



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Douglas A. Drossman, MD
President, Rome Foundation
September, 2015

Dear Rome Foundation Members, Friends and Sponsors,

We are less than one year away from the launching of Rome IV and I'm excited to give you a preview of this important resource for the gastroenterology community, as well as update you on other important Rome Foundation initiatives. Our key meeting in Rome was held in December, 2014 where all chapter members attended to refine their manuscripts in anticipation of publication in May 2016. The meeting was a valuable experience and can be viewed online at www.theromefoundation.org/romeiv_pub/. We are now in final stages of completing all print and online manuscripts, the MDCP, Algorithms and also producing the Primary Care and Pediatric books. Stay tuned as we get closer to the launch of Rome IV.

At the recent Strategic planning retreat of the Rome Foundation Board, occurring every 5 years, we reaffirmed our commitment to our core mission, "To improve the lives of people with functional GI disorders," and we also updated some of the priorities for the organization. Our revised objectives are to:

1. **Promote global recognition and legitimization of FGIDs**
2. **Advance the scientific understanding of their pathophysiology**
3. **Optimize clinical management for these patients.**
4. **Develop and provide educational resources to accomplish these goals**

These objectives will inform all our activities and be the signposts of our success. We expect the Rome IV products as noted above to be on schedule for publication with printed versions and digital access available online. These products will be the main driver in reaching our goals.

WEBINAR SERIES HOSTED BY THE ROME FOUNDATION AND ACG GI CIRCLE

Access is central to our success. An important element of ensuring that GI professionals throughout the world have access to Rome IV and its tools is our commitment to online education. Our online webinar series, hosted by the Rome Foundation and the ACG GI Circle, met with great success over the course of the last year. I hosted the first webinar with Lin Chang and Bill Chey, "A Multi-Dimensional Approach to Treating Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders," and because of great interest we held a second one with Lin Chang and Brian Lacy. These webinars highlighted our

newly developed concept, the Multi-Dimensional Clinical Profile (MDCP). This is a more comprehensive approach to treating patients with functional gastrointestinal disorders, because it can help identify and address the full spectrum of treatment options available to your patients. We demonstrated how a well-developed MDCP augments the Rome diagnostic criteria by providing patient specific information relating to subcategories of FGIDs that go beyond the diagnosis, the presence of psychosocial or physiological disturbance and overall quality of life. Following the webinar presentations the panelists took questions, which I'm pleased to announce have all been posted with panelist responses on the ACG GI Circle website. The webinars can be accessed on our website at www.theromefoundation.org/webinars/index.cfm. I also gave a Rome-ACG webinar on how patients can communicate more effectively with their physicians which can be viewed on our website at www.theromefoundation.org/webinars/dr_visit_042015.cfm. We look forward to more webinars on this and other topics soon, and be sure to check our website for updates on our schedule.

ROME IV INTELLIGENT SOFTWARE FOR DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHMS AND MDCP

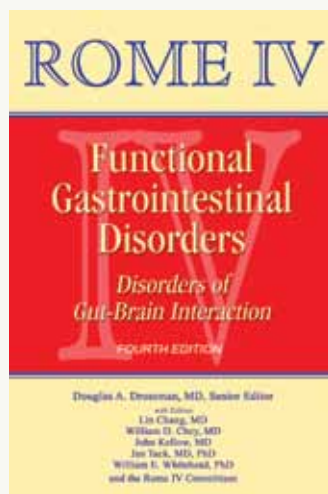
Efficient diagnoses and good decision making are hallmarks of good care. The Rome Foundation believes that technology can and should be employed to aid doctors in treating their patients in the most efficient and responsive way possible, and learn new diagnostic approaches at the same time. We are pleased to announce a new collaboration with LogicNets Inc., a software development company, to design an intelligent engine that will bring clinical decision making relating to MDCP treatment into reality. We anticipate that in the next two years, in consultation with Chaitanya Pabbati MD, our Rome Foundation media consultant, we will have a computer portal in which clinicians may enter their clinical scenarios to learn about and be guided to treatment based the Rome criteria, its extensive algorithms, and the exciting new world of the MDCP. The two organizations plan to jointly develop and make available to clinicians and practitioners worldwide an advanced online decision support system for Rome's next generation multi-dimensional clinical profiles (MDCP) protocols. Our new MDCP methodology for treating functional GI disorders represents a phenomenal step

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forward in bringing practitioners up to speed with the latest understanding of the science and of the intricate biopsychosocial relationships that contribute to the illness experience.

