Final Announcement and Call For Abstracts

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: 7 DECEMBER 2007
www.ectsoc.org
### TUESDAY 27 MAY

**Symposium 5:**
Novel targets in osteoarthritis

**Orals 6**

**COFFEE AND ATTENDED POSTERS**

**Workshop 5:**
Arterial calcification

**Workshop 6:**
In vivo molecular imaging

**LUNCH & POSTERS**

Meet the Professor Sessions

**Symposium 6:**
FGF23: hypophosphatemia and beyond

**Orals 7**

**COFFEE**

**Satellite Symposium 7**

**SYMPOSIA**

#### Symposium 7: Advances in the physiopathology, diagnosis, and treatment of bone metastases

1. Seiji Fukumoto (Tokyo, Japan): Role of FGF-23 in Pi homeostasis and related disorders
2. Beate Lanske (Bostom, USA): FGF-23: beyond Pi regulation

**DEBATE**

ECTS/ASBMR Debate

Heike Bischoff-Ferrari (Zurich, Switzerland)/Marc Drezner (Madison, USA)

**SYMPOSIUM**

#### Symposium 1: Bone repair and regeneration

1. David Little (Sydney, Australia): Bone repair: potential pharmaceutical manipulation
2. Richard Greffe (Southampton, UK): Skeletal regeneration using mesenchymal cell based strategies - issues, concepts and clinical potential

**Symposium 2: Genetics of bone disease**

2. André Uitterlinden (Rotterdam, Netherlands): Genetic determinants of osteoporosis

**Symposium 3: Long-term effects of antiresorptives**

1. Socrates Papanouos (Leiden, Netherlands): Optimization of osteoporosis treatment
2. Ian Reid (Auckeld, New Zealand): Bisphosphonates and osteonecrosis of the jaw

**Symposium 4: Osteoclast/osteoblast relationships**

1. Morten Karsdal (Herlev, Denmark): Mechanisms of osteoclast-to-osteoblast coupling: old and new concepts
2. Kojichi Matsuo (Keio, Japan): Osteoclast-osteoblast bidirectional signalling

**Symposium 5: Novel targets in osteoarthritis**

1. Frank Luyten (Leuven, Belgium): A molecular basis for an inverse relationship between osteoarthritis and osteoporosis
2. Tim Spector (London, UK): Diagnostic tools in osteoarthritis: how to monitor progression?

### WEDNESDAY 28 MAY

**Symposium 7:**
Advances in the physiopathology, diagnosis, and treatment of bone metastases

1. Philippe Clézardin (Lyons, France): New physiopathological pathways of bone metastases
2. Robert Coleman (Sheffield, UK): New diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for cancer bone disease

**WORKSHOPS**

**Workshop 1: Clinical trials**

1. Mike Campbell (Sheffield, UK): Statistical issues in clinical trials for the treatment of osteoporosis
2. Juliet Compton (Cambridge, UK): Study design
3. Steven Cummings (San Francisco, USA): Organisation of trials: relationships between sponsors and investigators

**Workshop 2: notch signalling**

1. Maria Domínguez (Alcàtia, Spain): Notch signalling and epigenetic silencing in cancer
2. Laura Calvi (Rochester, USA): Roles of notch signalling in osteoblastic activation in the hematopoietic stem cell niche
3. Ernest Canalis (Hartford, USA): Different roles for notch signalling in activation of Wnt and BMP signalling

**Workshop 3: Low bone mass in young adults**

1. Maria Luisa Bianchi (Milan, Italy): Bone mass gain during growth in health and disease
2. Aliya Khan (Hamilton, Canada): Diagnosis and evaluation of secondary osteoporosis in young adults
3. Elizabeth Shane (New York, USA): How and when to treat

**Workshop 4: Osteoimmunology**

1. Joe Lorenzo (Farmington, USA): Cytokines and disease
2. Roberto Pacifici (Atlanta, USA): Relationship to osteoporosis
3. Mary Nakamura (San Francisco, USA): RANK signalling and the co-receptors

**Workshop 5: Arterial calcification**

1. Manuel Naves (Oviedo, Spain): Animal models of aortic calcification
2. Lorenz Hoffbauer (Marburg, Germany): Pathogenesis or molecular mechanism of aortic calcification
3. Claus Glüer (Kiel, Germany): Clinical imaging of arterial calcification

**Workshop 6: In vivo molecular imaging**

1. Pius August Schübiger (Zurich, Switzerland): Molecular imaging with PET - open questions?
2. Clemens Löwik (Leiden, Netherlands): Bioluminescent imaging: emerging technology for non-invasive imaging of bone and bone tissue engineering
3. David E Wemmer (Berkeley, USA): Hyper-cot: molecular imaging using a targeted magnetic resonance hyperpolarized biosensor
Dear Colleagues

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to participate in the 35th European Symposium on Calcified Tissues, to be held in the exciting city of Barcelona, Spain, from 24-28 May 2008. The 2008 meeting will offer a high quality scientific programme of interest to both clinical and basic scientists. We are expecting around 3000 delegates to attend.

