



# SOSORT

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY ON SPINAL ORTHOPAEDIC AND  
REHABILITATION TREATMENT

NEWSLETTER N° 2-2010

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## EDITORIAL:

In few weeks we are going to meet us again in Montreal! The 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of SOSORT is here.

For this reason Charles Rivard, the chair of the Meeting, wants to welcome us to his city and to the meeting with the present letter. For sure it will be a great time where to improve and share knowledge with all partners who are working in this field all over the world. Our objective: to offer the best of us to all patients with spinal deformities.

As we report you in the previous edition we are changing the content of the Newsletter, is a honour to start-up the Interview section with our colleague Jean Claude de Mauroy. He not just build up our Website, he also obtained for us the HONcode certification. So maybe not all of you know what does this mean, in that case, read carefully the interview and you will learn more about what this represents for our Society.

Wishing to enjoy and dazzle us in Montreal with all news coming from the papers presentations and from the personal chats.

Good flight and see you in short!

M. Villagrasa and P. Pizzetti.

**LETTER FROM THE MEETING CHAIRMAN: CHARLES RIVARD**



Montreal, March 18, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

Good news, the program of the 7th annual meeting of SOSORT is almost finished. We received 78 abstracts and most of them, after an evaluation by 12 different peoples, have been accepted.

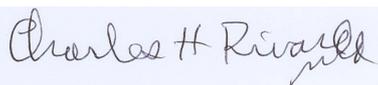
We will cover many different topics, like school screening, molecular biology, surface topography, radiology, basic science, biomechanics, physiotherapy, posture, quality of life, dynamic bracing, night time bracing and rigid bracing.

Our guest speaker, Dr Lawrence Lenke, will lecture us twice, once in the educational session Chaired by Dr Manuel Rigo and once more as SRS President elect.

As usual, we will have our consensus session presented by Dr Theodoros B. Grivas, our educational session chaired by Dr Manuel Rigo and our presidential address by Dr Tomasz Kotwicki.

The preliminary program is on our website at:  
<http://www.saac.chu-sainte-justine.org/sosort-2010.html>

Come to join us to participate at this interesting program.



Chair, Organizing Committee  
SOSORT 2010  
[www.saac.chu-sainte-justine.org](http://www.saac.chu-sainte-justine.org)

## INTERVIEW TO JEAN CLAUDE DE MAUROY ABOUT: THE HONcode CERTIFICATION FOR OUR WEBSITE

NC: How much time did you spent in treating spinal deformities?

JCdM

My first contact with vertebral deformities take place in 1972. Previously, I was a normal student who was destined to PediatRICS. The topic of my thesis was the Infantile Scoliosis. As Resident at the "Centre des Massues" I meet Pierre Stagnara who gave me the virus of scoliosis treatment. At that time, conservative treatment was developing very quickly and I had soon the responsibility of a children department of 36 beds. Since, I have never ceased to exercise this activity full-time.

NC: So you got in touch with thousands of people. To your opinion how much is communication, in this field of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation, important to let the patient understand his/her condition?

JCdM

Communication is the basis of medical activity. Bracing a teenager is a challenge. Scoliosis is an iceberg whose apex is the deviation, the "unsaid" is often more important. It is at each stage of the treatment that we will face various problems: how other people can look at us, self-image, future family, future job ...

NC: Now we are in the era of the World Wide Web. Do you think that the web is a tool that can improve the contact between the physician and patients?

JCdM

The Internet is a communication tool, but we must not confuse the container and the contents. If the website is well done, it allows the patient to prepare their first medical consultation and be ready to ask the right questions.

NC: Don't you think that the web could be a dangerous tool? In the sense that so much information in the hands of not-specifically involved in scoliosis care persons (MD,PT, CPO, Patients..). Don't you think that internet can encourage a "self-made" treatment or "improvised" experts?

JCdM

The medical doctor is no longer the unique holder of medical knowledge. Dr. Google has become a colleague ... Currently there is such an amount of information that the patient can not interpret it alone and needs his physician. Expertise is based a little on knowledge and a lot on experience. Internet can however offer clinical simulations like the classic "flight simulator".

NC: HONcode is the oldest and the most used ethical and trustworthy code for medical and health related information available on the Internet. When do you decided to ask for passing the certification?

JCdM

I manage the French Order of Physicians web-site since the beginning of the Internet. The French Order of Physicians developed recommendations for medical websites and advised us this certification which is also useful for Professional Formation. 915 French web-sites are currently certified.

NC: Which are the request for obtaining the certification?

JCdM

- When requesting for HONcode certification, you agree that your site is in conformity with the legislation enacted in your country and that request for HONcode certification is in

conformity with these laws, and will remain so.

- By requesting for HONcode certification, you commit yourself to compliance at all times, to the principles of the HONcode, from the time of certification of your site.

The principles concern:

#### 1. Authoritative

Indicate the qualifications of the authors.

Any medical or health advice provided and hosted on this site will only be given by medically trained and qualified professionals unless a clear statement is made that a piece of advice offered is from a non-medically qualified individual or organisation.

#### 2. Complementarity

Information should support, not replace, the doctor-patient relationship.

The information provided on this site is designed to support, not replace, the relationship that exists between a patient/site visitor and his/her existing physician.

#### 3. Privacy

Respect the privacy and confidentiality of personal data submitted to the site by the visitor.