ROME IV AVAILABILITY

Rome IV will be available in the next year not only using printed books, but also for viewing online or to download as a full book or by selected chapters. We will also provide access through time-limited rentals. To aid in access, we've incorporated an online text-searching feature that allow providers to hone in on their area of interest and further aid in their suggesting diagnoses and treatment plans. These features can be purchased at a discount as a preorder, so we urge you to visit our website for up-to-date information.



INTERNATIONAL VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS AND LECTURESHIPS.

Rome is committed to creating an international community of GI professionals in line with our mission. Our Visiting Professorship and Lectureship program continues to provide support to beginning and distinguished practitioners, who in turn can provide expert consultation for doctors at institutions throughout the world. During our first year we have awarded thirteen institutions with visiting professorships and lectureships:

AWARDED INSTITUTION	SPEAKER	2015 EVENT DATE
Miami, USA	Max Schmulson	March 25
Michigan, USA	Satish Rao	April 7
San Diego GI Society, USA	William Chey	April 9
UNC-Chapel Hill, USA	Nick Talley	May 8
Advocate Lutheran, USA	Brian Lacy	May 27
UAB, USA	Lin Chang	June 1
Newcastle, Australia	Douglas Drossman	September 2-11
Cleveland Clinic, USA	William Chey	September 10
Seth GS Medical and KEM Hospital Mumbai, India	Jan Tack	October 8
South Alabama, USA	Douglas Drossman	October 28-29
Rhode Island Hospital, USA	William Chey	November 12
Gothenburg, Sweden	Giovanni Barbara	December 17-18
TARGID, Bruese, Belgium	Robin Spiller	Fall, 2015

We are now seeking applications from interested institutions for year two. Medical universities and community programs are eligible to submit an application and if approved will receive up to \$10,000 in funding to support a visiting professor or lecturer at their institution. Now is the best time to apply as it is likely that many of the programs will have speakers discussing the new information for Rome IV after May 2016. Once received, applications will be reviewed by the selection committee who will match requests for topics and speakers from interested institutions with our pool of over 100 international experts. The selection committee consists of Drs. Bill Chey and Jan Tack (co-chairs) and Drs. Magnus Simrén and Doug Drossman (members). The application can be accessed on our website at www.theromefoundation.org/education/visiting_lectureship2014.cfm.

GLOBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDY

Under the capable directorship of Ami Sperber MD, we are moving toward producing the largest epidemiological study of Functional GI disorders which will involve over 50,000 individuals with FGIDs in over 25 countries. An executive committee composed of key investigators in their respective countries are working to finalize the questionnaire which will be delivered by computer access as well as by door to door research assistants. Dr. Bill Whitehead and the questionnaire validation committee is in the process of standardizing and validating this instrument; this will then be translated into multiple languages to allow for precise comparison across nations. The study information will contain not only the Rome IV questionnaire but other meaningful information relating to sociocultural behaviors and perceptions that may lead to cross cultural differences in symptom reporting. This material will lead to countless publications and the data base will be accessible to our industry sponsors. If your company is interested in participating in this exciting adventure as a sponsor please contact our office.

We hope you are excited about the upcoming release of *Rome IV* in May 2016 as we are, and look forward to working on these and other new initiatives to bring us closer to fulfilling our mission. Please remember to visit our website at www.theromefoundation.org for updated information on all of our activities.

Douglas A. Drossman, MD
President, Rome Foundation

ROME FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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OUR MISSION IS:
“TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH FUNCTIONAL GI DISORDERS.”

