



Pergamon

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### OPEN LETTER

To: prof. T. Di Perri, organizer 9th ECCH,  
prof. E. Ernst, president of the ISCH,  
prof. H.J. Meiselman, organizer 2nd ICCH,  
prof. J.F. Stoltz, president of the ESCH,

Amsterdam, nov 15, 1994.

Dear colleagues,

as is widely known now, our small hemorheological world has to deal this summer with two congresses, i.e. 9th ECCH, june 29 - july 1 in Siena, Italy and 2nd ICCH, july 23 -28 in Big Sky, U.S.A.

The fact that these meetings are organised many thousands of miles, but only a few weeks apart, is rather uncomfortable for the individual scientist. Furthermore, we just can not afford to proceed this way since the first sounds are already given that the industry is not willing anymore to support financially such split conferences with ,probably, a limited number of participants.

Taking the existence of both Societies for granted, it can be concluded that a future peaceful co-existence is quite well possible and absolutely necessary ! Traditionally, the european investigators have had and still have a large impact on clinical hemorheology, but it seems unrealistic these days to ignore the scientific contributions in this field from colleagues of non-european countries and therefore the foundation of other "continental" Societies, e.g (North) American, Asian, Australian, etc. may be encouraged. The ISCH might very well function as the umbrella organisation of these continental societies.

Since it is generally felt that our scientific field does not require international congresses more frequently than every two years, it can be suggested that the continental societies meet each second year. Each fourth year, however, the various continental meetings could be combined and placed in a global international perspective, under the auspices of the ISCH (eventually also combined with the meeting of the Intern. Soc. of Biorheology).

Coming events are usually planned just before and during the foregoing conference and in order to prevent that we are running into an irreversible flow after this summer, ending again in two seperate conferences in 1997, some kind of compromise has to be worked out in advance! May be this letter could initiate any activity in this respect.

Kind regards,

Dr. Max R. Hardeman

Individual scientists who also feel uncomfortable with the current situation are invited to support this compromise by fax ( - 31.20.56694440) or mail ( Dept. of Internal Medicine, Acad. Medical Center, Meibergdreef 9, 1105 AZ Amsterdam, the Netherlands).