Highlights will include the following:

- An exciting programme of invited speaker lectures featuring some of the world’s leading experts in the field
- Meet the professor sessions
- Dedicated allied health professionals session
- New - Joint ECTS-ASBMR debate
- A high proportion of submitted abstracts selected for the oral programme (over 15% in 2007)
- Well-attended poster sessions with dedicated poster viewing time
- A busy exhibition area with lunch included in the delegate fee
- Company-supported satellite symposia highlighting some of the latest developments and research

We are delighted to be holding our 2008 meeting in the city of Barcelona, famous for its creativity, vivacity and Mediterranean style! The city is widely known as one of the most exciting in the world and it is sure to attract many participants. The city offers many opportunities for excursions and sight-seeing, with architectural wonders, beautiful parks and inspirational museums, to name just a few.

We hope that you will be able to join us for what promises to be an exciting meeting, both scientifically and culturally, and we look forward to seeing you in Barcelona!

Richard Eastell
ECTS President and Scientific Programme Chair

Nuria Guañabens and Xavier Nogues
Local Organising Committee Co-chairs

Contact details

Congress Administration:
ECTS 2008
c/o MCI Suisse SA, 75 rue de Lyon,
BP 502, CH-1211 Geneva 13,
Switzerland

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Email: ects2008@mci-group.com

For abstract submissions:
Tel: +41 (0)22 33 99 629
Email: ectsabs@mci-group.com

For registration, hotel rooms and tours enquiries:
Tel: +41 (0)22 33 99 595
Email: ectsreg@mci-group.com

For sponsorship and exhibition:
Tel: +41 (0)22 33 99 627
Email: christophe.de.rham@mci-group.com

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Deadlines

7 December 2007: Deadline for abstracts
28 January 2008: Abstract acceptance notification to authors
4 February 2008: Awards notification to authors
8 February 2008: Deadline for early registrations
15 February 2008: Late breaking abstract submission opens
3 March 2008: Deadline for late breaking abstracts
28 March 2008: Deadline for cancellations
From 9 May 2008: On-site registration fee

Venue

Centro de Convenciones Internacional de Barcelona (CCIB)
Rambla Prim, 1-17
08019 Barcelona
Spain
www.ccib.es
WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Around 3000 delegates are expected to attend. Delegates will be researchers, clinicians, physicians, and other allied health professionals with an interest in:

- cell and molecular biology
- dental research
- endocrinology
- epidemiology
- genetics
- geriatric medicine
- gynaecology
- internal medicine
- medical oncology
- nephrology
- orthopaedics
- pharmacology
- physiology
- radiology and nuclear medicine
- rheumatology

What are the educational objectives?

Participants should enhance their knowledge of diseases of bone, basic bone biology and its correlation to mineral metabolism. They will also develop a clearer understanding of the interrelationship between basic research and clinical applications. The scientific programme is designed to produce an enhanced appreciation of the investigative, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of metabolic bone disorders.

ABOUT BARCELONA

Barcelona is at the leading edge of fashion, architecture, cuisine and style. As well as providing the vibrant backdrop of a cosmopolitan city with historic buildings, Gaudi’s famous architecture, museums and numerous restaurants, Barcelona enjoys glorious beaches and easy access to coastal villages. The unique style of Barcelona, a city of contrasts, makes it one of the world’s most popular conference destinations.

Please see http://www.barcelonaturisme.com/ for further information about Barcelona.

Scientific Programme Committee

CHAIR: Richard Eastell (Sheffield, UK)

Committee:
- Roland Baron (New Haven, USA)
- Roberto Civitelli (St Louis, USA)
- Juliet Compston (Cambridge, UK)
- Adolfo Diez-Perez (Barcelona, Spain)
- Florent Elleferiou (Nashville, USA)
- Serge Ferrari (Geneva, Switzerland)
- Monique Frain (Geneva, Switzerland)
- Patrick Garnero (Lyon, France)
- Carlos Gomez Alonso (Oviedo, Spain)
- Nuria Guañabens (Barcelona, Spain)
- Lorenz Hofbauer (Marburg, Germany)
- Klaus Klaushofer (Vienna, Austria)
- Peter Lakatos (Budapest, Hungary)
- Bente Langdahl (Aarhus, Denmark)
- Lance Lanyon (London, UK)
- Pierre Marie (Paris, France)
- Xavier Nogues (Barcelona, Spain)
- Vladimir Palicka (Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic)
- Eleftherios Paschalis (Vienna, Austria)
- Stuart Ralston (Edinburgh, UK)
- Graham Russell (Oxford, UK)
- Tim Skerry (Sheffield, UK)
- Anna Teti (Rome, Italy)
- Hans van Leeuwen (Rotterdam, Netherlands)
- Andre van Wijnen (Worcester, USA)
- Slobodan Vukicevic (Zagreb, Croatia)

