



# GARD Newsletter

## GARD Country Activities - Mexico



### A Date in History for GARD Mexico:

On **December 7, 2017**, the team made up of **Dr. Sandra Nora González** (GARD Representative and Coordinator), **Dr. Ignacio Ansotegui** (President of the World Allergy Organization, WAO) and **Dr. Hector Solorio Gomez** (former President of the Congress of the Mexican College of Pediatricians Specialists in Clinical Immunology and Allergy, COMPEDIA) met with the Health Commission of the Upper Chamber of the Mexican Senate. This

**groundbreaking meeting** resulted in the recognition of chronic allergies and respiratory diseases as a public health concern in Mexico. It was named a "**21st century epidemic**", leading to the allocation of the federal budget to public health systems for its diagnosis and treatment. The underpinning goal is to improve the quality of life of Mexicans living with these conditions.

Not only was this meeting with the Senators of Mexico successful, it also raised the attention within the political sphere about the impact of allergies and respiratory diseases had on the Mexican population and the health system. Today, government and healthcare workers are **working towards common goals**:

- Reduce the impact of allergic diseases and asthma in Mexico
- Reduce the economic impact originated from emergency room services, hospital admissions, mortality and work disability
- Reduce the incidence and prevalence through implementation of prevention strategies



### Reaching Out to the Public:



**Educating patients & families** - Every other Saturday, patient and family with respiratory diseases attend a conference that was held in the Regional Center of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CRAIC HU). There, they learn about their disease, prevention measures, adequate treatment and they also receive an evaluation from a nutritionist who advises them about healthy eating habits. Patients and families also engaged in sports and recreational activities.



**Taking healthcare to rural areas** - Every year CRAIC HU organizes health campaigns in rural areas to identify, diagnose and treat chronic respiratory diseases in patients who do not have access to allergy or pulmonology specialists. These patients receive consultations, medications and treatment. email:



Contact person for GARD Mexico, Dr. Sandra Nora González: [sgonzalezdiaz@yahoo.com](mailto:sgonzalezdiaz@yahoo.com)

**Congrats to IPCRG for a successful 9<sup>th</sup> IPCRG World Conference, Porto, Portugal, May-June 2018. Click here for details: [IPCRG 9th World Conference News & Summary](#)**



**GARD Publications** (<http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/>; last 5 months, March to July 2018) IN JOURNAL OF THORACIC DISEASE-GARD SECTION (<http://jtd.amegroups.com/>):

- Arzu Yorgancıoğlu, Bilun Gemicioglu, Banu Ekinci, Zübeyde Özkan, Hasan Bayram, Begüm Ergan, Refika Ersu, Ali Kocabaş, Nurdan Köktürk. Asthma in the context of global alliance against respiratory diseases (GARD) in Turkey. *Journal of Thoracic Disease*; 10(3):2052-2058.

#### OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS BY GARD COLLEAGUES:

(To download these publications, go to <http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/>; last 5 months, March to July 2018)

- Ferkol TW, Farber HJ, La Grutta S, Leone FT, Marshall HM, Neptune E, Pisinger C, Vanker A, Wisotzky M, Zabert GE, **Schraufnagel DE**; Forum of International Respiratory Societies. Electronic cigarette use in youths: a position statement of the Forum of International Respiratory Societies. *Eur Respir J*. 2018 May 30;51(5). pii: 1800278. doi: 10.1183/13993003.00278-2018.
- P.N. DeYoung, I.M. Mbanze, J.E. Orr, R.U. Banze, G.A. Muchanga, V. Govo, **E.A. Nunes**, A. Malhotra, A.A. Damasceno. A Prospective Observational Cohort Study of Sleep in People with Acute Congestive Heart Failure in Mozambique. *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* 2018;197:A3964.
- Maheu-Cadotte MA, Cossette S, Dubé V, Fontaine G, Mailhot T, Lavoie P, Cournoyer A, **Balli F**, Mathieu-Dupuis G. Effectiveness of serious games and impact of design elements on engagement and educational outcomes in healthcare professionals and students: a systematic review and meta-analysis protocol. *BMJ Open*. 2018 Mar 16;8(3):e019871.

## Upcoming Relevant Conferences & Events

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:



- **31 August - 1 September 2018 - The GARD General Meeting, Helsinki, Finland**
  - Final Program: [https://GARD\\_2018GM\\_Program](https://GARD_2018GM_Program)
  - For registration: [https://GARD\\_2018GM\\_Registration](https://GARD_2018GM_Registration)
  - For hotel reservation: [http://GARD\\_2018GM\\_Hotel](http://GARD_2018GM_Hotel)
  - Overarching theme: "The Natural Step to Respiratory Health" highlighting the importance of nature and its effects on our health, well-being and immune balance, See the presentation of Prof Tari Haahtela on this topic: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLtmbMt-aCY>

- 13 September 2018 - **The 2018 Global Respiratory Summit**, Paris France, cost-hosted by COPD Global & Global Allergy & Asthma Patient Platform (GAAPP), contact [kwillard@copdfoundation.org](mailto:kwillard@copdfoundation.org) for details

### NATIONAL CONGRESSES:

- Sept 2018 - GARD - Air Pollution Impact in Latin América, Bolivarian Chapter - Regional **SLaai Congress**, Perú
- 26 Sept - 29 Sept 2018 - XIII Internati onal Congress of the **Polish Society of Allergology**, Mikolajki, Poland (<https://congress2018.szkoleniapta.pl/>)
- 20 October - 23 October 2018 - 45th Congress of **Allergy and Immunology of Brazil** (ASBAI), Recife, Brazil
- 31 October - 3 November 2018 - The 25th National Congress of the **Romanian Society of Pneumology**: The lung and the air quality: a new frontier, Poiana Brasov, Romania
- 29 November - 2 December 2018- 23rd Congress of the **Asian Pacific Society of Respirology** in Taipei, Taiwan (<https://www.apsr2018.com/>)

**To submit items for the upcoming newsletter or to subscribe:** Contact the GARD Newsletter Editors: Drs Teresa To ([teresa.to@sickkids.ca](mailto:teresa.to@sickkids.ca)) & Stefania La Grutta ([lagrutta@ibim.cnr.it](mailto:lagrutta@ibim.cnr.it))

**GARD Executives:** Nikolai Khaltaev (Chair), Arzu Yorgancıoglu (Vice-Chair), Nils Billo, Jean Bousquet, Teresa To

**GARD Planning Committee** (in alphabetical order of last name): Eric Bateman, Niels Chavannes, Alvaro Cruz, Bilun Gemicioglu, Peter Hellings, Ali Ben Kheder, Hironori Sagara, Boleslaw Samolinski, Jaime Correia de Sousa, Rafael Stelmach, Arunas Valiulis, Giovanni Viegi, Kristine Whorlow, Tonya A. Winders