Dear Rome Foundation Members, Friends and Sponsors,

It is with great pride I send to you an update on Rome Foundation activities for 2016 – including the launch of the Rome IV publications.

After 5 years of hard work by over 120 investigators and clinicians, Rome IV will be launched at Digestive Disease Week—DDW 2016. Specifics about this exciting project, as well as a few other initiatives for the foundation for this year, are detailed below.

NEW ROME FOUNDATION LOGO
Concurrent with the launch of Rome IV, we have developed a new logo to represent where we are now - and where we are going. The logo is modern, sleek, yet simple, with an abstract design.

What does it mean? Some have seen it as a stylized “R” and “F” and others the upper and lower gut. What do you think?

OVERVIEW OF ROME IV EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
To understand the new line of Rome IV educational products, it would help to briefly trace the history preceding this launch.

The Rome Foundation began over 25 years ago in response to the need to identify and categorize the gastrointestinal symptoms and disorders that patients brought to clinicians; the ones where no specific structural abnormality was evident to explain them. They were not “organic” (structurally based), and at the time, the categorized motility disorders were not sufficient to explain these symptoms. Hence the Rome classification system applying symptom-based criteria developed through several publications in the early 1990s. A compilation of this information was first published in book form in 1994 and was revised in 2000 (Rome II), 2006 (Rome III) and now in 2016 as Rome IV. The chapters in these books and the diagnostic criteria evolved from a consensus process called the “Delphi” method whereby international experts gathered to summarize existing knowledge and make clinical recommendations when the scientific evidence didn’t fully exist.

The nascent criteria created in this manner provided the basis for studying patients belonging to these symptom groupings, and these criteria were increasingly accepted by investigators, clinicians, regulatory agencies and industry.

As more and more research was done with patients diagnosed by these criteria, a database of science on FGIDs evolved. Each new book edition updated the literature, and as new studies emerged, a compendium of information on the epidemiology, pathophysiology, diagnostic assessment and treatment of the FGIDs grew. Thus as the information provided grew in breadth and scope, it led to clarity in our understanding of the field and also legitimized it. Now, few would doubt (or as decried decades ago) the existence of these disorders, and the current effort is to gain more knowledge on their understanding and treatment. The Rome IV book follows its predecessors as a compendium of the most up-to-date knowledge of the FGIDs along with the updated diagnostic criteria recommended for research.

However, over the last 10 years new issues and challenges emerged. First, it became recognized that the criteria were not sufficient for clinicians to effectively apply them in their diagnostic and treatment approaches. Patients don’t come to doctors saying they have IBS or functional dyspepsia; they come with symptoms. Thus, in 2010 the Foundation set up committees to create algorithms that would pave the way for clinicians to evaluate patients seeking care for common symptoms such as vomiting, constipation, pain and other symptoms.

In addition, it was realized that treatment is not based solely on knowing a particular diagnosis. Multiple factors of a biopsychosocial nature need to be considered when planning treatment. This led the Foundation to develop the Multidimensional Clinical Profile method first published last year.

continued on page 2
Next, it was also recognized that FGIDs are global entities and the traditional Western approach to understanding patient symptoms must also consider the symptom experience of patients internationally. This led to the Foundation creating committees to study and report cross-cultural differences and to make recommendations for clinical approaches geared to ethnic and cultural diversity. Furthermore, it was decided that to best understand the scientific basis for cross-cultural differences, we must pursue a large, well-designed global epidemiology study and this will occur over the next several years. We also saw the need to standardize the FGID questionnaires for research of children and adults.

Finally, it is well recognized that most patients with FGIDs are seen in the primary care sector, and the Foundation saw the need to develop with primary care experts a database of information on FGIDs that is targeted to the non-GI group of practitioners. Therefore, a primary care committee was set up to obtain these data.

All of these efforts have led to Rome IV and the line of educational materials delineated below.

Beginning with an update from the last publication 10 years ago, comes the fourth edition of our overview and diagnostic criteria for FGIDs, *Rome IV Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders — Disorders of Gut-Brain Interaction*. With several new chapters, updates in pathophysiology and new diagnostic and treatment recommendations Rome IV is a welcome edition to aid in complete learning of the FGIDs. In addition there are 5 additional books:

*Rome IV Multidimensional Clinical Profile for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders*, the second edition of our unique case-based learning module for putting the Rome approach to FGIDs care into practice we use a multicomponent approach to treatment taking into consideration not just the diagnosis, but meaningful clinical subset information, impact of the disorder, psychosocial comorbidities and physiological features including biomarkers, all as part of a case based approach. Now there are more than double the number of cases compared to the first edition.

*Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithms for Common GI Symptoms* is the second edition of our useful algorithmic approach to evaluating common GI symptoms. It is designed to aid clinicians by guiding them through a logical pathway to diagnosis. It features new sets presenting symptoms and also algorithms pediatrics.

*Rome IV Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders for Primary Care and Non-GI Clinicians* (NEW!) provides access of Rome IV information to doctors on the front lines of clinical care as well as other non-gastroenterological physicians. Indeed, the Rome Foundation philosophy and approach to FGIDs is modified into more concise information to meet the needs of the busy non-specialist clinician.

*Rome IV Pediatric Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders — Disorders of Gut-Brain Interaction* (NEW!) provides in one volume all the information that will help clinicians navigate the difficult diagnostic conditions presented by young patients and their families. The book contains the Rome IV clinical chapters, the pediatric diagnostic algorithms and MDCP cases as well as questionnaires and criteria for diagnosis.

*Rome IV Diagnostic Questionnaires and Tables for Investigators and Clinicians* (NEW!) provides the framework for further epidemiological and clinical research on FGIDs according to the Rome IV criteria.

Rome IV Slide Sets, will provide unique learning and information dissemination tools for researchers and clinicians engaging with the Rome IV criteria. Both a comprehensive Rome IV Computer-Based Learning Program slide set, and one tailored to our case study approach, the Rome IV MDCP slide set will be available upon the Rome IV launch.

**ROME FOUNDATION AND LogicNets® STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP.**

The Rome Foundation has formed a strategic partnership with LogicNets®, the developer of an intelligent decision-support automation platform. With their assistance the Foundation is finalizing an online system to blend the Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithms for Common GI Symptoms and the Rome IV Multidimensional Clinical Profile for FGIDs into a software...
ROME FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROGRAM AND PROJECT UPDATES

PROGRAM AND PROJECT UPDATES

1-4  President’s Report

5  Rome IV Launch

6-7  Visiting Professorships and Lectureships

8-10  Rome Foundation Research Program

11  AGA-Rome Partnership

12  Copyright and Licensing

13  Welcome Mark Schmitter

13  Rome Foundation Pediatric Subcommittee on Clinical Trials

MEETING AND EVENTS

14  AGA - Rome Lectureship at DDW 2016

14  UEG Week 2016

15  Visit our Booth at Upcoming Conferences

ANNOUNCEMENTS

16  Update from IFFGD

17  Rome Criteria Reference List

17  Associates of Rome
module that will allow the clinician to use advanced methods to diagnose and treat FGIDs.

It is expected that this program will aid practitioners around the world to successfully access Rome expertise, diagnose and treat patients, increase their own knowledge and credentials, and contribute to outcomes-based learning facilitated by the constantly learning system. Beta testing has just begun and we anticipate having modules available for general use later this year.

GLOBAL INITIATIVE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDY
With the launch of Rome IV, The Rome Foundation is expanding its impact in the GI community by embarking on an extensive campaign to translate the adult Rome IV Diagnostic Questionnaire into over 20 target languages with linguistic validation of the translations. This initiative will be augmented with clinical validation of the Questionnaire in eight culturally different countries focusing on the three most common FGIDs: functional dyspepsia, IBS, and functional constipation. These efforts should lay the groundwork for a global FGID epidemiology study involving 35 countries, for which we hope to find additional funding in the coming years.

NEW MARKETING AND PUBLICITY INITIATIVES
The Rome Foundation is pleased to announce the hiring of a new marketing manager, Mark Schmitter, and the unveiling of our new website and logo. In addition to our new logo we have also launched a newly redesigned website. These developments will help us identify clinicians and researchers who would benefit from Rome IV, find new partners to expand our reach, and streamline our information for our customers, while updating our look to match a contemporary aesthetic.

MULTIPLE LaunchES
After DDW 2016, the Rome Foundation will be bringing the full complement of Rome IV products and resources to the international GI community at many events and conferences around the world to maximize our visibility and reach new audiences. Please see page 5 for more information on these upcoming conferences and meetings.

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

For more information on our activities, visit our website at www.theromefoundation.org where you will find all updates on our activities.

Finally, please be sure to visit us at our Rome Foundation Booth #4525 at DDW 2016 to learn more about these exciting programs.