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ROME FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR VISITING PROFESSORSHIP AND LECTURESHIPS

THE ROME FOUNDATION IS SEEKING TO ENHANCE EDUCATIONAL EXPOSURE IN THE AREA OF FUNCTIONAL GI AND MOTILITY DISORDERS TO CLINICIANS AND TRAINEES.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

William D. Chey, MD, Co-Chair (USA)
Jan Tack, MD PhD, Co-Chair (Belgium)

Magnus Simren, MD PhD (Sweden)
Douglas A. Drossman, MD (USA)



PROGRAM WILL ADDRESS CRITICAL NEEDS IN FUNCTIONAL GI AND MOTILITY DISORDERS (FGIMDS)

- Over the last 10-15 years, the FGIMDs 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 FGIMDs 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.
- 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.

RATIONALE

- As an academic organization that develops educational materials (e.g., Rome III book, slide sets, research questionnaires, video training, workshops) for the FGIMDs, 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 FGIMDs.
- 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.
- 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 FGIMDs.
- Due to its international structure, the Rome Foundation will provide visiting professorships and other educational programs on a global level.

PROPOSAL

We have developed a series of visiting professorships and lectureships to address the needs of providing global education in FGIMDs:**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 FGIMDs, 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. There will be an evaluation form filled out by the institution after the visit. The Visiting Professor would be of International stature and the fee for this service would be \$3000-6000 depending

on length of stay and number of activities. We anticipate setting up 6-12 visiting professorships over two years.

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. There will be an evaluation form filled out by the institution after the visit. The Visiting Lecturer would be paid from \$1500-2500 depending on number of presentations. We anticipate setting up 25-50 presentations over two years.

SELECTION AND MATCHING PROCESS

1. Rome Foundation Professorship/Lectureship committee has identified topics in the FGIMDs for lectures at conferences and has selected recognized gastroenterologists for the professorships.
2. Rome Foundation solicited requests from institutions (US and International) who were interested in filing applications for the Rome educational awards. Marketing was accomplished through:
 - a. Creation of a website
 - b. Creating a brochure
 - c. Promotional mailings – email and via post
 - d. Journal advertising
 - e. Letters to GI Division Chiefs and Department of Medicine Program Directors
3. Rome Foundation received and categorized the applications from various institutions.
4. Rome Foundation Professorship/Lectureship committee has
 - a. Reviewed the applications for quality and assigned the institutions with the awards
 - b. Matched content areas in FGIMD with speakers for lectureships
 - c. Matched the lecturers and visiting professors with the awarded institutions
5. Award Letters were issued from the Rome Foundation announcing the educational grant to the institutions selected for the Lectureships and Professorships

PROCESS OVERVIEW PROCESS OVERVIEW FOR YEAR TWO IS:

- **March 1 – November 15, 2015**
Call for applications
- **November 15 – December 31, 2015**
Grant review and selection of speakers and sites
- **January 1 – December 31, 2016**
Grant award period – year two

ROME FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM



Ken Heaton, MD

THE KEN HEATON AWARD

FOR THE MOST CITED PUBLICATION ON FUNCTIONAL GASTROINTESTINAL AND MOTILITY DISORDERS

The Rome 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 2016. 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 E. Clouse, MD

RAY CLOUSE AWARD

FOR BEST RESEARCH PUBLICATION IN FUNCTIONAL GASTROINTESTINAL AND MOTILITY DISORDERS

The Rome Foundation established two \$1000 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 2015 on empirical research related to functional GI or motility disorders, defined broadly, not excluding any category. Reviews and clinical guideline papers are not eligible.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS – MARCH 18, 2016

For more information and to nominate papers, visit the Rome website
www.theromefoundation.org/research/clouse_award.cfm



ROME FOUNDATION HONORS DR. OLAFUR S. PALSSON WITH ROME FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP AWARD

It is with great appreciation that the Rome Foundation awards Dr. Olafur Palsson the title of Rome Foundation Fellow (RFF). This award is given to members who have provided notable service in the area of committee work or other activities that help advance

the mission and objectives of the Foundation. In this regard, Dr. Palsson has contributed to the successful development and validation of the Rome IV diagnostic questionnaire and continues to work on the Rome IV international epidemiology study.

