



[Fondation pour le Développement de la Médecine Interne en Europe](#)

[Stiftung für die Förderung der Inneren Medizin in Europa](#)

[Foundation for the Development of Internal Medicine in Europe](#)

ANNUAL REPORT 2007 - 2008

The Foundation for the Development of the Internal Medicine in Europe was established on January 17, 2003 in Geneva on the initiative of EFIM (European Federation for Internal Medicine)

The Foundation's non-profit making aims in Europe are as follows:

- to support and develop Internal Medicine conceived as part of general medicine
- to develop the knowledge and understanding of pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases relating to Internal Medicine.
- to promote biomedical, clinical, behavioural, nutritional and epidemiological research into diseases relating to Internal Medicine.
- to help to increase the public's awareness and understanding of diseases relating to Internal Medicine.
- to promote the education and training of doctors and other health professionals in the domain of diseases relating to Internal Medicine.
- to establish and maintain contacts with other institutions and societies with similar activities.
- to undertake any activity contributing to the attainment of the above-mentioned goals.

At present, during the period 01.10.07 – 30.09.08 our Foundation has increased its visibility through the organization of 2 International Congresses in London and Nice, but has not succeeded in strengthening its financial situation by finding new donors – particularly outside the pharmaceutical industry. Added to this, all the expenses incurred by these two events have not yet been accounted for.

Actions of the Foundation during the period 2007 - 2008

1. The organization of a 'Masterclass in Renal Physiology and Pathophysiology for the Clinician' in London from 19 – 21 June 2008 with University College of London (UCL) and a donation from Amgen.

- **Fellowship:**

In 2008 the Foundation awarded a research scholarship of £20,000 to a young Austrian researcher in the field of renal physiology. This research, aiming at a better understanding and at the prevention of certain complications of kidney transplants will be carried out partly in Zurich and at the Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA.

- **Masterclass:**

The Foundation dedicated a budget of 200,000 US dollars for the setting up of a 'Masterclass in Renal Physiology and Pathophysiology for the Clinician' organized in June 2008 in London (UCL). For 3 days 100 graduates, chosen by an international jury, were able to benefit from an exceptional update in the field of the mechanisms of renal and metabolic diseases; this session using interactive methods was greatly appreciated by the participants.

2. Financial participation in the 11th International Symposium on Urolithiasis in Nice from 2 – 5 September 2008.

The Foundation offered its help in the organization of this conference. This financial support of 5,000 Euros, permitted the organizers to engage Professor F L Coe (USA) to give the inaugural lecture of the conference 'Mechanisms in the formation of kidney stones'. Thus the Foundation was able to help to increase the knowledge of hundreds of internists and specialists in renal diseases through the means of a prestigious, internationally renowned conference.

3. Due to her other working commitments, Mrs Janet Stevens, Secretary of the Foundation, will retire from her position in 2009. All the members of Council send her their best wishes and thank her warmly for her excellent work.

4. The Council of the Foundation has decided to use AGS in Brussels for its secretarial work for increased efficiency. AGS already carries out administrative and secretarial work for EFIM.

5. The Foundation will not, as previously envisaged, set up a second Masterclass.

6. The finances of the Foundation during the course of 2007 – 2008 have been affected by the organization of the two above-mentioned major events. There were outgoings of CHF 258'848.41 against an income of CHF 292'287.24 for the preceding year. On 30 September 2008 the balance of the Foundation was CHF 215'288.03 as opposed to CHF 444'136.44 for the preceding year. The Foundation funds are invested conservatively and have hardly been affected by the financial crisis. All members of the Council work in a voluntary capacity.

7. We would like to thank all our generous donors, particularly Servier Laboratories, the EFIM, and Dr Chris Davidson who donates his conference honoraria to the Foundation.
8. Our website www.fdime.org has improved both in content and layout, and for this naturally we thank our webmaster Mr Adrian Stevens.

Future Plans of the Foundation during 2008 - 2009

1. With the aim of putting in place a strategy in terms of image, action, visibility and fund-raising, the Foundation has requested a study from consultants which will be analysed and possibly acted upon during 2008-2009.
2. The organization of a major European event with mass appeal will be held at the Opera in Paris involving a prestigious partner. This should come to reality at the end of 2009, beginning of 2010 – thus allowing greater visibility to the Foundation.

The largest number of doctors in Europe are General Practitioners or internists, and the Foundation is aware of its potential and confident that notwithstanding the difficult economic situation it will be able to realise its objectives in the years ahead.

The Foundation would like to thank all those who have contributed to its success during its lifetime; donors, professional organizations and members of the Council.

Prof. Dr. Daniel Sereni
Président

Dr. Imad M-M Hatem
Treasurer

Dublin, 24 October 2008