

# IOF- Osteoporosis Diagnosis Course with Densitometry Certification

## Report on 2007 activities

### Introduction

As regulations in the field of densitometry were becoming more and stricter, the IOF launched in 2005 a non-profit-making training course for physicians and other health professionals to better equip them for the growing epidemic of osteoporosis: The IOF Osteoporosis Diagnosis Course, with Densitometry Certification.

The IOF Osteoporosis Diagnosis Course, with Densitometry Certification was developed by an internationally renowned faculty and covers the latest knowledge on the physiology, epidemiology, diagnosis and management of osteoporosis. The course also offers modules that focus on the principles and practices of osteoporosis diagnostic techniques, and incorporates a certification examination.

### Message from IOF course leader, Marius Kraenzlin

*“Osteoporosis is a major public health problem, which remains largely unrecognised and under diagnosed. Hence, knowledge on both diagnosis and treatment procedures should be improved amongst health professionals to enhance the management of patients at high risk for fracture. IOF has taken over the responsibility to train physicians and allied health professionals worldwide by offering well structured training in the form of the Osteoporosis Diagnosis Course, with Densitometry Certification. Since the first course in 2000, there has been a continued interest by the national societies to offer the IOF Osteoporosis Diagnosis Course to their members. Over the years there has been intensive and valuable interaction between the course faculty and the participants.”*



### Course content

The course is structured to run over two days. The course comprises 12 lectures of 45 minutes, including 5-10 minute discussions, with an optional 2-hour certification exam at the end.

- Osteoporosis: the scope of the problem
- Pathophysiology of osteoporosis
- Clinical evaluation
- Overview of bone densitometry methods
- Radiation safety and quality control
- Diagnostic use of densitometry (2 lectures)
- Risk assessment
- Monitoring skeletal changes
- Clinical management: prevention
- Clinical management: treatment
- Clinical case studies

*“Developed with the objective to convey robust knowledge on osteoporosis, the IOF course reflects the most up-to-date clinical and technical practices for the management of osteoporosis,”* says **Dr. Nansa Burlet, IOF Science Manager**. *Thanks to a close collaboration between IOF speakers and local key-opinion leaders, the content of each course is specifically tailored to the needs of local health professionals. With this amazing educational tool, IOF is pleased to contribute to improve standard care in the field of osteoporosis.”*

## Organisation

This course is supported by IOF's corporate sponsors. IOF provides two international faculties and the local society is invited to provide a speaker as well. IOF pays for the travel and honoraria for two faculty speakers. The national societies holding the course are responsible for the local running of it, and are financially responsible for advertising the course, translation of the course handouts (if applicable), the meeting venue and equipment costs, and the hotel accommodation for the IOF course faculty members. IOF does not charge a fee for participation in the course, and makes no money from it, but national societies are welcome to charge a fee if they wish to do so. The courses are open to all interested parties anywhere in the world.

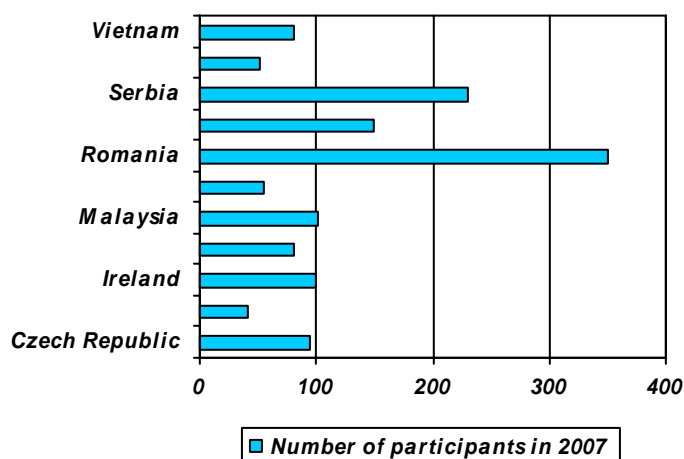
## Teaching faculty

Roland Chapurlat (France), Jean Pierre Devogelaer (Belgium), Hans-Peter Dimai (Austria), Piet Geusens (Belgium), Claus Glüer (Germany), Stefan Goemaere (Belgium), Marius Kraenzlin (Switzerland), Annie Kung (China-Hong Kong), Uri Liberman (Israel), Nick A. Pocock (Australia), Heinrich Resch (Austria), René Rizzoli (Switzerland), Daniela Stanek (Austria), Jan Stepan (Czech Republic).

## Courses held in 2007

Once again, the IOF Osteoporosis Diagnosis Courses, with Densitometry Examination were a tremendous success. In 2006 we were very enthusiastic that more than 250 participants attended the course in six locations. In 2007 the courses attracted almost five times more participants, namely around 1200 in eleven locations. This means an enormous rise in the number of participants per course, showing not only the success of the IOF Osteoporosis Diagnosis course, but also the need for such a course which ultimately is for the benefit of the patient.

On average, more than 70% of the participants who did the exam obtained the certificate for completing the examination successfully.



### Cluj, Napoca, Romania

*"The accurate and up-to-date information given during the course were greatly appreciated by over 350 participants. We were proud and honoured to have organized this important regional event and hope to have the opportunity to work together with IOF again in the future".* Professor Horatiu D. Bolosiu, President Romanian Foundation of Osteoarthrology.



### Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*"Our participants found that the course was very useful and very significant for their practice. They enjoyed the course and examination. They would definitely recommend their colleagues and peers to come for the course and the examination in the future."* said Dr Joon Kiong Lee from the Malaysian Osteoporosis Society.

### **Luhačovice, Czech Republic**

*“All participants agreed that the IOF Osteoporosis Course is very valuable and useful. The test results prove that this event was successful. We would like to express our great thanks to IOF and both speakers and we are looking forward to future cooperation.”* Professor Milan Bayer, Czech Society for Metabolic Bone Diseases.



### **Niska Banja, Serbia**

Participants for the course in Niska Banja, Serbia came from Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbian Republic and Montenegro. They were unanimous in their approval of the speakers and the course in general. The organizers considered it a very important contribution to the knowledge on osteoporosis and its diagnosis for the whole region.



### **IOF Latin America**

In 2007, two of the courses were organised by the Latin American Office. The courses were held in Lima, Peru and Isla Margarita, Venezuela. The national societies and IOF Latin America agreed that the courses were very successful and participants showed their interest in the activities and future courses organized by IOF Latin America.

The cooperation with the national societies was very positive and participants were extremely satisfied. The national societies provided us with very valuable feedback, so that we were able to improve the course material.

### **Next events**

The courses for 2008 are already fully booked. Participant registrations are currently being accepted for these courses, to be held in the following locations:

- Multidisciplinary Osteoporotic Forum, Warsaw, Poland, 22-23 February 2008
- Pan Arab Osteoporosis Society (PAOS), Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 5-6 March 2008
- Endocrinology and Metabolism Research Center, Tehran, Iran, 8-9 March, 2008
- German Academy of the Osteological and Rheumatological Sciences, Hanover, Germany, 5-6 April 2008
- Indonesian Osteoporosis Association (Perosi), Jakarta, Indonesia, 17-18 May 2008
- Latvia Osteoporosis Society, Riga, Latvia, 17-18 October 2008
- Austrian Society for Bone and Mineral Research, Graz, Austria, 14 – 15 November 2008
- Indian Society for Bone and Mineral Research, Mumbai, India, 29-30 November 2008

National Societies are now invited to apply to hold the IOF Osteoporosis Diagnosis Course, With Densitometry Certification in 2009.

**The development of this course was supported by an unrestricted educational grant from**