Dr. Palsson is a Research Professor of Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is originally from Iceland, and has worked in the U.S. throughout his twenty-year research career in IBS and other functional GI disorders. He is a clinical psychologist trained in FGID research by Dr. William Whitehead, who is a member of the Rome Foundation Board of Directors, and has collaborated closely with Dr. Whitehead at UNC for the last 15 years.

Dr. Palsson is also an internationally recognized expert in clinical hypnosis and has conducted multiple studies evaluating the therapeutic benefits of such treatment for GI problems. His research has made hypnotherapy more widely available as a treatment option for GI patients through his writings and periodic training workshops for health professionals.

As an experienced computer programmer he has excelled in the application of electronic data collection methods and computer technologies to advance health research and support health. Dr. Palsson pioneered the research use of IBS internet diaries over extended time periods, leading to publications that have clarified the fluctuations and episodic patterns in IBS symptoms over time.

As a psychologist with expertise in questionnaire development, Dr. Palsson has participated actively in the evolution of assessment of functional GI disorders. He was a member of the Rome III questionnaire development team a decade ago, and over the past couple of years he has played a key role in the development of the Rome IV diagnostic questionnaire as Co-Chair of the Rome IV Questionnaire Development Committee. In the past few months he has applied his expertise in electronic data collection methodologies to conduct, in collaboration with Dr. Whitehead, two large studies that aim to validate the new criteria and the diagnostic questionnaire: 1) A nine-site clinical validation study (with many Rome Foundation members participating as site PI's) on 881 patients with functional GI clinical diagnoses who completed the new Rome IV questionnaire; and 2) a three-country general population internet survey of 6,300 individuals in the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom to test the Rome IV criteria.

Dr. Palsson is playing a central role in designing and preparing the global epidemiological survey of FGID symptoms headed by Dr. Ami Sperber on behalf of the Rome Foundation. Dr. Palsson will set up and manage the data collection for about 50,000 people world-wide. The survey will be conducted entirely electronically -- through nationally representative internet surveys in numerous countries and by interviewers using computer tablets and smartphones.

Beyond these projects, however, one of Dr. Palsson's main current interests is to help the Rome Foundation to take advantage of the ubiquity of the internet and mobile devices to make the Rome IV diagnostic criteria far more accessible and more widely applied, both in research and in clinical practice, than previous incarnations.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

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 15, 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY PLEASE VISIT THE AGA WEBSITE

www.gastro.org

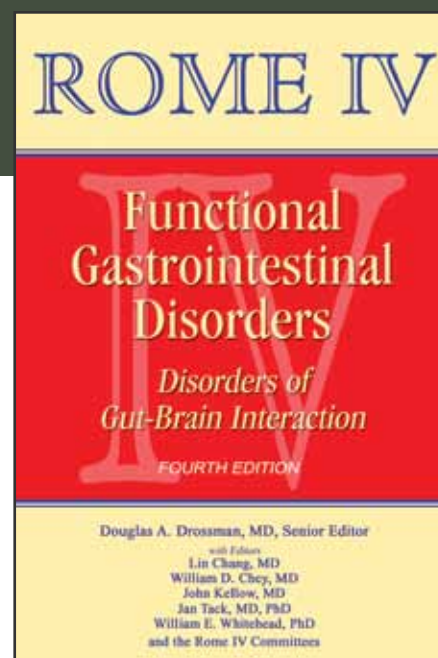


AGA INSTITUTE
AGA Education, Practice and Research

ROME IV UPDATE

The Rome IV process is on schedule and the book is set to be published in Spring 2016, fully 10 years after the *Rome III* version. We anticipate having all of the following available at that time:

- Rome IV online version with monthly, yearly, and forever subscriptions available for purchase
- Rome IV printed book, 2–volume set
 - Volume 1: 9 non-diagnostic chapters
 - Volume 2: 8 diagnostic and 4 non-diagnostic chapters