Douglas A. Drossman, MD
President, Rome Foundation
Rome IV Launch Committee

Publication of the Rome IV proceedings in the May issue of Gastroenterology represents the tireless efforts of countless committee members, staff and editorial board members. This achievement should not be viewed as an end to the Rome IV process. The hard work of dissemination and sharing of the Rome IV work products with the world will be the charge of the Launch Committee.

Members of the launch committee include William D. Chey (chair), Lin Chang, Giovanni Barbara, Douglas A. Drossman, and Jan Tack.

The Launch Committee has created a comprehensive plan which includes a multi-pronged approach:

1. **ROME IV LAUNCH MEETING AT DDW**
   **Major US launch will be facilitated through a strategic partnership with AGA at DDW 2016.**

   **AGA – Rome Symposium**
   **Symposium Title: The Launching of Rome IV: What’s New and Why**
   Moderators: Lin Chang, Doug Drossman
   - Overview of Rome IV: Changes in criteria and new educational concepts – Douglas A. Drossman, MD
   - Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders – Nicholas Talley, MD, PhD
   - Lower Gastrointestinal Functional Bowel Disorders – Fermín Mearin, MD, PhD

   **Satellite Symposium on IBS during which Rome IV will be discussed – Global Medical Education**
   **Irritable Bowel Syndrome – What’s New for Rome IV**
   - Introductions and Optimizing the Patient’s “A Day in the Life” With IBS Through Effective Communication Skills – Douglas A. Drossman, MD
   - Insights Into the Pathophysiologic Basis of IBS – Magnus Simren, MD, PhD
   - Establishing the Diagnosis of IBS via Rome Diagnostic Algorithms – Brian E. Lacy, MD, PhD
   - Using the Multidimensional Clinical Profile in Developing Treatment Strategies for IBS – Anthony J. Lembo, MD
   - Medically Speaking™ Q&A Panel Discussion

2. **OTHER ROME IV LAUNCH MEETINGS**
   **APNM 2016, Seoul Korea - April , 2016**
   The 6th Asian Postgraduate Course on Neurogastroenterology and Motility in April will present a Rome–Korean Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility symposium with three lectures:
   - Rome IV Criteria for FGIDs: Is There a Need for Better Definitions? – William D. Chey, MD
   - Global Issues in FGIDs: How Do Epidemiological Differences in Western and Eastern Societies Affect Diagnosis and Management? – Ami D. Sperber, MD

   **Japanese Society of Psychosomatic Medicine, JUNE 2016**
   In June at the JSPM, Dr. William Whitehead will present Rome IV and Biopsychosocial Aspects of IBS.

   **IBS Bologna Days, June 2016**
   The Rome Foundation is sponsoring a symposium at the University of Bologna.
   **Title: Irritable Bowel Syndrome – New Insights for Better Management:**
   - Rome IV Criteria: What’s New?
   - IBS-C and Chronic Constipation: Marriage or Divorce?
   - Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithms for IBS. – Jan Tack, MD, PhD
   - IBS Symptoms in IBD in Remission: Is Inflammation the Key?
   - Geographic, Cultural and Environmental Factors.

   **FEDERATION OF NEUROGASTROENTEROLOGY AND MOTILITY (FN M) MEETING, AUGUST 2016, SAN FRANCISCO CA, USA**
   The FNM scientific meeting will open with a Rome symposium that will feature Rome IV MDCP cases.
   **Title: Rome IV Multidimensional Clinical Profile (MDCP): Augmenting Rome Criteria to Optimize Patient Centered Treatment**
   Moderator: Doug Drossman, Panelists: Lin Chang, Max Schmulson, Magnus Simrén, Jan Tack
   - Introduction to the MDCP - Speaker: Doug Drossman
   - Presentation of 8 MDCP Functional GI Cases
     - Functional Dyspepsia
     - IBS including coexistence with IBD or other functional GI disorders
     - Bilary and Gallbladder
     - Esophageal
     - Multicultural
     - Constipation and Dyssynergic Defecation

3. **PROVIDE NEW ROME IV INFORMATION FOR VISITING PROFESSORSHIP**
   **see pages 28-29 for more information**
   - All speakers will be provided with the Rome IV slideset
   - Talks will highlight the Rome IV criteria
   - Speakers will be encouraged to discuss MDCP and algorithms

4. **DISSEMINATION OF ROME IV INFORMATION THROUGH ENHANCED MARKETING AND PUBLICITY**
   - Organized approach to social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
   - Pursue interviews about Rome IV with medical and lay press

