

Innovative Congress satellite programme announced as registration set to open



Registration for World Physical Therapy 2011 – the physical therapy world’s biggest event – is about to open, and new details are now being released about the comprehensive programme of activity that will surround the main scientific sessions.

Physical therapists will shortly be able to book online for World Physical Therapy 2011 – the WCPT quadrennial congress. Information about registration will be up on the WCPT website by the end of July at www.wcpt.org/congress. The three-day Congress, to be held in Amsterdam’s RAI conference centre (pictured above) in June next year, will attract thousands of professionals from around the world who want to learn and pass on knowledge.

Now details are being released about the Congress satellite programme – a new and innovative part of the WCPT Congress experience, made up of education sessions and clinical visits. While not part of the formal scientific programme, the satellite programme is designed to complement it, with a focus on applied knowledge and skills.

Satellite sessions will be offered on the two days before and following Congress and a limited number will be run concurrently with the scientific programme. There will be 22 education sessions, with prominent speakers presenting topics across the scope of the professional interests.

Among them will be Professor Elizabeth Dean from the University of British Columbia, Canada. She will be coordinating a global health summit where representatives from all over the world will examine how health behaviour changes are being achieved, and how physical therapists can contribute across cultures. This builds on the success of the highly popular first summit

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held in 2007.

Professor Robert Palisano from Drexel University will be among those presenting a two-day programme focused on children with cerebral palsy, organised by Sarah McCoy from the United States.

Other topics to be covered include:

- Evidence-based evaluation and treatment for back and knee pain in older people
- Broadening the scope of physical therapy in work injury prevention and management
- Assessing walking speed as the vital sign for function
- Education in a global community: accreditation and standards
- ICF tools from the World Health Organization
- Evidence-based physical therapy and assessing quality of reviews and trials
- Physical activity for clinical populations: measurement and interventions
- Rehabilitation following cardiothoracic surgery: future directions
- Physiotherapy in Parkinson's disease
- Contemporary models and practical tools in clinical reasoning and decision-making
- Physiotherapeutic management of anorectal dysfunction in adults and children.

There will also be one programme offered in Dutch and English on ankle injuries and another in Spanish and English on critical appraisal skills.

The scheduling of satellite sessions will enable delegates to attend focused symposia, networking sessions and scientific programming relevant to the same topic.

Many of the satellite sessions will take place at the Hogeschool van Amsterdam. Others will take place at the RAI conference centre and the nearby Novotel hotel.

A range of clinical visits will also be offered. Dutch physical therapists have opened their practices, clinics and hospitals to show delegates some of the highlights of practice in their country. They will cover cardiac rehabilitation, hand rehabilitation, older people, neurology, orthopaedics, paediatrics, private practice, and pulmonary rehabilitation.

Delegates will need to have registered for at least one day of the scientific congress to access the satellite sessions and there will be a limited number of places. Further information about satellite education sessions and clinical visits can be found at www.wcpt.org/sat_prog