Local Organising Committee

CO-CHAIR: Xavier Nogues

CO-CHAIR: Nuria Guañabens

Committee:
- Jorge Cannata
- Luis Del Rio
- Manuel Diaz-Curiel
- Adolfo Diez-Pérez
- Carlos Gomez
- Jesus González-Macias
- Federico Hawkins
- Manuel Muñoz
- Luis Perez-Edo
- Manuel Quesada
- Jose Ramon Perez-Cano
- Daniel Roig-Escofet
- Manuel Sosa
All sessions take place at: Centro de Convenciones Internacional de Barcelona (CCIB), Rambla Prim, 1-17, 08019 Barcelona, Spain www.ccib.es

Saturday 24 May, 09:00-18:00

ECTS TRAINING COURSE: Bone Markers

SATELLITE TO THE 35TH EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM ON CALCIFIED TISSUES
Course organisers: Nuria Guañabens (Barcelona, Spain) and Richard Eastell (Sheffield, UK)

The aim of this ECTS training course is to provide participants with an overview of the latest opinion on bone markers and related topics, and to give practical guidance on topics such as bone remodelling, resorption and formation, measurement, significance and a look at markers in metabolic bone diseases such as osteoporosis and Paget’s disease. The workshop will comprise a series of overviews and practical advice, given by experts in the field, together with discussion stimulated by issues proposed in advance by the audience.

An additional registration fee is payable for the training course. Please tick the box on the registration form to book a place.

Speakers:
Importance of biological variability of bone markers in clinical practice
Luisa Alvarez (Barcelona, Spain)

Bone markers in osteoporosis: fracture prediction
Pierre Delmas (Lyon, France)

Bone remodelling and its regulation
David Dempster (New York, USA)

Bone markers in osteoporosis: treatment monitoring
Richard Eastell (Sheffield, UK)

Measurement of calcitropic hormones
Bill Fraser (Liverpool, UK)

New biochemical markers of cartilage
Patrick Garnero (Lyon, France)

Markers of bone formation
Nuria Guañabens (Barcelona, Spain)

Markers of bone resorption (including cathepsin K)
Christian Meier (Basel, Switzerland)

Bone markers in renal osteodystrophy
Ana Monegal (Barcelona, Spain)

Bone markers in Paget’s disease
Pilar Peris (Barcelona, Spain)

Saturday 24 May, 11:00-12:30

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The programme will be designed to be of interest in particular to nurses, physiotherapists, radiologists, nutritionists, dieticians and clinical trial co-ordinators working in the field of metabolic bone diseases. The session will include a preview of the main meeting programme with discussion of the highlights and a look at some of the issues and why they are significant, and some additional presentations on aspects of particular interest to allied health professionals working in the field of calcified tissues.

Attendance at this session is free of charge to delegates registered for the main meeting.

Translation into Spanish will be available for this session. Please tick the box on the registration form to book a place.

Saturday 24 May, 19:15-20:15

ECTS/ASBMR DEBATE

Speakers:
Heike Bischoff-Ferrari (Zurich, Switzerland)
Marc Drezner (Madison, USA)

Monday 26 May, 12:45

EUROPEAN CALCIFIED TISSUE SOCIETY (ECTS) AGM

The ECTS AGM will be held at 12:45 on Monday 26 May 2008 in the Main Auditorium. All ECTS members are invited to attend.

HOST ORGANISATION

European Calcified Tissue Society

ECTS is the major organisation in Europe for researchers and clinicians working in the field of calcified tissues and related fields. For over 40 years the Society has acted as a forum for broad-ranging high quality research through its annual meetings and training courses. Membership is open to anyone working in the field at whatever stage in their career. The ECTS funds various grants and awards and full details on these and all activities can be found on the ECTS web site at www.ectsoc.org.

European Calcified Tissue Society (ECTS)
PO Box 337, Patchway, Bristol BS32 4ZR, United Kingdom
Tel/fax: +44 (0)1454 610255, Email: admin@ectsoc.org

ECTS Corporate Members
The Alliance for Better Bone Health (Procter & Gamble and sanofi-aventis), Amgen, Eli Lilly, MSD, Novartis, Nycomed, Pfizer, Roche/GlaxoSmithKline, Servier

ECTS Board Members
Richard Eastell (Sheffield, UK) (President)
Roland Baron (New Haven, USA) (President Elect)
Bente Langdahl (Aarhus, Denmark)
Pierre Marie (Paris, France)
Anna Teti (L’Aquila, Italy) (Treasurer)
Hans van Leeuwen (Rotterdam, Netherlands) (Secretary)
Sunday 25-Tuesday 27 May 13:00-14:00