5. **SOLICIT BOOK REVIEWS FROM SELECTED GI AND PRIMARY CARE JOURNALS**
The Rome Foundation’s visiting professorship (usually 2-3 days) and lectureship (1-2 days) program was created to improve knowledge on functional GI disorders. Speakers are internationally recognized in their areas of expertise, and selection is based on matching selected topics 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.
- 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 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 includes 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 fill the gap in knowledge of functional GI disorders in the academic and practice community.
- The proposed multi-sponsored programs are not subject to the restrictions on content imposed upon promotional talks. As such, these programs provide a true state of the art update by the world’s leading experts on FGIDs.
- Due to its international structure, the Rome Foundation provides visiting professorships and other educational programs on a global level.
WE HAVE DEVELOPED A SERIES OF VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS AND LECTURES FOLLOWING TWO MODELS:

THE ROME FOUNDATION VISITING PROFESSORSHIP
Top tier investigators and clinicians within the Foundation 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 advertises and then solicits applications from medical centers. We then identify the best speaker who meets that institution’s specific educational needs.

THE ROME FOUNDATION VISITING LECTURESHIP
This is usually a 1-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 a 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.

PAST PROGRAMS
In 2015, a total of 10 Visiting Lectureships and 4 Visiting Professorships were organized generating more than 30 presentations across 5 different continents. For 2016, several programs are already planned. With the recognition of the program and the high interest in the Rome IV criteria, the number of activities is expected to be substantially higher than 2015.
Ray Clouse Award
For Best Research Publication on FGIDs and Motility Disorders, 2016

The Rome Foundation established an award 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.

Nicholas Talley MD, PhD
University of Newcastle
Australia

Title: “Effect of Amitriptyline and escitalopram on functional dyspepsia: a multicenter, randomized controlled study.”

Professor Talley is the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Research and Laureate Professor. Previously he was a Pro Vice-Chancellor (and Dean) of Health and Medicine, and Laureate Professor at the University of Newcastle. He is also President of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Professor of Medicine and Professor of Epidemiology and Joint Supplemental Consultant, Gastroenterology and Health Sciences Research at the Mayo Clinic. He holds adjunct professorships at the University of North Carolina and the Karolinska Institute and was formerly the Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic Florida.

He is an international authority in the field of gastroenterology with a special interest in neurogastroenterology, inflammation and infection. His research covers the local and systemic effects of low grade inflammation in the gut, the role of gut micro-organisms and the gut-brain axis. He was a member of the Rome Foundation Board for 17 years (the authority in the classification of all the functional GI disorders), editor of a major journal in the field (Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics), was formally the editor of the American Journal of Gastroenterology, and has been the PI on an extensive portfolio of research.
Ken Heaton, MD

Ken Heaton Award
For the Paper Most Cited on FGIDs and Motility Disorders, 2016
(for the calendar year 2014)

The Rome Foundation established an award for the most cited paper in memory of Ken Heaton MD, former Consultant Physician at the Bristol Royal Infirmary and Reader in Medicine at the University of Bristol.

Emma Halmos, PhD
Monash University
Australia

Title: “A diet low in FODMAPs reduces symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome.”
Gastroenterology 2014; 146:67+.

Dr. Halmos is an Accredited Practicing Dietitian with extensive clinical experience and specific expertise in managing celiac disease, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) and inflammatory bowel disease. Dr. Halmos’ achievements have had an impact both in academia and the clinic.

Dr. Halmos commenced research at Monash University in Melbourne, where she employed rigorous dietary intervention studies, which have led to several major publications in high impact specialty journals. Notably, her research has been instrumental in demonstrating efficacy of a low FODMAP (fermentable oligosaccharides, disaccharides, monosaccharides and polyols) diet in managing functional gastrointestinal symptoms and has firmly established this treatment as the first-line therapy for IBS. Dr. Halmos has presented her work at several international conferences, has been an invited author on a review in Nature Reviews Gastroenterology and Hepatology. Her work has been recognized by the Gastroenterological Society of Australia (Douglas Piper Young Investigator Award). Dr. Halmos is continuing work in clinical research at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research investigating dietary treatments in patients with celiac disease. She also works in private practice consulting patients with gastrointestinal conditions.
**Title: Enteric neural FFA3 activation regulates colonic motility**

Dr. Kaji and her team hypothesizes that microbial-derived luminal SCFA have an anti-diarrheal effect via activation of neurally-expressed FFA3. In order to understand how colonic motility is regulated by absorbed SCFA, histological and electrophysiological analyses will be carried out with rat tissue. First, FFA3-expressing myenteric neurons will be characterized to identify their contribution to the enteric neural circuit. Next, the effect of selective FFA3 agonists and antagonists on colonic motility will be studied in isolated muscle tissues. Finally, the effect of FFA3 ligands on intestinal hypersecretion will be examined in a rat model.

