



Competence Network Parkinson's Disease

Competence Network on Parkinson's Disease help lead and organize 3rd World Parkinson Congress

[**Marburg**] – The Competence Network on Parkinson's Disease will be one of the lead partners in organizing the 3rd World Parkinson Congress (WPC) to be held October 1 – 4, 2013 in Montreal, Canada. The 3rd World Parkinson Congress is a forum for bringing together the international community to help build awareness and increase collaborative efforts to find a cure for Parkinson's disease (PD).

Parkinson's disease, a common and debilitating neurodegenerative disorders, which causes problems with movement, balance and motor control, affects over 4.1 million people worldwide. The disease usually develops after age 60, although up to 15 percent of Parkinson's patients are diagnosed before age 50. In light of the rapidly aging population, Parkinson's disease is expected to have an increasingly significant impact on world health.

The Competence Network on Parkinson's Disease is one of more than one hundred Organizational Partners from over 30 countries that are endorsing the 3rd World Parkinson Congress. The Competence Network on Parkinson's Disease also played an instrumental role in the second World Parkinson Congress held in Glasgow, Scotland in 2010, which attracted more than 3,000 delegates from nearly 70 countries. The growing list of partners for the 3rd Congress includes nonprofit organizations and professional associations and societies working directly or indirectly with Parkinson's disease. Other organizations that have agreed to partner with the WPC in 2010 include:

<http://www.worldpdcongress.org/sponsors/partners.cfm>

“We are very excited to have developed these key partnerships with our friends and colleagues,” said Dr. Stanley Fahn, Chief of the Movement Disorders Division and the H. Houston Merritt Professor of Neurology at Columbia University Medical Center in New York and Co-Chair of the Congress. “This is the only Congress of its type in the PD community; it offers valuable information to everyone working on or living with Parkinson's disease.” WPC Co-Chair Dr. Jon Stoessl said he hopes the 3rd Congress can build on the success the first two World Parkinson Congresses: “We are confident that our strategic and organizational partnerships will once again help generate a diverse and enthusiastic delegate pool.”

The Congress will present a preliminary day of specific educational courses for clinicians and researchers, nurses and allied health professionals, people with Parkinson's and caregivers and the general community. The full three-day program will feature an agenda of presentations and discussions of cutting edge science, public policy, best practices in care delivery and quality of life topics related to PD. A call for abstracts will go out in December 2012 and exhibitor space will be made available to all companies and organizations that wish to reach the global Parkinson's community.

To learn more about the 3rd World Parkinson Congress visit www.worldpdcongress.org.
To learn more about the Competence Network on Parkinson's Disease visit www.kompetenznetz-parkinson.de

About the Competence Network on Parkinson's Disease:

The Competence Network on Parkinson's disease is a medical network founded between 1999 – 2008 by the German Ministry for Education and Research.

The organisational structure includes a research and a care network.

Currently 22 university clinics and 22 special clinics are working together to collect data, gene samples and execute clinical trials to force research in better diagnosis and therapy methods.

Research projects are done in cure research, diagnostic and therapeutic research. The care network encircles university clinics, town clinics, special clinics for Parkinson's disease, specialists and general practitioners. It cooperates with the German Parkinson Union (dPV e.V.), the greatest German patient union.

About the World Parkinson Coalition Inc (WPC):

The World Parkinson Coalition is a US-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing an international forum, also known as the World Parkinson Congresses, showcasing the latest scientific discoveries, medical practices and caregiver initiatives related to Parkinson's disease. Physicians, scientists, allied health professionals, care givers and people living with Parkinson's will come together to learn about the disease and work to find a way to expedite a cure.