

Aim



Many specialists from different countries and a variety of branches of medicine are increasingly involved in Pain Medicine. This is certainly a boost to cultural richness. However, this creates a point of weakness in the lack of uniformity of clinical approaches to the patient and in the different uses of the various available diagnostic tools.

The Montescano School will help pain clinicians to refine their clinical neurological approach and to improve their ability to interpret instrumental and laboratory findings. For the many who do not work in a multidisciplinary team or who rely on external support, the School will also provide the skills for a better understanding of the various diagnostic tests.

Faculty

Michelangelo Buonocore	Roberto Casale
Pierluigi Chimento	Giorgio Cruccu
Giuseppe DeBenedittis	Alessandro Giustini
Magdi Hanna	Per Hansson
Martin Koltzenburg	Marco Lacerenza
Maria Teresa LaRovere	Franco Marinangeli
Danilo Miotti	Marco Matucci-Cerinic
Maria Nolano	Carlo Porro
Fausto Salaffi	Giorgio Sandrini
Piercarlo Sarzi-Puttini	Riccardo Torta
Andrea Truini	Giustino Varrassi



General information



Contacts

roberto.casale@fsm.it
slamanna@fsm.it

Logistics

The School will take place at Montescano Rehabilitation Centre, "Salvatore Maugeri" Foundation, an Institute for Research and Care (IRCCS) (for more details go to: www.fsm.it)

Accommodation:

Montescano Hotel, a very comfortable three-star hotel right next to the Rehabilitation Centre (to see the location go to: www.locandamontescano.com). Other accommodations are available on request.

Social activities

Wine & Food tasting in renowned wineries
Pain & Pleasure Club®: Gospel & Soul evening

How to reach Montescano

- By plane:
the venue is approximately 90 min travelling time from Milano-Malpensa and Milano-Linate airports. Transfers can be organized.
- By car:
Montescano is located on the Torino-Piacenza-Brescia motorway (exit: Stradella)
- By train:
the nearest train station is Stradella



EFIC's SCHOOL FOR:

NEUROLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS IN CHRONIC PAIN

"Clinical and instrumental processes"

26-30 October, 2009

"Salvatore Maugeri" Foundation - IRCCS
Scientific Institute for Research and Care
Montescano (PV) - Italy

Dept. of Clinical Neurophysiology
& Pain Rehabilitation Unit

MONDAY

from 8 to 13 am



THE OUTPATIENT

In outpatient practice it is important to make a first essential screening (neuropathic, nociceptive, mixed pain). The aim of this section is to give a quick reference flow chart for clinicians mainly working in outpatient clinics.

The first interview

- The clinical examination (Shotgun or Gestalt)
- Minimum instrument set needed (hammer, tuning fork, Von Frey hairs, Lindblom's roll, dermatographic pencil)
- How to make easy and fast recordings of the clinical picture (Clinimetry I)

The psychological profile

The second interview (First part)

Diagnostic procedures in an outpatient setting: what to ask for and how to interpret it.

- Standard and routine neurophysiology
- Laboratory (blood samples for inflammatory markers, etc.)
- Questionnaires and diaries (Clinimetry II)
 - Complex pain questionnaires
 - ADL questionnaires
 - Specific disease-oriented questionnaires

from 14 to 18 am

Afternoon Practical training

Participants will carry out exercises applying what they have learned in the morning lessons through workshops composed of small groups, interactive sessions, role playing and multimedia simulations.

TUESDAY

from 8 to 13 am



The second interview (Second part)

- Routine radiology and neuroradiology
- Quantitative sensory testing
- Minimally invasive tests (superficial nerves and trigger points blockade, etc.)

How to obtain possible information on the pathophysiology of pain through the use of drugs

- Pharmacological tests (lidocaine test, etc.)
- Ca/Na/K blockers
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and COX2-selective inhibitors
- Inhibitors of the serotonin and noradrenaline reuptake
- Opiates

The functional assessment

- Quality of life
- Motor impairment
- ICF classification

Pain Tournament "Europe against Pain"

1st Challenge

A tournament will be organized to verify the level of knowledge acquired after this session. The aim is to make this an educational exercise while introducing the fun of a competition. The winner will be the participant who obtains the diagnosis in the shortest possible time with the most limited and best use of the laboratory results.

from 14 to 18 am

Afternoon Practical training

WEDNESDAY

from 8 to 13 am



THE INPATIENT OR THE HIGHLY COMPLEX PATIENT

A patient is referred to a pain clinic mainly for further investigations, confirmation of the diagnostic hypothesis or to start a given treatment. In this setting the clinical and diagnostic tools should be used to define the type of pain precisely and determine the possible sites of action of the therapeutic options.

The interview in a pain unit setting

Critical revision of the patient's history

The multidisciplinary approach

How to use consultants from different specialities

The clinical examination of the highly complex patient

- Mechanical static, dynamic, deep somatic
- Mechanical pinprick
- Thermal (heat & cold)

Diagnostic procedures in an inpatient setting (clinical indications and limitations)

- Quantitative sensory testing
- Neurovegetative tests (non-invasive)
 - Sudomotor studies (SSR, QSART)
 - Vasomotor studies (photoplethysmography, laser Doppler)
 - Skin temperature (thermography)
 - R-R variability (Valsalva manoeuvre, tilt test, etc.)

from 14 to 18 am

Afternoon Practical training

THURSDAY

from 8 to 13 am



Special neurophysiology testing

- Microneurography
- Evoked potentials (LASER, dermatomeric, SSEP)
- Reflex responses (blink reflex, RaIII)
- Brain mapping

Functional neuroradiology

Biopsies (skin, muscle)

Laboratory (immunohistochemistry)

Complex and invasive diagnostic procedures

(clinical indications and limitations)

- Peripheral nerve blockade
- Electrostimulation (SCS, PNS, etc.)
- Bier's blockade with different compounds
- Systemic lidocaine test
- Pharmacological tests

from 14 to 18 am

Afternoon Practical training

FRIDAY

from 8 to 12 am



Learning questionnaires

In this setting, the clinical and diagnostic tools learned during the School will be discussed and compared, with teachers, in relation to real clinical cases.

Pain Tournament "Europe against Pain"

2nd Challenge

The "losers" of the First Challenge will have a second chance to tackle more complex and challenging cases of chronic pain. As for the First Challenge, the tournament will consist of simulated cases within a range of highly complex pain topics. The aim is to make this an educational exercise but with the fun of a competition.