As we move toward Rome IV, it's my pleasure to present to our members, associates, sponsors and friends the progress we have made to reach this goal.

**Rome IV Update**

Rome IV has several moving components that are just starting to come together. Beginning first with the working teams and support committees over the last 4 years we have produced preliminary data to help shape the work of the chapter committees. The Rome IV chapter committees are now organizing and compiling their work and Document C, the third iteration of the committees’ work are being finalized in anticipation of the meeting in December. At this time the committees will polish up the document and integrate the figures to prepare it for outside review. There will be 3 Rome IV products, an online version, the Rome IV book and the Gastroenterology 13th issue, all scheduled to be released in 2016.

**Rome IV Online version.** The online version will be password accessible and will include all Rome IV products. Online searching of a topic will be found not only in the chapter but in many other available documents (see below). We will be incorporating cross-links to other chapters and have considerably more graphic material by updating our Rome III computer based learning program slides and our clinical algorithms. Accessibility can be obtained for 24 hours, one month, one year and forever at reasonable prices. Also, one year and forever subscribers will be able to receive the Rome IV hard copy book material at deep discounts.

**Rome IV book.** The “book” will actually be in several volumes since the Rome information keeps growing each year. I’m sure you recall the size of the Rome III book! Therefore Volume I will contain the 8 non-diagnostic chapters including multicultural aspects, gender, psychosocial, basic science, physiology, pharmacokinetics and others. Volume II will contain the 6 diagnostic chapters that cover the gastrointestinal regions: esophagus, gastroduodenal, bowel, biliary, central disorders of GI pain (functional abdominal pain and narcotic bowel syndrome) and anorectal disorders. The diagnostic criteria table and the Rome IV questionnaires will be at the back of Volume II. In addition there will be two other smaller volumes: the Rome IV algorithms, an update of the previously published algorithms, and the Multi-dimensional Clinical Profile. All four volumes will be sold separately or bundled at a discount.

**Rome IV companion books.** Pediatric gastroenterologists will be able to obtain a smaller companion book that contains the pediatric chapter and questionnaires and primary care physicians will be able to obtain the Rome IV primary care book created by Pali Hungin and the primary care committee.

**Questionnaires and Validation.** The Questionnaire committee under direction of Bill Whitehead (chair) and Oli Palsson (co-chair) is working with the chapter committees to provide questionnaires that will scale the responses for Rome IV criteria which will be more amenable to research. There will also be an extensive effort to validate the criteria by the time of book publication.

**Multi-Dimensional Clinical Profile Committee.** This committee consisting of the Rome Foundation Board is finishing up a program to help clinicians address the full spectrum the patient’s clinical condition in order to provide more directed therapeutic options. By using a dimensional multi-axial format the full dimensionality of a patient’s clinical profile can be constructed. For example an IBS patient seen in primary care may be treated quite differently from a patient with the same diagnosis seen at a major medical center, the latter having with more severe symptoms, psychological co-morbidities or more severe physiological disturbances. Therefore the multi-dimensional clinical profile will cover the patient’s clinical profile not only in terms of the diagnosis but also in terms of y clinical modifiers (e.g., IBS-C, D, or M), the impact of the condition (mild, moderate or severe), the presence of any psychosocial modifiers, or the degree of
physiological dysfunction and biomarkers. As discussed, the information will accompany the Rome IV book and will be published separately as a primer for clinicians.

**Translations.** This committee, headed by Dr. Ami Sperber coordinates all translations relating to diagnostic criteria, algorithms and questionnaires. We have succeeded in disseminating our educational materials with translations of books and questionnaires into over 20 different languages. Our plan for Rome IV is to have translation of the Rome IV material into several languages including Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and others within one year of the 2016 Rome IV publication date.

**Visiting Professorship and Lectureship**

Plans are underway for providing a series of educational programs by key speakers who will visit medical centers and other clinical venues.

For the *Visiting Professorship*, top tier investigators and clinicians within the Rome Foundation will visit an academic medical center for a period of 1-3 days to provide a variety of activities: a) Medical and/or Gastroenterology Grand Rounds, b) Clinical case conferences with trainees, c) Individual advisory meetings with young aspiring faculty and trainees seeking to develop a career in the FGIDs, d) Workshops or other more intense training programs in their area of expertise if requested.

