

IiME Conference

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

The conference will be held on Friday 20th May 2011 in the historic setting of One Birdcage Walk, in Westminster, London - opposite St. James Park and by the side of the Houses of Parliament. The fully CPD-accredited IiME conferences consist of lectures regarding diagnosis, management, treatment and research into ME/CFS and will be of interest to GPs, researchers, physicians and healthcare support staff as well as media and ME patients and support groups. It is a rare opportunity in the UK to meet with world experts on ME/CFS, peers and support groups. Registration is from 07.45 and the conference begins at 09.00 and finishes at 17.30.



One Birdcage Walk in Westminster, London - venue for the International ME/CFS Conference 2011

Discounted rates exist for GPs or healthcare staff registering in association with a ME/CFS Support Group (see registration form). More information is available at our web site at www.investinme.org or via email at meconference@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 ME/CFS is estimated to be five times more prevalent than HIV/AIDS.

ME/CFS has clear clinical symptoms which manifest predominantly based on neurological, immunological and endocrinological dysfunction. While the pathogenesis is suggested to be multifactorial, 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, Enterovirus, Cytomegalovirus, Lentivirus, Chlamydia and Mycoplasma have been investigated. Before acquiring the illness most patients were healthy, leading full and active lifestyles. Recent research has discovered a new retrovirus - XMRV - as being implicated in ME/CFS.

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. Biomedical research has provided evidence of distinct subgroups within ME/CFS. This conference allows a unique opportunity for networking with peers, colleagues and presenters and provides up to date biomedical information about the illness including the latest information on research, epidemiology, diagnosis and treatments from world renowned experts on ME/CFS. Invest in ME has made a proposal for implementing a translational biomedical facility for ME/CFS in Norfolk, UK.



6th Invest in ME International ME/CFS Conference 2011 The Way Forward for ME - A Case for Clinical Trials for ME/CFS

The Latest Advances in ME/CFS Research and Treatments

20th May 2011
Westminster, London,
UK

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

Dr. David Bell MD

A paediatrician who graduated from Harvard College and gained MD degree at Boston Univ. Subspecialty was Paediatric Behavior and Developmental Disorders. He began a private practice in Lyndonville, New York where, in 1985, a cluster of 220 persons became ill with an illness subsequently called chronic fatigue syndrome. Author/co-author of numerous scientific papers on CFS he was Chairman of the Advisory Committee for CFS of Dept. of Health and Human Services. Currently performing ME/CFS research into the XMRV retrovirus.

Professor Simon Carding PhD

Professor of Mucosal Immunology at Univ. of East Anglia and Institute of Food Research. Has held postdoctoral positions at New York Univ. School of Medicine and Yale Univ. School of Medicine, Univ. of Pennsylvania, and Associate Professor and Univ. of Leeds as Professor of Molecular Immunology. Scientific interests are in understanding how the immune response in the gut functions and mechanisms of the body's immune system leads to immune system activation/inflammatory disease.

Dr. John Chia MD

Dr. Chia is an infectious Diseases Specialist and President of EV Med Research and Assistant Clinical Professor at UCLA School of Medicine, California, USA. He has published research on the role of enteroviruses in the aetiology of ME/CFS which may result in the development of antiviral drugs to treat the debilitating symptoms of ME/CFS.

Professor Kenny De Meirleir MD PhD

Full professor of physiology, pathophysiology and medicine at the Virje Universitet and practices Internal Medicine at Himmunitas Foundation in Brussels. Has published several hundred peer reviewed articles, co-author of the book 'Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: a biological approach' and was co-editor of Journal of CFS and one of four international experts developing the Canadian Consensus Document for ME/CFS and he assesses/treats thousands of ME/CFS patients annually.

Dr Andreas Kogelnik MD PhD

Director The Open Medicine Institute, a community-based translational research institute. He received M.D. from Emory Univ. School of Medicine, Atlanta and Ph.D. in bioengineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. Completed residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Infectious Diseases at Stanford Univ. Had NIH funding at Stanford for post-doctoral research in microbiology, immunology and bioinformatics exploring host-response profiles in severely ill patients. Working with Dr. José Montoya he performed conception, design & execution of

a placebo-controlled, double-blind study of subset of CFS patients with evidence of viral infection.

Prof. Olav Mella MD PhD / Dr Øystein Fluge MD PhD

Institute of Medicine, Section of Oncology, Univ. of Bergen / Department of Oncology and Medical Physics, Haukeland Univ. Hospital, Bergen, Norway. Øystein Fluge is now chief physician at the Cancer Department, Haukeland Univ. Hospital.

Dr. Judy Mikovits PhD

Research Director at Whittemore-Peterson Institute, Nevada. Co-author of 40+ peer reviewed publications addressing issues of viral pathogenesis, hematopoiesis and cytokine biology. She studied immune response to retroviruses and herpes viruses with special emphasis on virus host cell interactions. Co-author of ground-breaking study published in Science magazine in Oct 2009 which detected XMRV in CFS patients, and member of US Department of Health and Human Services Blood Working Group.

Annette Whittemore

Founder and President of the Whittemore Peterson Institute for Neuroimmune Diseases, Univ. of Nevada. Its mission is to serve those with complex neuro-immune diseases such as ME/CFS, viral induced central nervous system dysfunction and fibromyalgia. She supports the basic and clinical research program and actively recruits physicians and other support personnel for the Institute.

Professor Tom Wileman PhD

Professor Wileman is Professor of Infection and Immunity & Director at Biomedical Research Centre at Univ. of East Anglia. He was Head of Dep. Immunology and Pathology and Virus Cell Biology Group at Institute of Animal Health; Assistant Professor at Dep. Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Claudia Adam's Barr Investigator in Cancer Research, Dept. Molecular Immunology, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School; Fellow of the Parker Francis Pulmonary Research Foundation, Dept. Cell Biology, Washington Univ. Medical School.

Dr. James Baraniuk MD, PhD

Associate Professor with Tenure in the Department of Medicine, Georgetown Univ. Washington

Professor Malcolm Hooper PhD

Chair of the 6th Invest in ME International ME/CFS Conference 2011 is Professor Malcolm Hooper, Emeritus Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, Univ. of Sunderland. He is an internationally-renowned expert on ME/CFS and a tireless campaigner for patients' rights.

Conference Flyer Version 05 2011

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

Ticket categories:

	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Professionals	£120
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsored Healthcare Professional (via ME group)	£100
<input type="checkbox"/> Charities	Contact liME
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	Contact liME
<input type="checkbox"/> Patient or Immediate Carer/Parent	Contact liME

Name

Address

Phone:

E-mail:

Method of Payment

- Cheque (please enclose cheque made payable to Invest in ME)

Signature

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