MEET THE PROFESSOR SESSIONS

Ernesto Canalis (Hartford, USA): Osteoblast signalling
Robert Coleman (Sheffield, UK): Prevention of osteoporosis in women treated with aromatase inhibitors
Juliet Compston (Cambridge, UK): Development of guidelines for the treatment of osteoporosis
Steven Cummings (San Francisco, USA): Is long-term use of bisphosphonates for osteoporosis safe?
Jonathan Flint (Oxford, UK): Mouse genetics
Claus Glüer (Kiel, Germany): The use of physical measurements of bone to assess fracture risk
Lorenz Hofbauer (Dresden, Germany): The RANK-RANKL OPG
Clemens Löwik (Leiden, Netherlands): Skeletal imaging in preclinical models
Frank Luyten (Leuven, Belgium): Synovial stem cells
Richard Oreffo (Southampton, UK): Regenerative medicine
Roberto Pacifici (Atlanta, USA): Regulation of bone metabolism by t-cells
Socrates Papapoulos (Leiden, Netherlands): Bisphosphonate and bone advances
Ian Reid (Auckland, New Zealand): Paget’s disease of bone
Elizabeth Shane (New York, USA): Steroid osteoporosis
Tim Spector (London, UK): What can we learn by studying twins?
Andre Uitterlinden (Rotterdam, Netherlands): Genotyping technologies and applications

An outline of the topics and objectives for each session can be viewed on the meeting website under ‘Scientific Programme’ - ‘Meet the Professor’.

Numbers will be limited to 50 per session to encourage audience participation.

Entry will be by ticket only, to be collected on a first-come first-served basis from the registration desk on the day of the session.

AWARDS

Sunday 25 May
15:00-15:05
ECTS/Amgen Research Fellowship

Monday 26 May
15:00-15:05
ECTS Career Establishment Award

Tuesday 27 May
15:00-15:05
ECTS/Alliance for Better Bone Health
Iain T Boyle Award

Wednesday 28 May
Closing Ceremony
ECTS New Investigator Awards
Abstract submission opens: 1 September 2007
Abstract deadline: 7 December 2007
On-line abstract submissions at www.ectsoc.org

Delegates who would like to present their work at the meeting, either orally or as a poster, are invited to submit an abstract for consideration by the Programme Committee. All abstracts must be submitted in English and must be received by 7 December 2007.

Clinical cases
Clinical case reports describing unusual cases or innovative approaches to clinical problems are also encouraged. Please see the on-line instructions for details of how to format your abstract. There will be an award for the best clinical case.

How to submit your abstract
On-line submission is through the meeting website: www.ectsoc.org. If you have any difficulty using the on-line form, please contact MCI (see page 4).

Please be sure to follow the instructions on the website, complete all requested information, and note that abstracts are published exactly as submitted. You should therefore avoid errors and misspellings as these will not be corrected by the organisers prior to publication.

Abstracts can be compiled offline using a word-processing or text-editing system before being pasted into the on-line form. Abstracts may be up to 2500 characters including spaces.

The electronic abstract submission system works best with Netscape Navigator version 6+ or Microsoft Internet Explorer version 6+.

Submissions by fax, email or courier are not acceptable. There is no paper submission form.

Please read all instructions carefully before preparing your abstract. Failure to observe these guidelines may result in disqualification.

Acceptance of abstracts
Authors will be notified by 28 January 2008 whether their abstract has been accepted, and they will be informed at the same time about the date, time and form of their presentation.

The final programme will be published on the meeting website by 3 March 2008.

The Programme Committee reserves the right to make the final decision concerning form of presentation but authors are asked to indicate their preference.

Abstracts will be published in Calcified Tissue International.

New Investigator Awards and Conference Grants
A number of New Investigator Awards and Conference Grants are available to young investigators who have submitted an abstract to the meeting. Applicants must be a member of ECTS and must be within 3 years of attaining their PhD. Awards will be made by the Programme Committee and will be selected according to abstract score. Authors will be eligible for only one award or grant. Confirmation of eligibility from heads of department will be sought prior to awards being made. Please check the box on the abstract form if you would like to apply for an award.

Please note that presenting authors must register and attend the meeting to be eligible for any of these awards. Award winners will be notified by 4 February 2008.

Late Breaking Abstracts
ECTS will offer a late breaking abstracts service for new data which was not available at the time of the abstract submission deadline. For criteria and deadlines please see the meeting website.
Save on the registration fee by registering before 8 February 2008

Prices

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<th>Region / Type</th>
<th>Early (to 8 February)</th>
<th>Pre-registration (9 February to 9 May)</th>
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* Trainees (PhD students/Undergraduates/Residents/Fellows/Junior Post Docs (within 3 years of PhD)) and Allied Health Professionals (nurses, physiotherapists, radiologists, nutritionists and dietitians) - confirmation from Head of Department required.