- Pocket guides:
 - Criteria and Questionnaires
 - Algorithms
- Multi-Dimensional Clinical Profile, 2nd Edition (Rome IV version)
- Pediatric book
- Primary care book
- iPad and tablet applications (criteria, algorithms, MDCP)

For more information and to view a video about the Rome IV Conference 2014, please go to our website www.theromefoundation.org/romeiv_pub/

PRIMARY CARE COMMITTEE

The diagnosis and management of IBS varies greatly within primary care, reflecting the large variation in how IBS is perceived. The awareness and use of diagnostic criteria is low based on current literature, and PCP diagnosis appears to be based mainly on exclusion, even if an early tentative diagnosis is often established. However, recent trends in diagnostic strategies may not yet be fully captured in the published literature, especially since Rome III. A positive clinical diagnosis can be strongly encouraged since recent evidence suggests it is less costly and non-inferior to in terms of patient outcomes and excluding organic

disease. Nevertheless, it remains to be seen whether such data sufficiently address the day-to-day concerns and uncertainties of PCPs around IBS and the factors that drive their management.

The specific goal of the Working team is to provide a comprehensive overview of functional GI disease in primary care, with clear recommendations for daily practice, under reference to the body of knowledge in the Rome report.

The team will be publishing a "Handbook of Functional GI Disorders for Primary Care" based on **Rome IV**.

Recently published report:

Systematic review: the perceptions, diagnosis and management of irritable bowel syndrome in primary care – A Rome Foundation Working Team Report. Hungin AP (UK); Molloy-Bland M (UK); Claes R (UK); Heidelbaugh J (US); Cayley WE (US); Muris J (Netherlands); Seifert B (CzechR); Rubin G (UK); de Wit N (Netherlands). This is a review of the clinical behaviors of primary care physicians with regard to IBS, published in *Aliment Pharmacol Ther* 2014;40:1133-1145.

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Pali Hungin, MD (Chair)
Stockton-on-Tees, UK

William Cayley, MD
Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Niek DeWit MD, PhD
Utrecht, The Netherlands

Joel Heidelbaugh, MD
Ypsilanti, Michigan, USA

Michael Molloy-Bland, MD
Stockton-on-Tees, UK

Jean Muris, PhD
Maastricht, The Netherlands

Greg Rubin, MD
Stockton-on-Tees, UK

Bohumil Seifert, PhD
Prague, Czech Republic

ROME IV IN PRIMARY CARE

~ HANDBOOK OF FUNCTIONAL GI DISORDERS ~

Preparations are being made for the "Handbook of Functional GI Disorders (for Primary Care), a handy, pocket-sized book contextualizing the Rome IV content for the primary care practitioner. Topics will include a discussion of the burden of GI care and overlap with non-GI problems, diagnostic and management strategies in primary care, and the patient-doctor relationship. In addition, the

handbook will include a look at the management of key disorders such as bowel disorders in adults and children, abdominal pain, upper and lower GI disorders, as well as the Multi-Dimensional Clinical Profile (www.theromefoundation.org/edproducts/mdcp.cfm). The Multi-cultural Aspects of FGIDs will also be examined from the primary care perspective.

ROME COPYRIGHT AND LICENSING

The Rome Foundation owns the copyright for the following instruments. Please contact Michele Pickard (mpickard@theromefoundation.org) for more information about licensing and available translations.

- Rome III book (Rome III: The Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders, Third Edition, Degnon Associates, Inc., 2006) earlier editions, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese translations
- 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)
- 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 Questionnaire (IBS-QOL)
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome - Symptom Severity Scale (IBS-SSS)
- Rating Form of Inflammatory 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)



ASSOCIATES OF ROME

The Associates of Rome program has grown to well over 1230 members in 78 countries since its inception in 2010. Members are enjoying benefits such as:

- Discounts on Rome products
- Quarterly newsletters
- Conference registration discounts
- Certificate of Association
- Rome Foundation 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.

