

Dear Colleagues,

We have the pleasure to announce the International Collaboration on Gonococci (ICG) Workshop 2008 (Monday September 8, 2008), which will be organized during the 16th International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference (IPNC) in Rotterdam, The Netherlands (September 7 – September 12, 2008; <http://www.ipnc2008.org/>). This ICG Workshop is semiformal to allow for free discussion, open to all interested conference delegates (no pre-registration for the workshop is needed), and free of charge. For the IPNC2008, day-only registration will be available and the antimicrobial resistance session, including gonococci, will also be on Monday September 8.

For further information and programme of the ICG Workshop 2008 - see attachment! However, this is only a preliminary programme and all comments as well as suggestions, especially regarding restructuring of ICG, are most welcome. Accordingly, we will send out an update prior to the meeting and if you have some information, data or question you wish to raise or present, we would be most grateful to hear from you. An additional issue, which is crucial to discuss, is the need of an improved and well-accessible web-based communication system for ICG. The Canadian CNPHI System was intended to be used for this type of communication, however, this system was never used in practice mainly because it felt too cumbersome. Consequently, are there any suggestions of other systems or could a communication tool even be linked to the ICG web site?

We are most thankful to all the speakers and we hope to see as many as possible of you attending the workshop as well as being involved in the discussions. This announcement and the ICG Workshop 2008 programme are also available on the ICG web site www.icnggo.org, which in addition include information regarding ICG, reports and presentations from previous ICG Workshops.

Best wishes,

Magnus Unemo and John Tapsall