18th European Congress
of Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine

Science & Art in Physical
& Rehabilitation Medicine

ESPRM
European Society of Physical
& Rehabilitation Medicine

Hellenic Society of Physical
& Rehabilitation Medicine

Thessaloniki • GREECE
28th May ~ 1st June 2012
www.esprm2012.eu
Dear Colleagues,

It’s a great pleasure to invite you to the 18th PRM European congress that will take place in Thessaloniki Greece, from 28 May to 1 June 2012.

Thessaloniki, named after Alexander the Great’s sister, is the capital city of Northern Greece, the second major city of our Country. Founded around 315 BC it is one of the oldest cities in Europe, rich in history, culture and cosmopolitan tradition. With its vibrant, cultural, artistic and academic life, beautiful scenery and excellent cuisine, it is the ideal setting for our upcoming Congress.

A very successful and productive Congress through thematic richness and a wide spectrum of presentations covering all the fields of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine is our only concern.

During the ESPRM 2012 Congress, participants will have the opportunity to share the latest knowledge and experience, to exchange ideas with worldwide experts and highly distinguished international speakers from different scientific areas related to Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine as well as to meet prominent key scientists or find international partners for future academic and scientific co-operation.

Your active participation to the congress through the presentation of your work on any of the thematic topics of the congress reflects our wishes. Your submissions will be most welcome and your particular contributions highly appreciated.

As hosts and organizers, we shall spare no effort in making your participation scientifically rewarding and meaningful and your stay in Greece as enjoyable as possible. Congress participants will carry pleasant memories from the Greek hospitality, culture, traditions and historical heritage.

So just reserve your dates; we are looking forward to welcoming you in Thessaloniki.
The meaning of the logo

Once upon a time, a Knight and his bride were walking along a river. While gathering the little blue flowers for his sweetheart, the Knight fell into the deep and treacherous river. Just before his armor had pulled him beneath the water, he tossed the flowers to his lover and pleaded, “Forget Me Not!” Those were his dying words.

Ever since, the little blue flower has been known as the forget-me-not, and it is recognized as the international symbol of solidarity and hope.

Aphorism (From the Greek ἀφορίζειν, to define), literally a distinction or a definition, is a short, pithy statement of an evident truth concerned with life or nature.

Hippocrates wrote a series of aphorisms on medical practice. They became handy hints for the physicians of the time (400 BCE).

Its original form in Hippocrates’ work Aphorisms (sect. I, no. 1) is: «ὁ βίος βραχὺς, ἦ δὲ τέχνη μακρά, ὁ δὲ καρδὸς ὀξὺς, ἦ δὲ πεῖρα οφαληρή, ἦ δὲ κρίσις χαλεπή.»

The Greek text, accordingly, is generally rendered in English as: «Life is short, [the] art long, opportunity fleeting, experiment fallible, and judgment difficult»

The famous first aphorism of Hippocrates, «Life is short, the art is long» was long considered a perfect summary of medical ethics. Modern physicians find the words impossible to understand. But it can be interpreted as a fundamental insight into the ethical problems of modern medicine. The physician must not only be prepared to do what is right himself, but also to make the patient, the attendants, and externals cooperate.
Thessaloniki – A Popular Conference Destination

Thessaloniki is a dynamic city, that matches upper market conference infrastructure with its milestone monuments and glorious history, gastronomy, markets and nightlife, modern services and traditional hospitality; not to mention the inspiring working environment due to its climate and natural beauty.

Thessaloniki’s “Macedonia International Airport” has direct flight access to leading international airports and the distance to the city centre is approximately 15 minutes.

Many European airlines and charter companies fly direct from locations such as Berlin, Bucharest, Budapest, Frankfurt, Larnaca, London, Munich, Paris, Rome, Vienna, and Zurich, some with a maximum flying time of 3 hours. All major airlines from the U.S.A, Asia, South America and the Middle East fly direct to Athens, a 40-minute connection to Thessaloniki.

For visitors wishing to travel by boat, car or train Thessaloniki is approximately 320 km from the port of Igoumenitsa if arriving from Italy by boat, 294 km from Sofia, 597 km from Istanbul, 876 km from Bucharest, 629 km from Belgrade.

Apart from the excellent conference infrastructure, the city boasts a significant number of 5* hotels, some of which belong to prestigious chains and associations like Hyatt, Holiday Inn, Summit Hotels, Golden Tulip Hotels, Small Luxury Hotels of the World and Leading Hotels of the World. Apart from the 5* properties, there are even more 3* and 4* hotels available.

Thessaloniki combines:
• Excellent service – Greece has a service culture
• Excellent weather conditions – Mostly sunny throughout the year
• Convenient location in Southeast European region
• Modern airport served by several airlines
• Excellent holidays options before or after a congress – Greek islands
• Competitive prices for accommodation and social life
• Excellent academic and scientific environment - Universities, Research Institutes