New Opportunity for Associates - Plans are underway for a global survey of FGIDs following the publication of Rome IV. It will be headed by Dr. Ami Sperber together with an international executive committee that has been planning the study for the last 3 years. Countries interested in learning more about possible participation should contact mpickard@theromefoundation.org with the following information: country, institute, name of senior researcher who will be involved, CV (pdf) and funding possibilities (cost per country will be about \$25,000).

Please contact mpickard@theromefoundation.org for more information on both opportunities.



MARSHA TURNER

~ MEET THE BOOTH WORKER ~

Marsha first began working with the ROME Foundation in 2010 while working with Dr. William Whitehead as research coordinator in the UNC Center for Functional GI and Motility Disorders. While at the Center, she was involved with the planning and preparation of new projects and grant submissions, and management of Dr. Whitehead's NIH and industry-sponsored research projects. Marsha is currently a Health Science Research Specialist in the Health Services Research and Development Center of Innovation at the Dept of Veterans Affairs, Durham NC. In this position she manages research projects focusing on primary care issues for Veterans and the VA Healthcare System. She hopes to move forward into the field of research oversight and compliance. Marsha enjoys the opportunity to represent the ROME Foundation in booths at DDW and UEGW conferences, which allows her the chance to stay abreast of research in the functional GI field, attend the conferences, and have a chance to travel.

Marsha received her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg and Masters Degree from Old Dominion University in VA. In addition to her career in research, she has extensive experience in psychophysiological testing, behavioral medicine research, biofeedback and hypnosis. In the past, she performed quantitative EEG, psychological and neuropsychological assessments, and neurofeedback training with children with ADHD. She is co-author of a guided imagery program to treat children with chronic abdominal pain with her UNC colleagues, and was recently awarded a patent in collaboration with scientists at NASA's Langley Research Center. Her primary interests include research of psychosocial issues related to chronic medical conditions, and research ethics and integrity.

Marsha is most proud of her children, Justin and twins Austin and Melissa. Now with an empty nest, she looks forward to spending more time and traveling with her husband Mike, and reading on the porch.

UEG Week October 24-28, 2015 Barcelona, Spain

**Learn about new
work in your field:
UEG Week features
the latest updates in
gastroenterology**



UEG Week introduces brand new symposia such as "From guidelines to clinical practice" adding to our popular "Advances in clinical gastroenterology & hepatology" featuring scientific breakthroughs on viral hepatitis in 2015. Another new feature is the UEG Week Hotspot, a platform for the most controversial sessions and hottest debates. With the Postgraduate Teaching Programme, offered as a 3-year curriculum, you gain all major updates in GI & hepatology.

Discover the online programme <https://uegw.congress-online.com/guest/sciprg.menu>

Find out more, visit www.ueg.eu/week

VISIT OUR BOOTH IN HALL 8, STAND 4

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

- Now available - Prepayment form to order Rome IV book and online subscription at a substantial pre-publication discount
- 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

ACG 2015

American College of Gastroenterology

October 16–21, 2015

Honolulu, Hawaii

Hawaii Convention Center

www.Acgmeetings.gi.org

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gastroenterology
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Barcelona, Spain



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SOUTH

Feb. 6–8, 2016

Broward County Convention Center
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Booth #723

WEST

April 28–30, 2016

Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA

Booth #216



DDW2016
Digestive Disease Week

OFFICIAL EXHIBITOR

May 21–24, 2016 | San Diego, CA

Exhibit Dates: May 22–24, 2016

LOOK FOR US IN THE EXHIBIT HALL - BOOTH 4525

WE ARE PLEASED TO PROVIDE SOME OF THE ARTICLES THAT HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED OVER THE LAST YEAR THAT HIGHLIGHT THE ROME CRITERIA.

1: Aziz I, Mumtaz S, Bholah H, Chowdhury FU, Sanders DS, Ford AC. High Prevalence of Idiopathic Bile Acid Diarrhea Among Patients With Diarrhea-Predominant Irritable Bowel Syndrome Based on Rome III Criteria. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2015 Mar 10. pii: S1542-3565(15)00249-9. doi: 10.1016/j.cgh.2015.03.002. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 25769413.

