IiME Conference

Invest in ME (IiME) is a UK charity whose aim is to educate and raise awareness of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME/CFS) and promote the acceptance of the need for a comprehensive, national strategy of biomedical research into (ME/CFS).

The conference will be held on Friday 23rd May 2008 in the historic setting of One Birdcage Walk, in Westminster, London by the side of the Houses of Parliament.

This fully CPD-accedited conference will consist of lectures regarding sub grouping and treatments for ME/CFS and will be of interest to GPs, researchers, physicians and healthcare support staff as well as media and ME Support groups. It is a rare opportunity in the UK to meet with renowned ME/CFS experts, peers and support groups.

Registration is from 07.45 and the conference finishes at 17.30. We offer discounted rates for patients and for GPs or healthcare staff who register in association with a local ME/CFS Support Group (see registration form).

More information is available at our web site at
www.investinme.org

About ME/CFS

Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) is a severe systemic, acquired illness that is defined by the WHO in the ICD-10 code G93.3 as a neurological illness. In the UK the estimated number of patients with ME/CFS is five times that of registered HIV/AIDS patients. ME/CFS has clear clinical symptoms which manifest predominantly based on neurological, immunological and endocrinological dysfunction. While the pathogenesis is suggested to be multi-factorial, the hypothesis of initiation by a viral infection has been prominent. A wide range of viruses and other infectious agents, such as Epstein-Barr Virus, Human Herpesvirus-6 and 7, Entrovirus, Cytomegalovirus, Lentivirus, Chlamydia and Mycoplasma have been investigated. Before acquiring the illness most patients were healthy, leading full and active lifestyles. ME/CFS most frequently follows an acute prodromal infection, varying from upper respiratory infections, bronchitis or sinusitis, or gastroenteritis, or an acute "flu-like" illness.

The Invest in ME International ME/CFS Conferences are annual events held in London and present the latest information on research, epidemiology, diagnosis and treatments for ME/CFS. The conferences are CPD accredited and bring together the most renowned experts on ME/CFS in the world. Please join us for the conference and help advance the knowledge regarding this illness.

Invest in ME

International ME/CFS Conference

23rd May 2008 London

Sub Grouping of and Treatments for ME/CFS

One Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London

CPD Accredited

Organised and hosted by UK Charity Invest in ME (*Charity Nr. 1114035*)

Phone: 02380 251719 or 07759 349743
Web Site: www.investinme.org

Conference Speakers

Biomedical research is providing evidence of distinct subgroups within ME/CFS. This conference will provide further information on subgrouping of ME/CFS and the treatments which are available or being developed. The presenters at the conference bring a wealth of experience and research on ME/CFS to the audience allowing new insight into how this illness is being researched, diagnosed and treated. The IiME conferences are always friendly events and the opportunities for networking with peers and colleagues as well as the impressive list of presenters will provide all delegates with a unique day of learning. Among the speakers at the conference are -

Dr. Leonard Jason
Dr Jason is amongst the most prolific of all ME/CFS researchers. For more than a decade, Dr. Jason and his team at DePaul University's Centre for Community Research in Chicago, USA have worked to define the scope and impact of ME/CFS worldwide.

One Birdcage Walk in Westminster, London - venue for the International ME/CFS Conference 2008

Dr. Martin Lerner
Dr Lerner is an Infectious Diseases Specialist in Michigan, USA and holds five Patents for Diagnosis and Treatment of ME/CFS. Dr Lerner also heads the Lerner CFS Foundation which is establishing a molecular biology laboratory to develop specific diagnostic testing for subsets of ME/CFS and a training centre dedicated to the training of medical professionals in the treatment of ME/CFS.

Dr. Julia Newton
Dr Newton is Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Cellular Medicine, Newcastle University. Dr Newton has been working on autonomic dysfunction in ME/CFS patients.

Dr. John Chia
Dr Chia is an infectious Diseases Specialist in California, USA and has published research on the role of enteroviruses in the aetiology of ME/CFS – an area implicated as one of the causes of ME/CFS by a number of studies. Enteroviruses can affect the central nervous system, heart and muscles, all of which is consistent with the symptoms of ME/CFS. In trials Dr. Chia's team has discovered that 82% of ME/CFS patients had high levels of enteroviruses in their digestive systems. Dr Chia's research may result in the development of antiviral drugs to treat the debilitating symptoms of ME/CFS.

Dr. Jonathan Kerr
Dr Kerr is "Sir Joseph Hotung Senior Lecturer in Inflammation" at St.George's University of London and Consultant in Microbiology in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine. Dr Kerr has been performing gene expression research and has published several papers on ME/CFS – most recently that of seven distinct sub types of ME/CFS.

Dr. Judy Mikovits
Dr. Mikovits is Research Director at the Whittemore-Peterson Institute for Neuro-immune diseases in Nevada, USA and has co-authored over 40 peer reviewed publications that address fundamental issues of viral pathogenesis, hematopoiesis and cytokine biology.

Dr. Irving Spurr
Dr Spurr is a GP and has over 20 years of experience of running ME/CFS diagnostic and treatment clinics. Dr Spurr worked with the late Dr John Richardson on enteroviruses and their implication in ME/CFS and is chairman of the John Richardson Research Group.

Dr. Jean Monro
Dr Monro is Medical Director at the Breakspear Hospital and has a background in hospital general medicine, researching migraine and multiple sclerosis. Her primary areas of interest are nutritional medicine and immunology, metabolic function and environmental medicine.

Chaired by Professor Malcolm Hooper
Professor Hooper is Emeritus Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, University of Sunderland and has been involved in ME/CFS, GWS, Autism and OP Poisoning research.

Register *Please complete the form and return to the address below.*

Ticket categories:	*Ticket Prices:*
❒ Patient, Carer, Disabled	£35
❒ Student	£35
❒ Charities	£70
❒ Sponsored Healthcare Professional (*via ME group*)	£85
❒ Professionals	£115

Name

Address

Phone:

E-mail:

Method of Payment

❒	Cheque (please enclose cheque made payable to **Invest in ME**)
❒	Invoice Me (we will send an invoice)

Signature

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