



International Neurotrauma Research Organization

Internationale Gesellschaft zur Erforschung von Hirntraumata

Newsletter July 2010

Dear all,

I hope the summer has unfolded well for you. In this Newsletter all activities implemented by INRO in the first half of 2010 are presented.

All steps of „Prehospital project“ that is our major activity currently are presented in detail.

Scheduled and planned activities for the second half of the year are listed as well, together with the publications already completed and submitted in the reported period, as well as those planned for the second half of year.

Enjoy!

Activities implemented in Jan – June 2010

•Project **Prehospital and early hospital care for patients** (detailed description see further) – ongoing, data on 450 patients have been collected and are being analyzed currently

•Project **Evaluation of the impact** of all INRO's projects on the TBI management in centers that have participated in our activities implemented by now – data collection ongoing

•March – **Board meeting**: Statutes revised according to the request of Finanzamt in Wien were approved, together with INRO 2009 annual progress and financial report.

•March: Walter Mauritz, Johannes Leitgeb and Alexandra Braznova have participated actively at the 8th World Congress on Brain Injury of the International Brain Injury Association in Washington DC, USA. The group has presented one oral presentation and 3 posters.

•May: Alexandra Braznova have participated at the 15th Europeana Multidisciplinaria Neurotraumatologica conference in Antalya, Turkey

•June: Alexandra Braznova has visited Trauma Register Network (TARN) in Manchester, UK, for the arrangement of future joint projects and publications

INRO People

Currently, the team of INRO consists of:

Prof. Martin Rusnak, MD, PhD – President of Board of Directors

Prof. Walter Mauritz, MD, PhD – Vicepresident of Board of Directors

Alexandra Braznova, MD, MPH, PhD - Executive Director

Research fellows:

Marek Majdan, DrPH, PhD

Zuzana Cernuskova, DrPH

Johannes Leitgeb, MD

Lucia Lenartova, DrPH

Mag. Ingrid Wilbacher, PhD

Ivan Janciac, MS, PhD

INRO and Academics

Martin Rusnak has become the Dean of Faculty of Health and Social Work at Trnava University in the Slovak Republic in April 2010

Johannes Leitgeb has been accepted for PhD in Public Health with thesis on traumatic brain injury at Trnava University in the Slovak Republic in June 2010

Project Prehospital and early hospital care for patients with Severe Brain Trauma in Austria (2008-2013)

The project funded by Austrian Ministry of Health and Occupational Insurance company (AUVA) is going well.

16 hospitals participating in the project had been collecting data on treatment of patients with brain trauma since April 2009 till March 2010. Here is the map with centers:



End of the phase of data collection was originally planned for November 2009, but since some centers had to wait longer for Ethical Committee approval than expected and therefore started later, we have postponed the data collection period till end of March 2010.

INRO office has provided continuous support to data collecting centers by email and phone consultations. Project managers has visited each hospital 2-4 times during the data collection period to collect the patient data and enter it into the electronic database.

In the period April – June all data were entered into the database and simultaneously checked for completeness and accuracy.

Altogether, **data on 450 moderate and severe traumatic brain injury patients have been collected.**

Data control will continue in July. All centers are asked to provide missing information and completion of the missing data is expected to last till the end of August.

Project managers contact the surviving patients by phone to obtain information on health status of the patient 6 months after the trauma.

In June we have submitted mid-year progress report to the Austrian Ministry of Health and it was received with satisfaction.

In June and beginning of July the brain CT scans of the patients in the database were screened by our clinical experts – Walter Mauritz and Johannes Leitgeb – and findings were entered in the database. The CT scans will be screened in July and August by one more external expert. The outcomes are also being used for a study of Inter-rater reliability and new CT score coding system being developed by INRO.

INRO Supervisory Board

Johannes Orsini-Rosenberg

Annie Laurie Auersperg Isham

Ralph Isham

Goert Auersperg-Trautson

Vinzenz Auersperg

Marie-Therese Rutherford

Lindi Kalnoky

Isabelle Harnoncourt

Peter Quinn

Andrew Maas

Publications submitted in 2010

1. Braznova A, Mauritz W, Leitgeb J, Wilbacher I, Majdan M, Rusnak M, Janciac I: Outcomes of patients with severe traumatic brain injury who have Glasgow Coma Scale scores of 3 or 4 and are over 65years old, **Journal of Neurotrauma – accepted for publication**, July 2010
2. Outcomes of patients with severe TBI treated by neurosurgeon vs. trauma surgeons – submitted
3. Factors influencing long-term outcome after epidural hematoma
4. Factors Influencing Long-Term Outcome of Operatively Treated Patients with Acute Subdural Hematoma
5. Traumatic brain injury and age groups

Activities planned for 2nd half of 2010

„Prehospital project“:

July – data control

August – missing data completion, CT scan evaluation

Sept, Oct – data analysis

November – project conference, annual progress and financial report

Publications

•New CT scan scoring for TBI

•Epidemiology of moderate and severe TBI in Austria from the „Prehospital project“

Project proposals

•Educational seminar on Brain Trauma Management

•Joint project with TARN on trauma registers network within Europe

I hope the information provided in this Newsletter gives you a good picture of our work carried out this year so far.

If you would like to hear more about anything we do, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your attention. On behalf of all INRO team I am wishing you a nice summer,
Sasha

Alexandra Braznova, MD, PhD, MPH – INRO's Executive Director

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT!

Please stay in touch.