Participant’s registration fee includes:
- Final Programme and abstract books
- Attendance at all scientific sessions
- Access to posters and commercial exhibition
- Tea and coffee during official breaks
- Lunch Sunday-Tuesday
- Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception
- Cultural event/football tournament
- Public transport pass
- VAT at 16%

Accompanying person’s fee includes:
- Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception
- Cultural event/football tournament
- Barcelona sightseeing tour
- Public transport pass
- VAT at 16%

HOW TO REGISTER
Please use the printed registration form or register on-line through the meeting website at www.ectsoc.org

Please note that the registration form is to be used to register one participant only and, if applicable, their accompanying person(s).

Your name badge should be worn at all times at the meeting and during official social events.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY
All cancellations must be sent to MCI in writing (fax, letter or email). For cancellations received before 28 March 2008 fees will be refunded less €70 for administrative costs. After this date, no refund will be possible.

A handling fee of €30 per registration will be charged for every registration modification received after 28 March 2008.

REGISTRATION AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATION DESKS
The registration and accommodation desks will be open as follows:
- Saturday 24 May 07:30 - 20:30
- Sunday 25 May 08:00 - 19:45
- Monday 26 May 08:00 - 19:45
- Tuesday 27 May 08:00 - 19:45
- Wednesday 28 May 08:00 - 12:15

For any queries about registration please contact MCI (see page 4).

ITALIAN PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES
The Organisers have chosen AISC & MGR, Rome, to collect, on our behalf, all applications from Italian pharmaceutical companies and to file them with the appropriate Italian Health Ministry officials.

For further information please contact:
AISC & MGR - AIM Group, Via A. Ristori 38, IT-00197 Rome, Italy. Tel: +39 06 809 68 227; Fax: + 39 06 809 68 229, Email: g.sicilia@aimgroup.it
MCI has reserved a large number of hotel rooms in various hotels in different price categories. The majority of the hotels are located either in the city centre or in the area of the CCIB. The CCIB is on a number of metro, bus and tram lines (see page 14 for more information about public transport within Barcelona). The journey from the city centre takes 20-30 minutes. All delegates will receive a free public transport pass.

Barcelona attracts many tourists and hotel rooms may be limited. Reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. MCI acts as agent for accommodation bookings and ECTS accepts no responsibility for recommendations given or transactions made.

HOW TO BOOK
Please use the printed accommodation form or book on-line through the meeting website at www.ectsoc.org. Availability can be checked through the on-line form prior to booking. Please book before 10 March 2008 in order to guarantee your booking.

ENQUIRIES
Any enquiries or requests for additional information, changes or cancellations of room reservations are to be addressed directly to MCI (see page 4).

RESERVATION AND PAYMENT
For hotel bookings, a deposit payment for the first night must accompany your reservation. Your booking will be confirmed on receipt of your hotel deposit. This prepaid deposit will be deducted from your hotel bill when checking out from the hotel. Additional expenses such as mini-bar and telephone must be paid directly to the hotel when checking out.

GROUP RESERVATIONS
Group reservations will be handled by separate contracts. Please contact MCI for further information (see page 4).

CHANGE AND CANCELLATION
Registration, Social programme, Excursions:
All cancellations must be sent to MCI Suisse SA in writing (fax, letter, or email). For cancellations received before 28 March 2008 deposits will be refunded less €70 for administrative costs. (The cancellation fee will be €35 if you are registering for the training course only). After this date, no refund will be possible. A handling fee of €30 per registration will be charged for every registration modification received after 28 March 2008.

Hotels:
All cancellations must be sent to MCI Suisse SA in writing (fax, letter, or email). For cancellations received before 28 March 2008 deposits will be refunded less €70 for administrative costs. After this date, no refund will be possible.

In case of late cancellations (after 29 March 2008), rooms cancelled, cancelled nights or no-show, we reserve the right to charge the full stay if the hotel room can not be re-sold.

A handling fee of €30 per hotel room will be charged for every hotel modification received after 29 March 2008.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT TIME
Hotel check-in time is 15:00 or later. If arriving after 18:00, please notify MCI in advance. Check-out time is noon.

METHODS OF PAYMENT
Payment of hotel deposit and excursions must accompany the form and may be made by:
- Credit card (Eurocard/Mastercard/Visa/American Express)
- Bank transfer to the following account:
  MCI Suisse SA - ECTS 2008
  UBS SA - CP 2600 - CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland
  Account N° 240-369.393.71L
  Clearing 240 - Swift UBSWCHZH12A
  IBAN CH18 0024 0240 3693 9371L

Please indicate “free of charge for the receiver account” and mention: “ECTS 2008” and participant’s name.

Payment by personal cheque cannot be accepted. All payments must be in Euros (EUR).