Confidentiality of data relating to individual patients and visitors to a medical/health Web site, including their identity, is respected by this Web site. The Web site owners undertake to honour or exceed the legal requirements of medical/health information privacy that apply in the country and state where the Web site and mirror sites are located.

#### 4. Attribution

Cite the source(s) of published information, date and medical and health pages.

Where appropriate, information contained on this site will be supported by clear references to source data and, where possible, have specific HTML links to that data. The date when a clinical page was last modified will be clearly displayed (e.g. at the bottom of the page).

#### 5. Justifiability

Site must back up claims relating to benefits and performance.

Any claims relating to the benefits/performance of a specific treatment, commercial product or service will be supported by appropriate, balanced evidence in the manner outlined above in Principle 4.

#### 6. Transparency

Accessible presentation, accurate email contact.

The designers of this Web site will seek to provide information in the clearest possible manner and provide contact addresses for visitors that seek further information or support. The Webmaster will display his/her E-mail address clearly throughout the Web site.

#### 7. Financial disclosure

Identify funding sources.

Support for this Web site will be clearly identified, including the identities of commercial and non-commercial organisations that have contributed funding, services or material for the site.

#### 8. Advertising policy

Clearly distinguish advertising from editorial content.

**NC: What did they ask you for starting the certification process?**

JCdM

If the web-site complies with the above principles, an expert evaluates the site and can give recommendations to fix the non-compliant contents.

NC: How much time did you spent in modifying the website for obtaining the certification?  
In other terms, is the HONcode certification hard to be obtained?

JCdM

Internet is a virtual world where time is not the same as in the real world.

NC: How long is the certification process?

JCdM

The certification is relatively easy for a non-sponsored scientific society. It takes about three months.

NC: Is HONcode certification for free or you have to pay for it?

JCdM

It's free if you do not count the hours in front of the screen.

NC: Does HONcode lasts for life or the certification needs periodical renewal?

JCdM

The certification last for life, if we continue to respect the HONcode principles.

NC: Are they controlling the contents after giving the certification? What happen if we "break the rules"?

JCdM

The certification is annual, but regular checks are carried out and the certification may be withdrawn at any time.

NC: Do you think that the HONcode can avoid the misuse of the information given via the web to the world?

JCdM

Indirectly, because the HONcode control the form and not substance. Legally the webmaster is responsible (in France, on his own property), which greatly limits the fraudulent information.

NC: Why a society like ours should publish a HONcode compliant website?

JCdM

We must start with Article 4 of the SOSORT statutes for which the web-site is an optimal tool.

4.1 To offer an open forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas on the field of conservative management of all spinal deformities and more particularly scoliosis.

4.2 To stimulate research and clinical studies in order to verify the main idea that prevention and conservative treatment are effective, efficient and valuable tools for the management of all the signs and symptoms of scoliosis and other spinal deformities.

4.3 To stimulate consensus in all the different conservative actions directed to the early detection, observation, prevention, management and orthopaedic treatment and rehabilitation of scoliosis and other spinal deformities.

4.4 To spread into the scientific community and the general population, patients and their families the idea that prevention based on education and early conservative management, avoiding under- as well as over-treatment, following generally accepted guidelines is the best approach in this field.

4.5 To promote specific education and training among professionals creating a body of specialists in this particular area, able to care efficiently for scoliosis patients.

NC: Do you think that the HONcode certification can help SOSORT? And if yes how?

JCdM

HONcode principles are also those of the SOSORT. But to conclude we must repeat that the future of the SOSORT depends on its members. The web-site is here to help you in your search. Feel free to contact us.

NC: Thank very much for your cooperation Jean Claude and thanks a lot for your efforts.  
JCdM  
Thank you

## **SCIENTIFIC EVENTS:**

### **7th SOSORT Annual Meeting – May 19-22, 2010 Montreal CANADA**

**First International “Best Practice Scoliosis Week”** – June 7-11, 2010 Gensingen  
GERMANY

**IRRSD Biannual Meeting** – July 1-3, 2010 Montreal CANADA

**World Confederation for Physical Therapy** - June 20-23, 2011 Amsterdam  
Netherlands

## **LINKS :**

### Scientific Societies

[www.sosort.org](http://www.sosort.org)  
[www.sosort-lyon.net](http://www.sosort-lyon.net)  
[www.spine.org](http://www.spine.org)  
[www.srs.org](http://www.srs.org)  
[www.britscoliosissoc.org.uk/](http://www.britscoliosissoc.org.uk/)  
[www.bsrf.co.uk](http://www.bsrf.co.uk)  
[www.gss.it](http://www.gss.it)  
<http://www.boa.ac.uk>

### Patients associations

[www.escoliosis.org](http://www.escoliosis.org)  
[www.scoliosis.org](http://www.scoliosis.org)  
[www.sauk.org.uk](http://www.sauk.org.uk)  
[www.scoliosis-assoc.org](http://www.scoliosis-assoc.org)  
[www.scoliosis-info-forum.de](http://www.scoliosis-info-forum.de)  
[www.scoliosis-australia.org](http://www.scoliosis-australia.org)  
<http://scoliosi.forumfree.net>  
[www.SpineKids.com](http://www.SpineKids.com)  
[www.scoliosiscare.org](http://www.scoliosiscare.org)

## **CONTACT US:**

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