
IHS Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Friday 7 September 2018, 10:30 BST
Rooms 10–12, Hilton London Metropole, 225 Edgware Road, London, W2 1JU, UK

IHS Board of Trustees

L Edvinsson (President)
M Ashina (President-elect)
S Evers (Secretary)
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E Leroux
M Levin
C Tassorelli

The President opened the meeting at 10.30 and welcomed all attendees.

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8 September 2017

The minutes were approved as presented.

2. Report and Audited accounts for year ended 31 December 2017

The accounts were approved as presented.

The President noted that IHS is in a very healthy financial position and the Board is discussing the best way to use some of the reserves.

There was a suggestion to increase the number of fellowships for low income countries

3. Presentations from:

The President

The President noted this is an exciting time in headache medicine and there is much activity in industry with the new therapies. The Clinical Trials Committee has published new guidelines and

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more are in preparation and these should be widely disseminated and recognised as international guidelines.

Following on from the Global Patient Advocacy Summit (GPAS) held in Vancouver in September 2017, an IHS Global Patient Advocacy Coalition (IHS-GPAC) has been formed and will work to increase patient advocacy worldwide and strengthen the involvement of patients. IHS is a collective and all stakeholders should work together for the good of those suffering from headache disorders.

The Treasurer

The final numbers for 2017 were reported to the IHS Board in May 2018. The accounts have now been audited and presented in statutory format and approved by the Board. The statutory accounts are publicly available on the UK Companies House and UK Charity Commission websites.

- o 2017 income: £ 1,116,991
- o 2017 expenditure: £ 530,208
- o Surplus: £ 586,783

Income:

- o Membership: £ 132,605 (12% of income)
- o Cephalalgia royalty: £ 220,673 (20% of income)
- o Donations/sponsorship: £ 403,566 (36% of income)
- o Net profit IHC 2017: £ 324,563 (29% of income)
- o Investment income: £ 35,584 (3% of income – cash deposits and specialist investments in Schroders and a specialist property fund)

Expenditure:

- o Education: £ 41,829 (8% of expenditure)
- o Fellowships/grants: £ 136,777 (26% of expenditure – including £ 100,000 on fellowships, £ 21,000 on travel grants to IHC and £ 16,000 on short-stay scholarships)
- o Committee costs: £ 157,628 (30% of expenditure – includes Corporate Roundtable, GPAS, Board expenses, classification, clinical trial guidelines, miscellaneous support)
- o Cost of Cephalalgia: £ 52,947 (10% of expenditure)
- o Support costs: £ 141,027 (26% of expenditure)

IHC 2017 realised a very high income for the society. The overall surplus in 2017 was stronger than in recent years mainly due to the high levels of income through IHC 2017 and sponsorship.

Membership numbers have remained stable – it is usual to see a small peak in IHC years. Members requesting print copy of Cephalalgia is declining as expected. There was a positive increase in junior membership.

Funds held in reserves at the end of 2017 were just over £ 2 million. The level of reserves is higher than necessary, and the Board has held discussions on how this should be best expended. No decision has yet been made but is likely to be used for education, research projects and fellowships. These will be one-off grants with an endpoint so they can be completed with the available funds.

The budget for 2018 shows a small deficit so that will draw down some of the reserves.

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The Secretary

In 2018 IHS welcomed Singapore as the 51st Affiliate Member. The Croatian neurological society has founded a headache group within and it is hoped they will apply for Affiliate Society Membership.

Membership numbers in 2018 decreased; the society has 1,107 members, compared with 1,391 in 2017 and 1,277 in 2016. There are a high level of 2017 members (535) who did not renew and fewer new members (55, versus 168 in 2017 and 167 in 2016). This is an issue IHS needs to address, although it is expected that the numbers in 2019 will increase due to new members joining to attend IHC and junior members to apply for grants. The membership fee has remained stable since 2011.

The number of Associate Members, membership offered free of charge to researchers and physicians from developing countries, continues to increase.

Cephalalgia has had a good year with the Impact Factor increasing to 3.882 (3.609 in 2016). The journal is ranked 43 of 197 in clinical neurology journals, and 76 of 261 in neuroscience journals.

Cephalalgia Reports, an online-only silhouette title to Cephalalgia, has published its first 10 papers; 30 papers are required before the publisher can apply for listing in PubMed and 2 years before the journal can achieve an impact factor. The Editor is actively looking for papers to publish and has fee waivers to offer.

IHS continues to be active in Education.

A Headache Master School was held in Australia. Delegates came from Australia and neighbouring countries in Asia and the School was well received and supported an ongoing interest in headache in the region.

IHS will support the 3rd MENA (Middle East and North Africa) meeting in Egypt in October 2018.

Visiting Professors were sent to Iran, Pakistan, Colombia and Lithuania, and two Headache Trainees were awarded to study in Germany and London.

The 4th European iHEAD was held immediately prior to the Migraine Trust International Symposium (MTIS) in September 2018.

Following on from GPAS in September 2017, and IHS-GPAC was formed, Chaired by David Dodick. The Coalition will aim to increase awareness of headache patient needs worldwide and the Committees will hold their first meeting in October 2018.

The collaboration between IHS and the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) continues and a joint IHS/IASP session will be held during the forthcoming World Congress on Pain later in September 2018.

Three research grants were awarded to young doctors to join the Master of Headache Disorders course organised by the University of Copenhagen. Three Short-stay Scholarships were awarded to young doctors from developing countries to spend short observational periods in Italy and Spain. IHS also supported 30 travel grants for Latin-American doctors to attend the Brazilian Headache Society

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Congress. IHS did not offer travel grants to attend MTIS or the European Headache Federation congresses in 2018.

Two IHS Fellowships were awarded, and in addition IHS is joining with the American Academy of Neurology/American Brain Foundation (ABF) to offer a joint IHS/ABF fellowship starting in 2019.

The International Classification of Headache Disorders 3rd edition (ICHD-3) was finalised and published in the January 2018 issue of Cephalalgia. Work continues on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) where headache is part of the neurology and chronic pain chapter.

IHS continues to collaborate with Lifting the Burden on a global burden paediatric study in Zambia, and work has begun on similar projects in Iran and Mongolia.

The next International Headache Congress (IHC) to be held in Dublin in September 2019 has been entitled 'Dawn of new headache treatments'. The programme was presented to the Board and will soon be finalised and speakers invited. The congress will for the first time include new pro and con debates called 'One topic, two views'. The SPC has also decided that all speakers should only speak once in the programme; this will increase the required faculty budget for the congress but will offer delegates speaker diversity.

IHC 2021 will be held in Helsinki, Finland, organised by Conference Partners; the venue contract has been signed. An organiser and location for IHC 2023 will be decided in January 2019. Congress locations are selected 4 years in advance to ensure a good choice of venues is available.

4. Re-appointment of the Auditors

The recommendation to re-appoint MacIntyre Hudson LLP to audit the 2018 accounts was approved.

5. Special Resolution: Approval of revised Articles of Association

THAT: The revised Articles of Association of the International Headache Society be adopted.

One clause has been amended to enable the Trustees to invite Chairs of particular committees – Education, Cephalalgia, Science, Ethics, Juniors – to attend Board meetings for specific input.

7.11. The Trustees may invite a Standing Committee chairman or Special Interest Group chairman (who in either case must be an IHS member) to attend any meeting of the Trustees, ex-officio, without voting rights

A motion to approve the resolution was proposed by Lars Edvinsson, seconded by Prab Prabhakar and unanimously approved.

6. Date of next meeting

September 2019, during the 19th International Headache Congress (IHC), 5–8 September 2019, Dublin, Ireland.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.15.

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