2: Tamura Y, Funaki Y, Izawa S, Iida A, Yamaguchi Y, Adachi K, Ogasawara N, Sasaki M, Kaneko H, Kasugai K. Pathophysiology of functional heartburn based on Rome III criteria in Japanese patients. World J Gastroenterol. 2015 Apr 28;21(16):5009-16. doi: 10.3748/wjg.v21.i16.5009. PubMed PMID: 25945016; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4408475.

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UPDATE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR FUNCTIONAL GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS (IFFGD) FALL 2015

By Jill Godsey



IFFGD has been a part of the digestive disorder landscape for many years. In that time, much has been learned about functional gastrointestinal disorders and new disorders have come to light. What has remained unchanged is IFFGD's commitment to serve this patient community. We continue to seek positive outcomes and speak out on the needs of those affected by these chronic digestive conditions.

Since the beginning of IFFGD in 1991, our office has been contacted by people from across the globe looking for information about different functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders. It began with letter and phone inquiries, and then moved to include email and online inquiries. To keep up with the growing needs of those affected by these chronic digestive conditions, we are working on moving our family of websites to a different platform and will soon unveil a **new website**. Our sites are already visited by millions of people each year and the new site will allow us to provide the reliable information that IFFGD is known for in a fresh, mobile-friendly way. We are looking forward to sharing our new site with the world later this year.

Earlier this year we conducted an **online survey of more than 1,000 gastroparesis patients**, looking to learn more about the personal experiences of individuals who are affected by the condition. We are working with Henry Parkman, M.D. and his team at Temple University to analyze the results of the survey. Preliminary findings present a similar picture of chronic, debilitating symptoms that negatively impact daily living, and for which there are few effective treatments. More information on the survey results will be made available after the report on the data is completed.

This spring ***The Functional Gastrointestinal and Motility Disorders Research Enhancement Act*** was reintroduced in the U.S. House of Representatives as H.R. 2311. Representative F. James Sensenbrenner, of Wisconsin's 5th District, once again sponsored the legislation. Rep. Sensenbrenner also appealed to others in the House by writing a Dear Colleague Letter, urging his colleagues to also support H.R. 2311.

IFFGD has worked to get this piece of legislation in front of Congress for many years and we continue to advocate for more support. H.R. 2311 will help advance the scientific understanding of functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders by expanding research opportunities to improve basic understanding of these conditions and their underlying mechanisms, so that both diagnosis and treatment can advance. It has the potential to help many different facets of the digestive health community – children, adults, veterans, patients, care givers, healthcare providers, and many more.

Each year we coordinate an **Advocacy Day**, to bring patients together to connect with Congress and educate those on Capitol Hill about chronic digestive disorders. This year, for the first time, we hosted our event **virtually**, giving even more individuals, including those whose conditions do not allow them to travel, the opportunity to take part. On July 21st, people from across the United States – patients, family members, friends, healthcare professionals, and others – spoke out on the importance of research and the asked their Representatives to cosponsor *The Functional Gastrointestinal and Motility Disorders Research Enhancement Act*. People took to the phones, email, and social media to spread the word about the need for better treatment options and understanding of these debilitating conditions. This outreach laid the groundwork for continued action on behalf of all those suffering with these disorders. **Please visit** www.iffgd.org/site/about-iffgd/advocacy/bill/ and take steps to urge your House Representative to cosponsor H.R. 2311. We need your help to make this bill a reality. Members of Congress will act on this measure only if asked to do so by their constituents.

Increased awareness for chronic digestive conditions and bolstered research opportunities are issues important to all of us. We are appreciative of the continued support you have given to IFFGD and of your dedicated commitment to serve this patient population. Thank you.

The Rome Foundation Proudly Presents



the latest educational resources for all health care professionals and patients concerned with functional gastrointestinal disorders (FGIDs)



Rome Clinical Algorithms

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:
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ABOUT THE ROME FOUNDATION

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, legitimization 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 global recognition and legitimization of FGIDs
- Advance the scientific understanding of their pathophysiology
- Optimize clinical management for these patients
- Develop and provide educational resources to accomplish these goals



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