

May 20, 2001

MINUTES: ARIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 11, 2001
Hotel Intercontinental, Berlin, Germany

Participants: Jean Bousquet, Chair, Paul van Cauwenberge, Co-Chair, Carlos Baena-Cagnani, G. Walter Canonica, Pascal Demoly, Stephen Durham, Wytse Fokkens, Ruby Pawankar, Antonio Vignola. ARIA: Anna Bedbrook, Larry Grouse.

Sponsors: Lars Jacobsen (ALK-Abéllo), Jane Critchley, Neil Williams (AstraZeneca), Karen Brimson (Aventis), Boris Danilovic, Jonathon Porter, Bryan Rafalko (Merck), Keith Allan, Kristina Vincenc (Novartis), Margarita Murrieta-Aguttes (Sanofi-Synthelabo), Alan Harris, Paul Medeiros, Phil Stearns, Dominique P. Monnet (Schering-Plough), Sebastien Iva (Stallergenes).

ARIA ORGANIZATION

Professor Bousquet reviewed ARIA's organization. Scientific issues related to the promulgation of scientific and educational documents are supervised by the ARIA Scientific Committee, while the Advisory Committee will focus on the dissemination and implementation of ARIA guidelines and education. The members of these committees have been selected.

ARIA DOCUMENTS

The ARIA Workshop Report will be published within the next few months in JACI or Allergy, while the Executive Summary of the ARIA Workshop Report will be published later this year in Allergy or the JACI.

The Pocket Guide was released at EAACI and the slide kit will be completed by September 2001. Copies of the draft slide kit have been e-mailed to all Exec. Committee members and sponsors.

A major educational printing of the ARIA Pocket Guide will be done during the next several weeks. This is the opportunity for ARIA sponsors to have proprietary editions printed for their company use in the most cost-effective way.

ARIA LAUNCH

Prof. van Cauwenberge worked with EAACI to schedule the ARIA press briefing and launch of ARIA on May 11 in Berlin. The Press conference was held at the Press Center at the International Conference Center. Profs. Bousquet, van Cauwenberge and Pawankar spoke along with EAACI leaders. Approximately 80 journalists attended and multiple wire and newspaper stories concerning ARIA have resulted.

ARIA INTERNATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

The thrust and leadership of the ARIA efforts internationally were reviewed. In Europe, ARIA will partner with EAACI and will focus on primary care education. In South

America, Prof. Baena-Cagnani will lead the ARIA implementation. In Asia, Prof. Pawankar will lead the effort. In North America, Profs. Lockey, Kemp, Meltzer and Simons will spearhead the educational effort. In Africa, ARIA will collaborate with Prof. Ait-Khaled and IUATLD in this effort as well as with Prof. Bateman.

Profs. Canonica, Bousquet, and other members of the ARIA Executive Committee are communicating with the US College and Academy of Allergy concerning the possibility of scheduling ARIA Symposia at their upcoming meetings in partnership with these organizations to advance the launch of ARIA in the US. EC members and sponsors will be notified concerning the results of these discussions. The specific arrangements in the US will be communicated to sponsors as soon as the details are available to provide support for the US business units in ARIA implementation.

Primary care efforts for ARIA will take place in the UK on Sept. 7-9, 2001 in Manchester at a NARTC meeting and in Amsterdam in June of 2002 at the primary care respiratory group meeting as a part of the meeting of WONCA. In addition, Prof. van Shayck will be testing the ARIA documents with primary care physicians. Testing and education programs will also be implemented by Profs. Popov, Radu and Szczeklik in Bulgaria, Romania, and Poland.

Prof. Ait-Khaled and Dr. Annesi will be involved in validating the ISAAC study results that showed 49% of patients in African countries such as Guinea having rhinitis. ARIA will be funding these studies.

Prof. Baena-Cagnani has planned a WHO meeting in Argentina that will take place during the Argentinean Allergy and Clinical Immunology Association at the Hilton Buenos Aires Hotel on Aug. 18, 2001. The local press conference will be held on Aug. 17, 2001. On Saturday 18th a Plenary Session concerning ARIA will take place and Profs. Jean Bousquet, Ruby Pawankar, Eli Meltzer and Carlos Baena-Cagnani will present.

Prof. Pawankar has planned a major meeting in Bangkok on Dec. 1-4, 2001 for ARIA implementation in the Asia-Pacific region. It will include 2 representatives from each of the 12 participating countries. A translation of the ARIA Pocket Guide will be available from each country to use for implementation activities.

Prof. Pawankar met with several of the sponsors at a meeting prior to the Exec. Committee meeting and presented data concerning the dimensions of the problem of rhinitis in Asia with possibly 50% of the global burden occurring there. There is evidence that the incidence is growing in Korea and other areas. Data show 30-50% coexistence of asthma and rhinitis in Asian studies. Prof. Pawankar discussed the opportunities for sponsor participation in the meeting and the resulting implementation activities.

NEXT MEETING

As discussed above, Prof. Bousquet and members of the Exec. Committee are in discussion with AAAAI and ACAI concerning ARIA activities at the US meetings of these organizations. The next meeting of the Exec. Committee with ARIA sponsors will be scheduled when these ARIA Symposia are set.