For the *Visiting Lectureship*, there will be a one day visit either to an academic program or large clinical practice program, gut club or community oriented educational venue. The speaker might give a grand rounds to an academic program, a round table or lecture to a community educational venue or gut club. It may be possible to link presentations (e.g. a GI grand rounds in daytime and community gut club in evening) over a 24 hour period.

**CopyrighTS AND LICENSING**

In order to help service academic investigators and industry in accomplishing clinical research using Rome questionnaires in research, we have an effective copyright and licensing committee headed by John Kellow (chair) and Magnus Simren (co-chair). We are able to provide quality control of the use of these questionnaires and are also able to develop translations of questionnaires via Dr. Sperber and the translation committee. More recently we have acquired the ability to license several instruments used for clinical research in FGIDS including the IBS-SSS and many others. The licensing of these instruments are at no charge to academic investigators and while there is a fee for use by pharmaceutical companies, this fee is waived for Rome Foundation sponsors.

We are most appreciative to all of your support either as sponsors or contributing members. We expect to continue the many projects we have begun and hope to initiate new initiatives over time to accomplish our mission.

*Douglas A. Drossman, MD*  
*President*
Our mission is:

“To improve the lives of people with Functional GI Disorders.”
The Rome Foundation is developing a new program to create a visiting professorship (usually 2-3 days) or lectureship (1-2 days) to improve knowledge on functional GI disorders. Speakers will be internationally recognized in their areas of expertise and selection will be based on matching the topics selected with the speakers. Where there is interest in hearing the latest on functional GI and motility disorders, we invite all medical centers, academic programs, community hospital programs and “gut clubs” to apply.

ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS IN FUNCTIONAL GI AND MOTILITY DISORDERS (FGIDs)

- Over the last 10-15 years, the FGIDs have become a major research area within Gastroenterology due to technological advances and growing knowledge related to mucosal immune dysfunction, bacterial flora, brain-gut interactions and newer treatments.
- The FGIDs are the most common GI disorders seen by gastroenterologists and primary care physicians, yet medical school curricula and post graduate training are unable to keep up with advancing knowledge in their diagnosis and treatment.

RATIONALE

- As an academic organization that develops educational materials (e.g., Rome III book, slide sets, research questionnaires, video training, workshops) for the FGIDs, the Rome Foundation is in an ideal position to take responsibility for programs to teach clinicians and trainees.
- The members of the Rome Foundation are selected for their expert knowledge and are the key opinion leaders in research and clinical care of the FGIDs.
- Because the Rome Foundation members develop the research agenda and the clinical guidelines for these disorders, they are highly capable of developing a curriculum for learners that include the most up to date knowledge as well as current and soon to be developed recommendations for patient care.
- Educators possessing the knowledge needed to teach the research and clinical care are limited to a small number of clinical experts who are concentrated at major medical centers.
- The numbers of visiting professorships are diminishing due to increasingly rigorous guidelines that limit industry from supporting such activities. As a result current educational programs may be restricted to local or regional speakers who may not be as up to date on newer content areas.
- As an international non-profit academic organization with high credibility in the field, Rome Foundation sponsored visiting professorships will fill the gap in knowledge of functional GI disorders in the academic and practice community.
- The proposed multi-sponsored programs will not be subject to the restrictions on content imposed upon promotional talks. As such, these programs will provide a true state of the art update by the world’s leading experts on FGIDs.
- Due to its international structure, the Rome Foundation will provide visiting professorships and other educational programs on a global level.
PROPOSAL
We will develop a series of visiting professorships and lectures following two models:

THE ROME FOUNDATION VISITING PROFESSORSHIP
Top tier investigators and clinicians within the Foundation will visit an academic medical center for a period of 1-3 days to provide a variety of activities: a) Medical and/or Gastroenterology Grand Rounds, b) Clinical case conferences with trainees, c) Individual advisory meetings with young aspiring faculty and trainees seeking to develop a career in the FGIDs, d) Workshops or other more intense training programs in their area of expertise if requested. The Foundation would advertise and then solicit applications from medical centers. We will then identify the best speaker that will meet their specific educational needs.

THE ROME FOUNDATION VISITING LECTURESHIP
This will usually be a one day visit either to an academic program or large clinical practice program, gut club or community oriented educational venue. The speaker might give a grand rounds to an academic program, a round table or lecture to a community educational venue or gut club. It may be possible to link presentations (e.g. a GI grand rounds in daytime and community gut club in evening) over a 24 hour period.

