

IAGG-GARN News Release N° 2015-06

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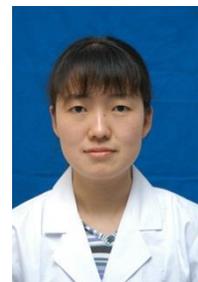
Dear Colleague,

On these last days of January, we would like to begin this News Release by wishing you all a successful New Year. We hope that 2015 will open new pathways for aging research and that your teams will bring important new findings to the scientific community.

We are happy to update you with the most recent actions setup by the IAGG-GARN Network. They highlight IAGG's interest in older people's health and the need to promote research in many geriatric fields and areas of the world. Today the Asia-Oceania region accounts for more than 50 per cent of the world's population aged over 65 years. Most of these 74 countries are characterized as "developing" and all have aging populations. For this reason age-related research in Asia is growing at a constant rate. The success of the Seoul World congress in 2013 (4289 delegates from 86 countries) is a good indicator of this phenomena. The organization of IAGG's 10th Asia/Oceania Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Chiang Mai, Thailand is another opportunity for gerontologists, geriatrics scholars, policy decision-makers, professional activists, related companies, and researchers of this region to get together and share recent discoveries and study results. We hope that these initiatives will raise awareness and help you move forward to develop improve the quality of life of the world's older people.

1. Interview of Dr Jun LI (Chengdu, China)

Jun LI, MD, is Associate Professor of Geriatrics at the Center of Gerontology and Geriatrics, Department of Geriatrics, West China Hospital of Sichuan University in Chengdu, China. She is currently on a one-year study leave in the Toulouse Gérontopôle where she has accepted to work on: how to make comprehensive and multidisciplinary assessments of older persons with dementia, how to find more risk factors for dementia in order to delay the decline of cognitive function.



1.1. How is research in Geriatric medicine developing in China?

Over the past two decades, geriatric medicine has developed as a medical subspecialty in China. As a result, a significant number of major medical centers in large cities have established geriatrics clinical services and research centers or laboratories on aging. However, the quality of the geriatrics departments at different medical institutions is highly variable. It is hardly to find large-scale studies about geriatric syndrome and comprehensive geriatric care. And the caring quality of nursing home is worrying.

1.2. What are the main areas of Geriatric research in China?

More education and training programs in the areas of aging and care of frail older people are needed for physicians and nurses, as well as other healthcare professionals. More attention should be paid to the clinical research about geriatric syndrome and comprehensive geriatric care and to the long-term care of older people in the context of Chinese culture.

To have the list of IAGG-GARN centers in Asia, you can visit the IAGG-GARN website at <http://www.garn-network.org>

2. A taskforce on exercise in nursing home setting: looking for recommendations

Several studies have proven the importance of exercise training for the health residents of long term care facilities. However, the best exercise regimen in terms of feasibility, safety, and effectiveness has not yet been established.

IAGG-GARN collaborates in the organization of the Taskforce prior to the International Conference on Nursing Home Research on December 2-3, 2015 (see “Upcoming meetings” section). The main purpose of the workgroup is to gather the experience and viewpoints of worldwide leaders in the field of exercise for residents living in long-term care facilities in order to define clear exercise guidelines and to elaborate a first draft of a consensus paper on the best exercise regimen. Website: <http://www.nursing-home-research.com>

3. An international survey of nursing home research priorities:

This article reports the findings of a policy survey designed to establish research priorities to inform future research strategy and advance nursing home practice. The survey was administered in 2 rounds during 2013, and involved a combination of open questions and ranking exercises to move toward consensus on the research priorities. A key finding was the prioritization of research to underpin the care of people with cognitive impairment/dementia and of the management of the behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia within the nursing home. Other important areas were end-of-life care, nutrition, polypharmacy, and developing new approaches to putting evidence-based practices into routine practice in nursing homes. It explores possible innovative educational approaches, reasons why best practices are difficult to implement, and challenges faced in developing high-quality nursing home research. Morley JE et al. International Survey of Nursing Home Research Priorities. J Am Med Dir Assoc 2014 May; 15(5):309-312.doi:10.1016/j.jamda.2014.03.003 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jamda.2014.03.003>

4. Upcoming meetings

The International Conference on Frailty and Sarcopenia (ICFSR2015), April 23-25, 2015 in Boston, USA. A conference dedicated to raising awareness on the need to implement frailty and Sarcopenia into clinical practice. Keynotes lecturers will include: Shalender BHASIN from Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA, Jack GURALNIK from the National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, USA, Marco PAHOR from University of Florida, Gainesville, USA, Stephanie STUDENSKI from the National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, USA, Jeremy WALSTON from John Hopkins University’s Center of Aging and Health, Baltimore, USA and Matteo CESARI from the Toulouse Gérontopôle, France. Website: <http://www.frailty-sarcopenia.com>

➡ A call for Late Breaking News is expected on February 2-16, 2015

IAGG's 8th European Congress, April 23-26, 2015 in Dublin, Ireland. The Irish Gerontological Society will host IAGG's 8th European Congress at Dublin's Convention Centre. The 1st call for abstracts is launched and concerns the following themes: Unlocking the Demographic Dividend, Policy, Design and Environment, Biology of Ageing, Social Gerontology, Gerontechnology, Cultural Gerontology, Health and Social Care, Psychology of Ageing. Website: <http://www.iaggdublin2015.org>

International Academy on Nutrition and Aging (IANA), June 18-19, 2015 in Barcelona, Spain. After Seoul, Albuquerque, Firenze this edition of the IANA conference will deal with Nutrition and Age-Related Disease Nutrition Function and Aging. Its aim: promote better understanding and implementation of nutrition and age-related diseases into clinical practice. **Abstracts (symposium, oral communication, posters) submission deadline: March 2, 2015.** Website: <http://www.iana-congress.com>

IAGG's 10th Asia/Oceania Regional congress, October 19-22, 2015 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The conference theme is "Healthy Ageing Beyond Frontiers" Expected contributions should be relevant to research, policy and practice under the main 4 themes: Clinical Sciences • Biological sciences • Behavioral and social sciences • Policy, planning and practice. **Deadline of abstract submission: February 20, 2015.** Website: <http://iaggchiangmai2015.com>

The 2nd International Conference on Nursing Home Research, December 02-03, 2015. The event aims to raise further awareness on the need to promote research in nursing homes. It will deal with the following topics: Alzheimer's disease and relevant drug and non-drug therapies, behaviour disorder, care organization, homecare, nursing homes, and new technologies. **Abstract submission deadline: June 30, 2015.** Website: <http://www.nursing-home-research.com>

IAGG's 21st World Congress on July 23-27 2017, in San Francisco, USA. The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) will host this event that is held every four years. It will be dedicated to "Global Ageing and Health: Bridging Science, Policy and Practice." Call for abstracts will be available on Spring 2016 and registration will open beginning 2017. Website: <http://www.iagg2017.org>

5. Abstracts from the Clinical Trial in Alzheimer's Disease (CTAD) conference in Philadelphia are available on the JPAD (Journal of Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease) website at <http://www.jpreventionalzheimer.com>

Best regards,

Constance de SEYNES
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