



The Bone and Joint Decade

Promoting musculoskeletal health

Keep people moving

BJD World Network Conference 2011
14th to 16th October
Beirut, Lebanon

Dear Colleague

The BJD World Network Conference 2011 will be held in Beirut, Lebanon, 14th - 16th October 2011.

The theme for the 2011 BJD World Network Conference will be "Equality of Care throughout the World – Closing the Gap" and there will be a number of eminent speakers at the event. This follows on from the World Conference in Lund, September 2010 where the Bone and Joint Decade strategy to reduce the burden and cost of musculoskeletal disorders to individuals, carers and society worldwide was endorsed. The challenge of how to achieve this will be addressed. The meeting will provide an opportunity for participants to develop the action plan so that it is relevant to them.

There will also be a session of the meeting that will focus on Patient Advocacy and provide a forum for patient groups and patient representatives from around the world, in particular from the local region, to meet and further their agenda. This will be an opportunity to facilitate the development of patient organisations.

We also wish to strengthen the BJD network by strengthening the National Action Networks and extending our influence by creating networks in more countries. We therefore welcome professional and patient participants from the National Action Networks and also from organisations that wish to be more engaged and from countries where they would like to establish networks.

The format for the 2011 BJD World Network Conference will include presentations, workshops, social events, dinners and also general time for networking. In particular there will be sessions about creating and strengthening networks, and opportunity for people from different global regions to meet together.

Please be advised of a revision to the financial arrangements that will apply to the 2011 BJD World Network Conference. From 2011, delegates will be asked to take responsibility for their own travel and accommodation and contribute to meeting costs. However, bursaries will be available for those delegates that require financial support in order to attend, particularly those applying from developing countries.

We hope you will be able to participate and look forward to receiving your registration form so that a place can be reserved for you.

With best wishes
Yours sincerely

Professor Anthony Woolf
Chair, International Coordinating Council
Bone and Joint Decade 2010-2020