To learn more about this program and to apply for a Visiting Professor at your institution, please visit the Rome website
www.theromefoundation.org/education/visiting_lectureship2014.cfm

ASSOCIATES OF ROME

The Associates of Rome program has grown to well over 1000 members in 76 countries since its inception in 2010. Members are enjoying benefits such as:

- Discounts on Rome products
- Bi-annual printed newsletter
- Conference registration discounts
- Certificate of Association
- Rome pin
- Printed copy of “Diagnostic Algorithms for Common Gastrointestinal Symptoms”

New Associates Benefit!
All Associates of Rome are eligible to download individual slides from the Computer-Based Learning Program (CBLP) for FREE from our website and participate in a special opportunity when Rome IV is published. Please contact mpickard@theromefoundation.org for more information on both opportunities.
THE KEN HEATON AWARD FOR THE MOST CITED PUBLICATION ON FUNCTIONAL GASTROINTESTINAL AND MOTILITY DISORDERS

The Rome Foundation will award a $1000 prize each year for the most frequently cited publication on functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders. This award is named in honor of Dr. KW Heaton whose legacy to the study of the functional gastrointestinal disorders began with his early, novel suggestion that the irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) could be diagnosed by history without exhaustive testing. That idea inspired what became known as the Manning Criteria. Three of four Manning criteria survive in the Rome III criteria for IBS. He also made possible the first epidemiologic survey of the disorders, and invented a visual metric on human stool characteristics that is incorporated into the Rome III IBS criteria. Thus, Ken's early concepts of the 1970s underlie IBS criteria to the present time. Dr. Heaton had other career successes as well – research and a book on bile salt physiology; monographs, collaborations, books and book chapters on the IBS; and seminal papers on dietary fiber. His many trainees and international colleagues remember him as a thoughtful, kindly doctor, clinician and clinical investigator.

This award commemorates Dr. Heaton's work that inspired The Rome Foundation's pursuit of international diagnostic criteria for functional gut disorders.

The Ken Heaton Award will be made at Digestive Disease Week 2015. The winning paper will be selected from all papers describing original research on functional GI and motility disorders published in the calendar year two years prior to the Digestive Disease Week at which the award is made. Reviews will not be eligible for the award.

RAY CLOUSE AWARD FOR BEST RESEARCH PUBLICATION IN FUNCTIONAL GI & MOTILITY DISORDERS

Deadline for Nominations – March 13, 2015

The Rome Foundation established two $100 0 awards in memory of Ray E. Clouse, MD a gastroenterologist and scholar at Washington University School of Medicine and a devoted member of the Rome Foundation. Ray’s academic career spanned 27 years of research, teachings and writings that has left an indelible mark in the field of functional GI and motility disorders and of gastroenterology in general.

Eligible papers must be published between January and December 2014 on empirical research related to functional GI or motility disorders, defined broadly, not excluding any category. Reviews and clinical guideline papers are not eligible.

For more information and to nominate papers, visit the Rome website: www.theromefoundation.org/research/clouse_award.cfm
News From the Rome Foundation Working Team on Cross-Cultural, Multinational Research

The full version of the final report of the Rome Foundation Working Team on Cross-cultural, Multinational Research is available for download at www.theromefoundation.org/committees/multinational_com.cfm.

A paper summarizing the final report has been accepted for publication by Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics and is in press:


Another working team paper has also been accepted for publication by Neurogastroenterology and Motility and is available online:


Copyright and Licensing

The Rome Foundation research and education materials are increasingly in demand internationally by a number of agencies and individuals. Such agencies include pharmaceutical companies, clinical research organizations and medical education providers, including universities and colleges. Individual users may include academicians undertaking investigator-initiated research studies. In view of the extensive resources invested by the Rome Foundation in the creation of these materials, and their important intellectual property, it is necessary to maintain a formal copyright policy.

Objectives of policy:
• To provide quality control on the reproduction, dissemination and other usage of Rome Foundation copyright products and materials.
• To provide a standard and consistent fee schedule for use of these materials.

To find out more information or to inquire about a license for any instrument listed, please contact Michele Pickard (mpickard@theromefoundation.org).