OTHER ACCOMMODATION
For details of budget accommodation options, please visit www.hostel.com. The website has a rating system and comprehensive guest reviews.
### HOTELS IN BARCELONA

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Rates shown are per room, per night in Euros. Breakfast, service and 7% VAT are included.
Rates are valid as at July 2007 and are subject to fluctuation.
Rates are shown for standard rooms; other types of room - superior room, deluxe room, junior suite etc - are available on request.
Saturday 24 May

Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception
20:00-22:00 - CCIB

Included in the registration fee

Meet your friends and colleagues at the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception. One of the highlights of this year’s Opening Ceremony will be a performance by a Tuna Band. This is one of the oldest traditions in Spain, generally consisting of groups of university students. The origin of this comes from the middle ages and it was one way for students to eat by performing in taverns in exchange for food.

Following the Opening Ceremony you are invited to enjoy good company, excellent food and great entertainment in the foyer and terrace of the CCIB. This year the reception will go on until later in the evening and plenty of traditional entertainers will be joining the party, including the Tuna Band, Castellers (building a human pyramid), and a group of Gegants and Capgrossos (literally “giants” and “big heads”!). We have listened to previous delegates’ feedback on our social programme, and it has been decided to replace the conference dinner with this more exciting welcome reception to which everyone is invited. This will give delegates a ‘free’ evening during the conference to meet up with colleagues, or to make their own entertainment arrangements.

Although attendance at the Welcome Reception is free of charge, please register for this event by checking the box on the registration form.

Monday 26 May

Cultural Event
20:00-21:00 - Santa Maria del Mar Church

The church apparently dates from the year 998 - its first stone was laid to commemorate the conquest of Sardinia. It is the work of the architect Berenguer de Montagut and is extraordinarily beautiful and with stunning acoustics. Externally, it is the only perfectly-finished Catalan Gothic church.

Although attendance at the cultural event is free of charge, please register for this event by checking the box on the registration form.

Space is limited so please be sure to register early to guarantee a place at this event.

ECTS Football Tournament
20:00-23:00

Included in the registration fee

You are invited to enter a team of 6 players (1 reserve) for the ECTS football tournament. Transport will be provided from the Conference Centre.

If you wish to play in the tournament please check the box on the registration form and enter your name on the team sheet near the registration desk. Transport, jerseys, the winners’ cup and refreshments will be provided. Spectators also welcome!

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITION AND SPONSORSHIP

A trade exhibition will be held in conjunction with the meeting. There will be plenty of opportunity for delegates to meet representatives of the exhibition companies. Pharmaceutical companies, diagnostics and medical equipment manufacturers, medical publishers and other professional societies are invited to take part in the exhibition, which will be located in Exhibition Areas 1 and 2 of the CCIB.

If you are interested in exhibiting and/or sponsoring please contact Christophe de Rham at MCI (see page 4).

We are grateful to our 2007 supporters:

- Amgen
- ASBMR
- BioMedica
- Eli Lilly
- Elsevier
- GE Medical Systems
- Hologic
- IDS
- Kyphon Europe
- Mindways Software
- MSD
- Novartis
- Nycomed
- Nordic
- Bioscience/Quidel
- Pfizer
- Pharma Vinci
- Roche/GlaxoSmithKline
- Skyscan
- Stratec Medizintechnik
- The Alliance for Better Bone Health (Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals and sanofi-aventis)
- XRadiaZentiva

A list of 2008 supporters can be seen on the meeting website, and exhibitor profiles will be available through the on-line exhibition.
We have put together a number of tours for accompanying persons through which we hope to convey the rich culture of this beautiful city and its environs.

Please note that tours will be confirmed only if a minimum of 30 participants is met. Full refunds will be given if a tour is cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

Full refunds will also be given in the event of cancellation by the participant if written notice is received by MCI prior to 28 March 2008. For cancellations after that date no refund will be made.

Other excursions will be available upon request at the tours desk at the Congress Centre.

**Sunday 25 May 2009: 09:00-13:00**

**BARCELONA HIGHLIGHTS TOUR**

A half-day tour to discover the highlights of Barcelona, driving through the city and stopping at the most interesting places:

- Montjuïc: a visit to the Olympic Ring, nerve centre of the ’92 Olympic Games and a stop at the Mirador de l’Alcalde (Mayor’s Viewpoint) to appreciate the panoramic view of the port and the city.
- Sagrada Familia (Church of the Holy Family): an outside view of the two façades of the Temple that was Gaudi’s dream and today is a symbol of Barcelona.
- Throughout the tour the guide will point out the areas you are passing through such as the Port and the seafront, Plaça de Catalunya, and the Passeig de Gràcia (with its Modernist houses and Block of Discord with contrasting styles).

Half day tour Barcelona sightseeing

Meeting place and drop off: CCIB

Included in accompanying persons’ registration fee

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**Monday 26 May 2008: 09:00-17:00**

**SITGES & CAVAS CODORNIU TOUR**

The coastal town of Sitges was a retreat for Bohemian artists at the beginning of the century. Its beautiful beaches and its proximity to Barcelona have made it a major tourist attraction, but its charm is preserved in the old part.

