

Press release

6th July 2016

For immediate release

Key speakers for WCPT Congress 2017 announced

WCPT has announced the opinion leaders and innovators in physical therapy who will present the key sessions at the world's largest gathering of the profession – the WCPT Congress, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa on 2nd - 4th July 2017.

The congress programme includes 17 focused symposia featuring 75 speakers from around the world. Focused symposia are core sessions where cutting edge research and practice perspectives are explored and debated. Details of the newly announced symposia, including presenters, are provided in the attached sheets.

"We've been able to select some very high quality speakers, covering topics of vital importance for the profession across a wide variety of practice and research areas," said Dina Brooks, Chair of WCPT's International Scientific Committee, which has responsibility for putting together the programme for the WCPT Congress.

"We're also delighted that we have such a good geographical representation in our speakers. So we can honestly say that the focused symposia will have something for everyone – wherever they work, and whether their interest is clinical practice, research or education."

"Focused symposia are a very popular feature of our congresses, drawing large audiences. They provide the opportunity not just to hear from world authorities, but to engage with them in discussion."

Each focused symposium is organised by a convenor, who leads an international group of speakers through linked research-focused presentations. The symposium ends with key take-home messages for practice, research, education, management and policy.

About the WCPT Congress

The WCPT Congress is held every two years by the World Confederation for Physical Therapy. The last congress, held in Singapore in 2015, attracted 3,500 physical therapists from 114 countries.

Further details about the symposia and the programme for WCPT Congress 2017 can be found at: <http://www.wcpt.org/wcpt2017/fs>

Please contact Mia Lockner if you have any specific queries: mlockner@wcpt.org

WCPT Congress 2017 is organised by WCPT Trading Limited

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The World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) represents the physical therapy profession worldwide. WCPT is registered in the UK as a charity.

Note to WCPT member organisations

Please use this information in your magazine, journal, newsletter or social media channels to help attract delegates to WCPT Congress 2017 and celebrate the inclusion of speakers from your country or region. Press releases will be sent shortly with further details on focused symposium speakers from your country.

Details of focused symposium subjects and speakers

'... be moved by statistics': global health data to inform physiotherapy

Catherine Sykes (Australia), Jennifer Jelsma (South Africa), Antony Duttine (United Kingdom), Theo Vos (United States of America)

A lifestyle behaviour change tool kit and its integration into practice

Elizabeth Dean (Canada), Margot Skinner (New Zealand), Anne Söderlund (Sweden), Marilyn Moffat (United States of America)

Chest wall trauma: integrating evidence in physiotherapy management

Lisa Beach (Australia), Julie Reeve (New Zealand), Romy Parker (South Africa), Heleen Van Aswegen (South Africa), Monika Fagevik Olsen (Sweden)

Clinical practice guidelines in physical therapy: current state of play

Karen Grimmer (Australia), Janine Margarita Dizon (Philippines), Quinette Louw (South Africa), Susanne Bernhardsson (Sweden)

Critical physiotherapy: new approaches for practice, education, research and policy

Jenny Setchell (Australia), Barbara E. Gibson (Canada), Alma Viviana Silva Guerrero (Colombia), David Nicholls (New Zealand), Mershen Pillay (South Africa)

Driving brain plasticity after stroke – novel clinical interventions and measures

Penelope McNulty (Australia), Pável Lindberg (France), Valerie Pomeroy (United Kingdom), Ela Plow (United States of America)

Fragility fracture prevention and rehabilitation: large trials in four countries

Catherine Sherrington (Australia), Monica Perracini (Brazil), David Keene (United Kingdom), Sarah Lamb (United Kingdom), Rebecca Craik (United States of America)

From fitness-training to active lifestyle coaching in pediatrics: global applications

Désirée Maltais (Canada), Solomon Fasika Demissie (Ethiopia), Manon Bloemen (Netherlands), Janke F de Groot (Netherlands)

Men's health: a global problem and new frontier for physiotherapy

Paul Hodges (Australia), Jo Miliotis (Australia), Somto Nwankwo (Nigeria), Gerard Greene (United Kingdom), Ruth Jones (United Kingdom)

Motor control in paediatric bladder and bowel dysfunction

Wendy Bower (Australia), Els Bakker (Belgium), Dawn Scandalici (United States of America), Carina Siracusa (United States of America)

Optimizing the continuum of care for intensive care unit survivors

Shane Patman (Australia), Mel Major-Helsloot (Netherlands), Marike van der Schaaf (Netherlands), Susan Hanekom (South Africa)

Physiotherapy and HIV: recent advances, future directions

Stephanie Nixon (Canada), Hellen Myezwa (South Africa), Darren Brown (United Kingdom), Mary Lou Galantino (United States of America), Esther Munalula Nkandu (Zambia)

Physiotherapy in disaster response and recovery: starting with preparation

Philip Sheppard (Canada), Sunil Pokhrel (Nepal), Alice Harvey (United Kingdom), Peter Skelton (United Kingdom)

Survivors of torture and trauma: applying modern pain science

Laila Jeanne Jacobsen (Denmark), Anne-Mette Karrer (Denmark), April Gamble (Jordan), Jepkemoi Joanne Kibet (Kenya), Justine Dee (United States of America)

The role of self-management in the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders

Venerina Johnston (Australia), Julie Richardson (Canada), Nathan Hutting (Netherlands), Nicola Walsh (United Kingdom)

When emotions are painful: integrating neuroscience and subjective pain experience

Felipe Reis (Brazil), Timothy Wideman (Canada), Victoria Madden (South Africa)

Why rotator cuff tendinopathies become chronic?

Ann Cools (Belgium), Filip Struyf (Belgium), Jean-Sebastien Roy (Canada), Gisela Sole (New Zealand), Lori Michener (United States of America)