

CROSS-INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

ISAM: 2018 highlights and a preview of the 2019 Congress

Members of the ISAM Board

What is ISAM?

The International Society for Aerosols in Medicine (ISAM) is a scientific organization with a mission to promote and advance aerosol science internationally. It focuses on health effects of inhaled aerosols, including inhaled drug delivery for prevention and treatment of human diseases. ISAM engages its members via international conferences, publications, study groups and special research projects, and reaches out to the scientific community with educational seminars, congresses, text books and webinars. ISAM provides its members unique mergers with multiple other scientific organizations such as the American Thoracic Society (ATS) and European Respiratory Society (ERS) and offers access to the *Journal of Aerosol Medicine and Pulmonary Drug Delivery*.

Educational activities between congresses

ISAM continues to be active within the scientific community between congresses. In May 2018, ISAM hosted a one-day symposium on “Updates and Controversies Related to Inhaled Aerosols” on the campus of the University of California, San Diego in La Jolla, California. The organizing committee included Chantal Darquenne, Jim Fink, Philip Kuehl, Otmar Schmid and Rui Carlos Sá. The event drew an international group of 45 partici-

pants from industry and academic institutions. The program included oral presentations on e-cigarettes, bronchial challenge testing and personalized medicine, a pro/con debate on the use of inhaled antibiotics to treat non-CF bronchiectasis and a panel discussion on the use of digital health in aerosol therapy. The presentations were designed to engage the audience in discussions, with each session springing questions ranging from applications of the data to regulatory impacts. Throughout the day, posters were available for viewing from scientists, post docs and research students within ISAM’s scientific expertise.

ISAM has also launched its webinar series, inviting international scientific leaders in the field to give online talks about fundamentals of aerosols in medicine. These webinars are organized quarterly and give ISAM members opportunities to regularly get together online for discussions about a specific scientific topic. The most recent webinar was “Fate of Aerosols Depositing in the Respiratory Tract,” which was presented by past ISAM president William D. Bennett. Watch the ISAM website for announcements about new webinars.

22nd Congress to be in 2019

Looking forward, ISAM is proud to announce that the 22nd Congress will be held in Montreux, Switzer-

land, May 26-29, 2019. The congress will bring together about 400 international attendees at one of the most focused and scientific pulmonary drug delivery and respiratory health conferences. Attendees will include clinicians, respiratory health care professionals, aerosol engineers, formulation scientists and regulatory representatives. ISAM congresses are always focused on scientific interactions between industrial scientists, regulatory officials, academic researchers, post-docs and developing scientists. Consequently, the conference will offer a high-level platform for discussions with partners from different disciplines and locations.

The objective of all portions of the congress will be to foster scientific discussions around the current state-of-the-art for aerosols in medicine. Preceding the conference, continuing education classes will focus on air/liquid interface culture approaches, a joint IPAC-RS/ISAM workshop and application of microfluidics and 3D-printing technologies to pulmonary medicine. These pre-conference workshops typically have about 20 to 40 attendees and provide small-group settings to engage the audiences and experts within each topic area.

The conference’s scientific agenda will focus on the understanding of pulmonary disease, new devices and emerging therapies, environmental aerosols, device/formula-

tion strategies, advancing imaging techniques and emerging aerosol technologies. Each scientific session within the congress program will include presentations from experts in the field, augmented by presentations of novel and/or emerging data within the session topic. Often the novel/emerging presentations are selected from submitted abstracts, so watch the website closely for the submission dates if you wish to be considered as a presenter.

The conference center is located on the beautiful shores of Lake Geneva, surrounded by gardens and the principal hotels of the town. It is an ideal venue, offering a great atmosphere for discussions and scientific exchange. For further information, please consult the conference website: <https://www.isam.org/congress>.

A new ISAM website

ISAM recently updated its website, providing an intuitive, user-friendly tool to support members and the good works of the organization. Thanks to our webmaster, Alison McNabb (alison@isam.org), users can now join, renew memberships and register for programs and products by credit card. News is updated regularly, including upcoming events and current newsletters. Members can access the *Journal of Aerosol Medicine and Pulmonary Drug Delivery*, keep in touch through the members directory, access a variety of educational tools including the ISAM Textbook, see presentations from recent ISAM-sponsored programs and will soon be able to interact with network group forums. All suggestions and comments about the new website are welcome.

To stay in touch with ISAM, become a member or learn more, please visit the ISAM website: <https://www.isam.org/index.htm>.