Guided walk around quiet corners of the old quarter with its church. Visit Cau Ferrat Museum.

The Penedés region is famous for its wine production, the star of which is the well known “cava”. The visit to the Wine Cellars of Cordoniu allows a close-up view of how they make this sparkling wine.

Guided walking tour of the premises and video presentation. Train trip through the underground tunnels where the bottles are kept. Cava tasting.

Full day Sitges & Cavas Codorniu tour

Meeting place and drop off: CCIB

Price includes lunch, tasting at Cavas Codorniu, and the visit to the Cau Ferrat Museum

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For further information about excursions and tours please contact MCI (see page 4).
TRANSPORTATION

**Travelling to Barcelona**

By air: Barcelona Airport (airport code BCN) is 13 km (8 miles) from the city centre of Barcelona. A taxi takes 20-30 minutes for a fare of €15-25. Train services to the airport are available every 30 minutes from Clot-Arago, Arc de triomf, Placa Catalunya and Barcelona Sants stations. The fare is €2.10 one-way. Buses run every 15 minutes from the Plaza Catalunya to the airport. The fare is €3.30 one-way. Prices as at July 2007.

By rail: The two main stations serving Barcelona are Estaciós (stations) Sants and França. Sants services destinations in Spain and a few international trains, while most long-distance trains (from Geneva, Milan, Paris and Zurich) depart from Estació França.

By rail:

- **Metro:**
  - L4 (yellow line): Stop “Maresme / Forum”
  - L4 (green line): Stop “Catalunya”
  - L5 (blue line): Stop “Sants”

- **Bus:** Metropolitan Transport of Barcelona (TMB): Lines 41, 47 and 701

- **Tram:** T4 line of Sant Martí - Besós Tram: Stop “Forum”

- **Taxi:** From the city centre the journey takes between 20 to 25 minutes, depending on the traffic. There is a taxi rank outside the AC Princess Hotel (next to the CCIB). Black and yellow cabs show a green light when free. Just wave your hand to call them. The meter (it is compulsory to use it) will indicate the price to pay. Extra charges are applicable from the airport or for luggage. Tariffs are shown on a sticker inside the cab.

**Free public transport pass**

All delegates and accompanying persons are offered a public transport pass. To receive your pass please exchange the voucher included in your registration documents for the pass at the Information Desk at the meeting.

**External scientific and social events**

It is not authorised for external scientific and social events to be organised during the official hours of the meeting programme, which includes the scientific programme (including the satellite symposia), the opening ceremony and reception and the cultural event/football tournament. Transportation to social events may not depart during the official programme (including the satellite symposia).
TOURIST INFORMATION

As a popular tourist destination Barcelona has an excellent tourist information service, which includes the following:

- Detailed information about Barcelona - culture, tourism, sights of interest, transport, accommodation, restaurants etc
- Tourist information about Spain - historic monuments, castles, museums, galleries, exhibitions, trades, festivals
- Tickets for concerts, theatres and other cultural events
- Public transport passes, postcards, stamps, telephone cards
- Barcelona City Card (City card featuring free travel on public transport, discounts and free offers at museums, cultural venues, theatres, leisure facilities, night-clubs, shops, restaurants and entertainments, other services and unique means of transport).

Please see www.barcelonaturisme.com for details.

CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

The temperature in May should be quite warm - about 21°C.

CURRENCY

The local currency is the Euro (EUR / €). 1€ = 100 cents.

CREDIT CARDS

Major credit cards are widely accepted at hotels, stores, cafes and restaurants. Be prepared to present a picture ID when using a credit card.

ATMs/cash machines:

ATMs offer a convenient way of withdrawing Euros on a credit or debit card. Most banks have these machines, and all major cards are accepted (be sure to have your PIN code).

The most common credit card in Spain is Visa, but you should have no problem finding ATMs that accept Mastercard or American Express as well.

Banks & bureaux de change:

Most banks are open from Monday to Friday from 08:30 to 20:30. Some banks on the “Rambla” (main street) are open Monday to Saturday from 09:30 to 22:30 and from 10:30 to 23:30 on Sundays. There are numerous cash machines throughout the city and the plentiful bureaux de change are open weekends.

OPENING HOURS

Most shops are open 09:30 to 13:30 and from 16:30 to 20:00 with big department stores and shopping centres open continually until 21:00 or 22:00. Many of the larger stores are open on Sundays.

ELECTRICITY

Spain, like most other European countries, has 220-volt AC, 50Hz current and uses two-pin continental plugs.

Visitors from the UK will need an adaptor for electric appliances, whereas North Americans need a transformer in order to use their 110/125V appliances.