Current Rome Foundation Copyright Education and Research Materials:
• Rome III Diagnostic Questionnaires (Rome III Diagnostic Questionnaire for the Adult Functional GI Disorders, including individual modules and scoring algorithm; Rome III Diagnostic Questionnaire for the Pediatric Functional GI Disorders; Rome III Psychosocial Alarm Questionnaire for the Functional GI Disorders), and all available translations
• Computer Based Learning Program for the Functional GI Disorders, including individual modules
• Understanding the Irritable Gut (Thompson WG, 2008)
• Clinical Diagnostic Algorithm program, including individual modules or algorithms
• Bristol Stool Form Scale (BSFS)
• Celiac Disease - Quality of Life survey (CD-QOL)
• Functional Bowel Disorders Severity Index (FBDSI)
• Irritable Bowel Syndrome - Quality of Life survey (IBS-QOL)
• Irritable Bowel Syndrome - Symptom Severity Scale (IBS-SSS)
• Rating Form of Irritable Bowel Disease Patient Concerns (RFIPC)
• Comorbid Medical Conditions Questionnaire (CMCQ)
• Satisfaction with Care Scale (SAT-37)
• Trauma Questionnaire
• Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease Health Status Scales (UC-CD)
Digestive Diseases Pan-American Week (SPED)
October 6-9, 2014
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Rome will present a symposium on the following topics on Wednesday, October 8; 2:00 - 4:00 PM in the Atlántic room

Moderators: Doug Drossman, MD and Carlos Francisconi, MD

*The Road to Rome IV*
Doug Drossman, MD

*The Role of Food in FGIDs*
William D. Chey, MD

*The Role of Microbiota in IBS*
Magnus Simrén, MD, PhD

*Use of Pictograms in the investigation of FGIDs*
Max Schmulson, MD

*New Treatments in FGIDs (Focus on IBS and Functional Constipation)*
Lin Chang, MD

Q&A: Doug Drossman and Carlos Francisconi-Moderators

More information can be found at www.gastro2014.com

UEG Week 2014
October 18-22, 2014
Vienna, Austria

Get more international exposure, interest and potentially reward for your abstract at UEG Week Vienna 2014

In 2014 UEG focuses on interactive features in free paper sessions and digital poster formats for improved poster rounds and more small group in-depth scientific discussions.

Find out more, visit www.ueg.eu/week
The Rome Foundation Proudly Presents
the latest educational resources for all health care professionals and patients concerned with functional gastrointestinal disorders (FGIDs)

The Diagnostic Algorithms for Common Gastrointestinal Symptoms are now available on CD-Rom

The Rome Foundation is committed to develop and support research and education to help people with Functional GI Disorders.

Learn more about any of our educational materials at: www.theromefoundation.org

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The Rome Foundation and the American Gastroenterological Association Research Foundation are pleased to announce a new research award

**AGA Research Foundation - Rome Foundation Functional GI and Motility Disorders Pilot Research Award**

This new award, jointly sponsored by the Rome Foundation and AGA Research Foundation, is being offered to early stage and established investigators to support pilot research projects pertaining to functional GI and motility disorders.

**Amount:** $50,000

**Duration:** One year

**Application deadline:** January 16, 2015

For more information and to apply please visit the AGA website [www.gastro.org](http://www.gastro.org)

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**We are pleased to provide some of the articles that have been published over the last year that highlight the Rome Criteria.**


The Rome Foundation encourages you to visit our exhibit booths at conferences around the world

- FREE copies of the Rome Foundation Diagnostic Algorithms for Common Gastrointestinal Symptoms on CD-ROM and in print

- Information on the Associates of Rome and FREE enrollment

- Products for sale (at a discount)
  - Rome III book
  - Computer-Based Learning Program
  - Understanding the Irritable Gut

- Dozens of FREE Handouts on Functional GI Disorders
The Rome Foundation is an independent not for profit 501(c)3 organization that provides support for activities designed to create scientific data and educational information to assist in the diagnosis and treatment of functional gastrointestinal disorders (FGIDs). Our mission is to improve the lives of people with functional GI disorders.

Over the last 20 years, the Rome organization has sought to legitimize and update our knowledge of the FGIDs. This has been accomplished by bringing together scientists and clinicians from around the world to classify and critically appraise the science of gastrointestinal function and dysfunction. This knowledge permits clinical scientists to make recommendations for diagnosis and treatment that can be applied in research and clinical practice.

The Rome Foundation is committed to the continuous development, legitimation and preservation of the field of FGIDs through science-based activities. We are inclusive and collaborative, patient-centered, innovative and open to new ideas.

The goals of the Rome Foundation are to:

- Promote clinical recognition and legitimation of the functional GI disorders
- Develop a scientific understanding of their pathophysiological mechanisms
- Optimize clinical management for patients with FGIDs

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