

CROSS-INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

Respiratory Drug Delivery (RDD®) Conferences focus on combination products

The Organizers of the Respiratory Drug Delivery Conference Series

Inhaled combination products have been widely discussed at Respiratory Drug Delivery (RDD®) conferences over the years, and the synergistic effects of two or more drug classes delivered from the same device have provided significant advances in patient care. Their success boils down to better outcomes with more convenience.

Respiratory Drug Delivery Europe 2019

In fact, such products were the subject of the highly regarded plenary lecture by Jadwiga Wedzicha, MD, Professor of Respiratory Medicine at the National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, when she opened RDD Europe 2019 this past spring. Her presentation titled, “Unraveling Triple Therapy in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease,” pointed to several benefits associated with dual and triple drug combinations in a single inhaler.

Before getting into the lessons in this for RDD conferences, we would be remiss not to summarize other aspects of RDD Europe 2019. The unseasonal rain at the Estoril Congress Center, near Lisbon, Portugal, did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of academic, government and pharmaceutical industry representatives who gathered to hear and build on the latest scientific, clinical and regulatory advances in nasal and inhaled drug product development. Jointly organized by teams at RDD Online and Aptar Pharma, the conference was nota-



Image courtesy of the JW Marriott Desert Springs

ble for the quality of presentations and the large audience of more than 500 delegates. They participated from more than 30 countries in continental Europe (47%), the UK (25%), the US and Canada (16%), along with 12% from Brazil, China, India, Israel, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uruguay.

The scientific program featured sessions covering New Treatment Approaches; Pipes, Particles and Predictions: New Insights into Deposition; Re-Inventing Inhalers for the Digital Age; Inhalation Product Development and Production, plus Take a Deep Breath, a session delving into the implications of Brexit and environmental sustainability. Our post-conference evaluation showed delegates appreciated hearing about fresh approaches to challenges facing the industry presented by a mix of key opinion leaders and emerging researchers.

The high level of interest in the invited speakers, poster and workshop presenters, and exhibitors, resulted in unparalleled networking. One-on-one interactions, small group discussions and demonstrations were evident throughout the three days as participants discussed their innovations in pulmonary and nasal drug delivery. Networking continued into the evenings, including the “New Discoveries” Gala Dinner at Sud Lisboa overlooking the River Tagus.

Following five excellent Posters on the Podium presentations, the 2019 RDD VCU Peter R. Byron Graduate Student Award was presented to Hui Wang for his abstract and poster titled, “Agitation Method Affects Colloidal Stability of Pharmaceutical Suspensions.” Hui is a recent PhD graduate from the particle engineering group at the University of Alberta. All graduate students

who had a poster abstract accepted for the conference and attended RDD Europe 2019 were eligible to receive the award, which covered the winner's registration fee, travel expenses and accommodations.

Respiratory Drug Delivery 2020 and coordinated IPAC-RS Symposium

Getting back to combination products is exactly what we have planned for next year. RDD 2020 will join forces with the International Pharmaceutical Aerosol Consortium on Regulation and Science (IPAC-RS) to offer a coordinated and informative five-day program. Both organizing teams are planning to deliver value, convenience and synergies without content overlap and wasted downtime, by utilizing one venue—the JW Marriott Desert Springs in Palm Desert, California. This popular conference hotel is only 25 minutes from the Palm Springs Airport but also easily reachable by a scenic 2-hour drive from Los Angeles or San Diego. This enables participants to travel once and attend two important conferences.

RDD 2020 (April 26-30) will retain most of the features of RDD Europe 2019, augmented by platinum sponsor seminars and recognition of a key thought leader and distinguished researcher in aerosol delivery through the Charles G. Thiel Award; nominations are due November 30, 2019. IPAC-RS will follow up with a symposium on The Global Regulatory Landscape and Advances in Digital Technology: Transforming the Patient Experience with OINDPs (April 30-May 1).

Now is the time to decide how you will participate. While simply attending one or both events as a delegate will be a great learning and networking opportunity, we hope you will consider presenting your research. Poster abstracts are due by January 13, 2020. Companies may want to consider exhibiting, sponsoring or advertising at the conference to showcase their

services and innovations. Space is available on a first-come basis.

Details are available at www.rddonline.com/rdd2020 or by contacting us at info@rddonline.com or +1 (804) 827-1490.

RDD Asia 2020 and beyond

While the venue is still being finalized, we will convene in India in November, 2020. RDD Asia 2020 specifically caters to the unique needs of Asian scientists and organizations while sparing them the long flight to North America or Europe. Western and local delegates will build on the strengths of each to continue the accelerating pace of international inhaled product development.

Finally, RDD Europe 2021 will return to Antibes (near Nice), France, May 4-7, 2021.

We hope to see you at any combination of these Respiratory Drug Delivery Conferences!