aged ≥ 55 years who had received oral bisphosphonates for ≥ 2 years, it was shown that denosumab increased bone mineral density at all measured skeletal sites and reduced bone remodeling more than zoledronate (OC4). From the CORAL study (i.e. a prospective, double-blind, randomized, placebo- and active-controlled, multicenter, head-to-head comparison of lasofoxifene and raloxifene for osteoporosis prevention), it was reported that lasofoxifene was efficacious and superior to raloxifene in preventing bone loss and reducing bone turnover (OC5).

Some other oral communications were directly related to the assessment of fracture risk. In one of these studies, the authors have followed the total Swedish population born 1902-1952 during the period 1987-2002 (OC12). They were able to show that individuals with total knee replacement due to primary osteoarthritis had a low risk for hip or vertebral fracture the decade before surgery. However, after total knee replacement, the risk for hip and vertebral fracture increased. In another y involving 589 women followed for a median of 8.1 years, the authors noted that women who sustain fragility fractures can be identified before they fracture by measuring microarchitecture, particularly women with osteopenia or normal bone mineral density who would usually not be investigated further or considered for treatment (OC13).

The clinical management of osteoarthritis was also widely covered yesterday, more particularly during the plenary lecture of Cyrus Cooper (P4). He reminded us that recommendations for the management of knee OA have been issued by several international and national bodies, including the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR), the American Society for Rheumatology (ACR), and the Osteoarthritis Research Society (OARSI). These have recently been systematically evaluated by the European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis (ESCEO), to construct a treatment algorithm that might enhance OA management throughout Europe and worldwide. He noted that the initiative advanced existing practice guidelines, which typically evaluate interventions individually, by prioritising these into a well ordered series of practical steps which can be undertaken by physicians.

During the afternoon, the Educational Lecture was well attended and very successful. It should be acknowledged that the topic on the “ABC of writing a manuscript” was attractive and useful for many young or experimented scientists.

So, the first full day of this WCO-IOF-ESCEO meeting was a great success due to the high scientific quality of the research presented either orally or in poster communications.
ESCEO MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE 2016

On Wednesday, Professor John A Kanis was announced as the winner of the ESCEO Medal of Excellence. This is an award to honour an individual academic who has contributed significantly to the field of osteoporosis and musculoskeletal science through original and outstanding scientific contributions.

ESCEO President Jean-Yves Reginster, Co-Chair of the World Congress, said, “I have had the privilege of collaborating with John for nearly two decades. Over this period, he has contributed significantly to the general management of osteoporosis and musculoskeletal disorders and continues to do so.”

Prof. John A. Kanis received his medical degree from the University of Edinburgh. After a MRC Clinical Research Fellow position at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre he became Wellcome Senior Research Fellow at the University of Oxford. He was then appointed Reader in Human Metabolism and Clinical Biochemistry at the University of Sheffield, where he is currently the Emeritus Professor in Human Metabolism. He is Editor of Osteoporosis International and serves on the editorial board of several journals. He is the author of more than 1200 papers, chapters and books on bone disease and metabolism. His current major interest is in the development of risk assessment algorithms and the formulation of practice guidelines in many regions of the world.

Professor Kanis stated: “It is an honour and privilege to receive this Award. It is also testimony to the hard work of so many excellent team members and collaborators who have contributed to our research programme, as well as the institutions that have provided such welcome support. We shall continue our efforts to understand the causes and develop preventive strategies against the consequences, of osteoporosis and other disabling musculoskeletal conditions.”

HERBERT FLEISCH MEDAL 2016

The European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis (ESCEO) and the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) are proud to announce that Professor René Rizzoli has been awarded the Herbert A. Fleisch ESCEO-IOF Medal. Herbert Fleisch was a renowned researcher whose groundbreaking work contributed to the development of scientific knowledge about metabolic bone diseases and their treatment.

This award recognizes a researcher who has made outstanding and groundbreaking achievements in bone basic research.

René Rizzoli is emeritus professor of medicine at University Hospitals of Geneva and former head of the service of bone diseases at the Geneva University Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine. He is presently a member of the IOF Executive Committee as treasurer, and also chairs the Scientific Advisory Board of the European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis. Professor Rizzoli used to be involved in both basic and clinical research projects investigating hormone action, bone growth, the role of nutrition, calcium, bisphosphonates, selective oestrogen modulators, denosumab and strontium ranelate in the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis and disorders of mineral metabolism. He is the author of more than 800 publications. He is co-editor in chief of Calcified Tissue International and Musculoskeletal Research and associate editor of Osteoporosis International.

Professor Reginster went on to state: “This award, named in honour of a pioneer in osteoporosis research, appropriately recognizes an individual whose work has considerably influenced knowledge about bone and mineral metabolism. I have had the privilege of collaborating with René for nearly two decades. Over this period, he has contributed significantly to the general management of osteoporosis and continues to do so.”

WCO-IOF-ESCEO

Florence 2017

March 23rd – 26th, 2017

WORLD CONGRESS ON OSTEOPOROSIS, OSTEOARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL DISEASES
The ESCEO-MSD Fellowships 2016

The ESCEO Fellowships, supported by a grant from MSD, recognize young investigators for their excellence in bone and mineral research. The Fellowship includes an award of $12500 and is given to the lead investigator of the 2 highest scored abstracts submitted for presentation at the WCO-IOF-ESCEO Annual Meeting.

This year, the successful candidates were:

- Fanny Buckinx for the abstract "PREVALENCE OF SARCOPENIA IN A POPULATION OF NURSING HOME RESIDENTS ACCORDING TO THEIR FRAILTY STATUS: RESULTS OF THE SENIOR COHORT"

- Nicola Veronese for his research on "OSTEOARTHRITIS AND MORTALITY: A PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY AND SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WITH META-ANALYSIS"

IOF President’s Awards

The International Osteoporosis Foundation President’s Awards honour IOF members from different regions of the world who have made a significant and unstinting contribution to the advancement of the work of the IOF, through furthering one or more of the mission statements and/or goals of the Foundation. Recipients are selected by the IOF President, with the approval of the IOF Executive Committee. This year, 8 individuals were awarded: Leith Zakraoui, Jorge Morales-Torres, Ambrish Mithal, Paul Mitchell, Thierry Thomas, Andrea Gásparik, Jorge Cannata-Andia and Fumida Jiwa.

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