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.

Contact person for GARD Mexico, Dr. Sandra Nora González: sgonzalezdiaz@yahoo.com
GARD Publications (http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/; last 5 months, March to July 2018)
IN JOURNAL OF THORACIC DISEASE-GARD SECTION (http://jtd.amergroups.com/):


OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS BY GARD COLLEAGUES:
(To download these publications, go to http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/; last 5 months, March to July 2018)


Upcoming Relevant Conferences & Events
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:

- **31 August - 1 September 2018 - The GARD General Meeting, Helsinki, Finland**
  - Final Program: [https://GARD_2018GM_Program](http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/)
  - For registration: [https://GARD_2018GM_Registration](http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/)
  - For hotel reservation: [http://GARD_2018GM_Hotel](http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/)
  - 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](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 for details

NATIONAL CONGRESSES:

- Sept 2018 - GARD - Air Pollution Impact in Latin América, Bolivarian Chapter - Regional SLaal Congress, Perú
- 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

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

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