

1996 Rome, Italy

2nd EFNS Regional Meeting, Rome, Italy, 30 October - 3 November 1996

A glorious autumn sun shone on all the splendour of Rome during the five days (October 30-November 3, 1996) when the Second Congress of the EFNS took place at the Cavalieri Hilton Hotel. Despite the temptation to stroll through the city, neurologists, who had come from all parts of Europe and even from other continents, crowded the lecture halls to benefit from an outstanding scientific programme. The main themes included the most prevalent and/or costly neurological diseases such as stroke, epilepsy, dementia, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis and headache and the diagnostic possibilities of neuroimaging and neurophysiology. The importance of neurological expertise in rehabilitation and intensive care medicine as well as neurological aspects of pain and alcoholism were further main topics. The organizers had invited prominent experts to speak about the latest findings in Creutzfeldt Jacob disease (M.Pocchiari), cognitive neurology (R.Frackowiak) and controversies in treating multiple sclerosis (W.I. McDonald). Twelve scientist panels of the EFNS organized topical seminars, and 653 posters demonstrated impressively the diversity of neurological research carried out in Europe. The programme also offered eight teaching courses which were very well attended.

Apart from serving as a forum for the dissemination of know-ledge, EFNS congresses are the occasion for the many committees, task forces and scientist panels to meet and 34 business meetings were held in Rome. In these meetings the policies of the EFNS were decided and future work was planned.

The EFNS is very grateful to the Local Organizing Committee, headed by Professor Fieschi, Professor Lenzi and Professor Amaducci, for their wonderful arrangements. Especially we want to thank Dr. Fabbrini, the Scientific Secretary, and Mrs. Paola Gerini and the staff of Studio Gibi for working so hard to make this congress a major success. We also gratefully acknowledge the support of the pharmaceutical industry which was represented by a large exhibition and seven satellite symposia.