

IOPTWH



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PHYSICAL
THERAPISTS IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

Introduction

As I approach the end of my second 4-year term as secretary of the International Organization of Physical Therapists in Women's Health (IOPTWH), I am busy preparing for the 2015 World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) Congress. This will be held at the Suntec Singapore Convention and Exhibition Centre, Suntec City, Singapore.

During Congress, new members of the IOPTWH Executive Committee will be elected. Long-standing officers Rebecca Stephenson (president) and Ros Thomas (treasurer) will leave it completely, and so there will be new faces within the Executive!

WCPT Congress, Singapore, 1–4 May 2015

In addition to a pre-Congress study day, "Addressing Sex in Women's Health Physiotherapy Practice: Foundations and Skills" (for more details, see Brook 2014; WCPT 2014), I am delighted to announce further IOPTWH involvement with the conference programme.

Sunday 3 May (16:00–17:30)

We are delighted that WCPT has invited IOPTWH to lead a subgroup seminar entitled Trauma-Induced Pelvic Floor Disorders: Obstetric Fistula and Female Genital Mutilation; Implications for Physical Therapists. The Organization has produced a position statement on female genital mutilation (IOPTWH 2006), and both Rebecca Stephenson and I have an interest in obstetric fistula.

Monday 4 May (07:00–08:30)

There will also be a round-table networking session facilitated by the IOPTWH Executive Committee. The subjects to be discussed have yet to be finalized, but may include:

- evidence-based practice in the management of pelvic floor dysfunction and other aspects of women's health;
- developing women's health and pelvic floor specialist services; and
- the role of the women's health physical therapist within multidisciplinary teamwork.

A similar session at the WCPT Congress in 2011 attracted 50 physiotherapists from more than 20 different countries, and provoked a lot of lively discussion, despite the early hour!

Scientific programme

Although the final programme will not be announced until nearer the event, there will undoubtedly be sessions related to women's health and the pelvic floor in addition to further platform and poster presentations on a range of physiotherapy subjects.

Congress registration

To benefit from the reduced rate for advanced registration, you must apply by 31 March 2015.

Gill Brook

IOPTWH Secretary

References

- Brook G. (2014) International Organization of Physical Therapists in Women's Health. *Journal of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Women's Health* 115 (Autumn), 47–48.
- International Organization of Physical Therapists in Women's Health (IOPTWH) (2006) *Position Statement: Female Genital Mutilation*. [WWW document.] URL <http://www.ioptwh.org/pdfs/position-statements/IOPTWH%20Female%20Genital%20Mutilation.pdf>
- World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) (2014) *Women's Health*. [WWW document.] URL <http://www.wcpt.org/congress/courses/226>

World Confederation for Physical Therapy

CONGRESS 2015

Singapore

1-4 May 2015

