

European Federation of Endocrine Societies

***** August News Alert*****

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NEWS FROM EFES

The preliminary programme for next years European Congress of Endocrinology is now available. If you have not received your copy, contact the conference secretariat at: info@endocrinology2003.com

If you are a member of any of the European national endocrine societies, you should receive a free copy of [EFES News](#) each spring and autumn. If you are not receiving this and would like to, please send your full name and address to:

becky.torr@endocrinology.org

The EFES Executive Committee has recently received bids from six organisations from around Europe to provide a professional standing office for EFES. A shortlist will be drawn up and three companies will be interviewed in Berlin in September. It is anticipated that the new office will come into effect from 1 January 2003.

EFES CONFERENCES and COURSES

- 22 September 2002
EFES Symposium with The Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism of Turkey
Erzurum, Turkey
Contact: Chairman: Dr Marcella Motta, Istituto di Endocrinologia, Università degli Studi di Milano, via Balzaretti 9, 20133 Milano, Italy
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Email: marcella.motta@unimi.it
Website: www.semt.org.tr/
- 17-19 October 2002
9th EFES Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology
Como, Italy
Contact: Organizer: P Beck-Peccoz, Institute of Endocrine Sciences, Ospedale Maggiore IRCCS, Via F Sforza, 35, 20122 Milano, Italy
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Get involved! The EFES website has a discussion forum facility, please feel free to share your views, comments, and interests with others. To join visit:
<http://www.euro-endo.org/discuss.htm>

EUROPEAN ENDOCRINE NEWS

Hormone replacement linked to gallbladder cancer

A study has found a link between hormone replacement therapy (HRT) in menopause and increased gallbladder cancer risk. The study, from Italy, shows that women who have used HRT have more than three times the likelihood of developing gallbladder cancer, and this risk tends to increase with the length of HRT use. The study is reported in the *Journal of Cancer*.

(Reuters Health 28 June 2002)

www.netdoctor.co.uk/news/index.asp?y=2002&m=6&d=28 - id81697

Treating kids' short stature won't up self-esteem

Treating healthy children who are relatively short with growth hormone to give them a few extra inches in height has no effect on their self-esteem or quality of life, according to new research. Researchers led by Dr Nicolet C M Theunissen of Utrecht University in the Netherlands found that children who were given growth hormone experienced no change in their sense of self-esteem or their quality of life for up to 2 years after they received the treatment. Some studies have suggested that children who are short for their ages have certain psychological and social problems as a result, perhaps from being treated as younger than they are, or from the limitations their height places on sports and other play activities. In response, researchers have developed a "treatment" for otherwise healthy kids with short stature, during which they receive growth hormone, which can add between 3 and 9 centimeters in height.

(Reuters Health 3 July 2002)

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?O2FA12D41>

Eleven EU countries potentially hit by banned growth hormone

The European Commission warned on 15 July that food in 11 EU countries may have been contaminated with a banned animal growth hormone that can cause infertility in humans. A spokeswoman said the countries could have been hit to varying degrees by the use of the MPA hormone within glucose syrup made by a now-bankrupt Belgian firm, Bioland. Of the EU's 15 members, only Greece, Finland, Austria and Ireland were not hit, said Beate Gminder, spokeswoman for health and consumer protection commissioner David Byrne. Germany confirmed that around 8,500 tonnes of animal feed imported from the Netherlands since June had been contaminated with the hormone. Agriculture Minister Renate Kuenast said that up to six regions had been affected. "Hundreds of farms must be closed on the national level" but humans face no serious danger, said Baerbel Hoehn, agriculture minister for the effected Rhena region in western North Westphalia district.

(AFP 15 July 2002)

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q41B25D41>

INTERNATIONAL ENDOCRINE NEWS