TIME

Spain follows Central European Time (CET) which is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and six hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). At the time of the meeting summer daylight saving will be in operation which is two hours ahead of GMT.

TIPPING

Service is normally included in restaurant, hotel and taxi bills, so any further tip should only be given for exceptionally good service. It is not uncommon, however, to round up the bill.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

A travel insurance policy to cover theft, loss and medical problems is recommended. The Organisers will not be held liable for illness, accidents or thefts suffered by participants or accompanying persons during the meeting or their stay in Spain before or after the meeting.

VISA

If you are an EU citizen, you must either present a passport or an ID card valid for the duration of your stay in order to enter Spain for tourist visits of up to three months.

Citizens of other countries must have a valid passport. Some non-EU citizens are required to produce a visa. Please contact your travel agent or the nearest Spanish diplomatic post for further information.

Should you need a letter of invitation to register to obtain an Entry Visa, please contact MCI (see page 4). Please note that we cannot enter into correspondence with the Spanish authorities on your behalf and any invitation letter does not imply any financial liability on our part.
Membership
The European Calcified Tissue Society is the major organisation in Europe for researchers and clinicians working in the field of calcified tissues and related fields. For over 40 years the Society has acted as a forum for broad-ranging high quality research through its annual meetings and workshops. The Society’s strength lies in its members and we invite you to join them. Benefits of membership include reduced subscription to the journals *Calcified Tissue International*, *Osteoporosis International* and *Progress In Osteoporosis*. Membership is open to anyone working in the field at whatever stage in their career and from anywhere in the world.

Benefits of joining the ECTS:
- Special members’ subscription rates to *Calcified Tissue International*, *Osteoporosis International* and *Progress In Osteoporosis*
- Substantially reduced registration fee for ECTS meetings, courses and workshops
- The option of being actively involved with the running and organisation of the ECTS
- A chance to contribute to the development of the field of calcified tissues in Europe and beyond
- Access to all ECTS grants and awards

How do I join?
Simply apply through the ECTS website at www.ectsoc.org. Alternatively, application forms are available from the ECTS office at the address shown below.

Training Courses
ECTS aims to provide training courses and practical sessions throughout Europe to enable its members to benefit from an exchange of information and develop practical techniques. Details on the current training programme are available from the ECTS website at www.ectsoc.org

ECTS Grants and Awards
Full details on all grants and awards, including deadline dates, available from the ECTS web site at www.ectsoc.org

ECTS/Amgen Bone Biology Fellowship
The ECTS, in collaboration with Amgen, is delighted to continue this award. Applications are invited from scientists at the beginning of their research career who wish to conduct research into basic or clinical aspects of bone disease.

The successful candidate will be awarded a fellowship of 3 years duration with a value of €125,000, based at a higher educational institution within Europe.

ECTS Career Establishment Award
The ECTS Career Establishment Award is intended to assist newly-appointed faculty members in launching a successful research career.

The purpose of these €50,000 grants (over 2-3 years) is to help meet some of the immediate costs of initiating research and to support and stimulate research on calcified tissues and related topics.

ECTS Exchange Scholarship Grants
The primary aim of these grants is to enable researchers to spend time in another laboratory to learn a technique not used in the home laboratory.

ECTS/Alliance for Better Bone Health Iain T Boyle Award
The Alliance for Better Bone Health Iain T Boyle award is open to young scientists who have made significant progress and contribution to the field of bone and calcified tissue. The nominee should be within 10 years of completing their PhD. The award is announced during the ECTS annual meeting.

ECTS New Investigator Awards and ECTS Travel Grants
The ECTS New Investigator Awards and ECTS Travel Grants are available to members of ECTS who are aged 35 or under. These awards are given to the highest-scoring abstracts submitted to ECTS annual meetings.

ECTS Eastern European Grants
As a result of the successful meeting in Prague in May 2006, The European Calcified Tissue Society, in collaboration with the Czech Society for Metabolic Diseases, is pleased to announce the availability of 3 Research grants for Eastern Europe of €40,000 each. These grants are intended for PhD students who are resident in Eastern Europe to complete their research projects either at their home university or abroad over a period of 2 years.

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ECTS PhD Studentships
Grants are available for European PhD students to assist with their PhD research project expenses, which must be relevant to the field of calcified tissues and related topics. The total amount available is €75,000 payable in instalments of €25,000 per annum for 3 years.

ECTS Postdoctoral Fellowships
Grants are available for European postdoctoral fellows to assist with expenses relating to their own research project, which must be relevant to the field of calcified tissues and related topics. The total amount available is €60,000 payable in instalments of €20,000 per annum for 2 years.

The ECTS is grateful for the support of its Corporate Members: The Alliance for Better Bone Health (Procter & Gamble and Sanofi-Aventis) • Amgen • Eli Lilly • MSD • Novartis • Nycomed • Pfizer • Roche/GlaxoSmithKline • Servier