

## Visiting Professor Cameroon

### **3rd Joint Congress of the African Academy of Neurology and Cameroon Academy of Neurology, Douala, 21–23 October 2022**

After Hammamet in 2017 (Tunisia) and East London in 2019 (South Africa), the 3rd joint congress of the African Academy of Neurology (AFAN) and the Cameroon Academy of Neurology (CAN) was held in Douala, Cameroon, from 21–23 October 2022 at the Hotel La Falaise Bonanjo.

400 participants from 41 countries (Africa: South Africa, Benin, Burkina-Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Morocco, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Tanzania, Chad, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe; Europe: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, UK; America: Canada, USA) took part in the congress.

During the 3 days, the participants attended:

- three workshops led by internationally renowned experts: Electrodiagnosis studies for neurology trainees helped to precise diagnoses in three patients; Use of botulinum toxin for which three patients suffering from dystonia benefited from this expensive treatment free of charge and not yet available in Cameroon; EEG learning with several video cases presentation
- eight plenary sessions: Research in neurosciences: challenges and opportunities (IBRO symposium); Stroke; Headaches; Dementia; Parkinson's disease and movement disorders; Neurology training across the continent; Neuro-rehabilitation; Health professionals session
- three parallel sessions in English and French: Neuro-infection/neuro-inflammation; Epilepsy; Paediatric neurology.

There were 130 communications – 60 free communications and 70 posters.

Professors Najib Kissani (Morocco) and Kuate Tegueu Callixte (Cameroon) Co-Chaired the first IHS plenary session with lectures on the ICHD-3 and general rules for classification (Dr David Garcia Azorin, Spain), Diagnosis of secondary headaches: emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa (Professor Christian Napon, Burkina Faso), Burden of headache in Africa and emerging challenges (Professor Najib Kissani, Morocco), Choosing the best treatment

options for primary headache disorders (Dr Sarah Urasa, Tanzania), and Diagnosis and treatment of chronic daily headache (Dr Fogang Yannick, Cameroon). This was followed by a Q & A session. The second IHS session was Co-Chaired by Dr David Garcia Azorin and Professor Berthe Assi (Ivory Coast). The subjects for discussion focused on: Impact of headaches on children in Douala/Cameroon (Dr Annick M Magnerou, Cameroon); How to investigate headache patients in restricted resource-settings (Professor Mohammed Alfaki, Sudan); and 1st epidemiological door to door study about headaches in Cameroon (Professor Callixte Kuate Tegueu, Cameroon).

A post-test questionnaire on headaches was given to the 400 participants present in the main hall congress.

The organisation of this congress would not have been a success without the particular support of IHS, other societies (World Federation of Neurology, International Brain Research Organization, International League Against Epilepsy, European Academy of Neurology, International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society), the Ministry of Public Health, General Delegation for National Security for facilitation of entry and exit in Cameroon for participants, the University of Douala, and some pharmaceutical companies based in Cameroon.

The two IHS sessions were highly appreciated by the participants. The organising committee would like to thank Professors Garcia Azorin, Najib Kissani, Christian Napon, Berthe Assi, Sara Urasa and Mohammed Alfaki who, through their presentations, enlightened the participants on the interest of conducting quality research in headache by highlighting African realities. Many thanks to IHS for the support.



Best oral prize presentation



Poster presentations



Organsing Committee