**Title: Is refractory gastro-esophageal reflux disease a disease spanning the organic-functional spectrum?**

GERD may be a spectrum disease, with erosive esophagitis due to excess acid on one end and patients with FH due to visceral hypersensitivity on the other end. Psychological co-morbidities may also influence symptom severity in refractory GERD by interfering with esophageal sensitivity. First, we will perform multimodal esophageal stimulation and investigate mucosal integrity. Secondly, we will specifically investigate psychological co-morbidities and its association with symptom perception and severity. Thirdly, we will study the interaction between central and peripheral mechanisms involved in esophageal sensitivity. The goal is to develop individualized treatment strategies by identifying different mechanisms in subgroups of GERD patients.
AGA’s Partnership with the Rome Foundation

by Lori N. Marks, PhD

AGA is continuing its partnership with the Rome Foundation to promote the new Rome IV edition. Rome IV will be launched through a comprehensive education plan designed to reach as many health-care providers as possible. The plan includes special sessions highlighting the new Rome IV edition at AGA’s annual meeting and a special supplemental issue of AGA’s journal Gastroenterology.

AGA and Rome Foundation are holding a committee sponsored session during Digestive Disease Week®, May 21-24 in San Diego, CA. The session is titled AGA Rome Foundation Lectureship: The Launching of Rome IV: What’s New and Why? and is scheduled for Sunday, May 22, 10-11:30 a.m. The session is chaired by Dr. Lin Chang and Dr. Douglas Drossman, with a presentation by Dr. Drossman highlighting the changes in criteria and new educational concepts in Rome IV. Dr. Nicholas J. Talley will present on functional GI disorders and Dr. Fermin Mearin will present on lower GI functional bowel disorders.

DDW attendees can also register for a CME Satellite Symposium titled Irritable Bowel Syndrome: What’s New for Rome IV. This session is a 1.5 hour live session planned to reach over 250 attendees, with enduring materials targeting over 5,000 online participants.

The Rome IV edition was created with a systematic methodology that used a broad team of experts to update the criteria. Chapter committees met in December 2014 after having prospectively gathered knowledge in predefined areas of interest. These data were used to activate the Rome IV chapter committees. Topics addressed in the new edition include:

- Esophageal disorders
- Gastroduodenal disorders
- Bowel disorders
- Biliary disorders
- Central disorders of GI pain
- Anorectal disorders
- Pediatric disorders for neonates and toddlers
- Pediatric disorders for children and adolescents.

New content in the areas of gut microflora, symptom assessment in Asia, the role of food and diet, and the nature of severity for functional GI disorders is included in Rome IV. Interactive educational techniques are also incorporated into Rome IV. For example, accompanying questionnaires will provide evidence-based data to help keep chapter committees up to date. The combination of print, online, and question-based material is consistent with adult learning theory that is based on the assumption that adult learning is problem-centered rather than subject-centered. Rome IV materials are designed to enable physician learners to apply concepts to their experiences.

Rome IV expands the target audience by including a primary care committee to help primary care providers manage patients with function GI disorders. A cross-cultural committee will provide information on how to conduct research on functional GI disorders around the world.

Rome IV is comprised of two volumes with supplemental materials including the updated Rome IV diagnostic algorithms. Rome IV resources are available in hardcopy and ebook formats, with monthly and yearly subscriptions to online material. AGA members get a free one-month subscription of Rome Online with any purchase of a book or online subscription.

AGA is publishing a special supplemental issue of the journal Gastroenterology in May devoted to the launch of Rome IV and reviews of functional gastrointestinal disorders. This issue comes ten years after Gastroenterology introduced Rome III. This issue highlights the marked expansion of scientific understanding of functional GI disorders since publication of Rome III. Functional GI disorders, defined as disorders of gut-brain interaction, have only in the last several decades been studied scientifically. Studies have advanced physicians’ ability to categorize and treat these disorders and has contributed to the growing field of neurogastroenterology.

As we look ahead, AGA and the Rome Foundation will continue to work together to develop exciting education programs to help physicians manage the care of patients with functional GI disorders. Building upon the AGA-Rome Communication skills workshop in 2012, AGA has recently launched a patient education campaign to improve communication skills between patients and their physicians, an effort that is particularly relevant for functional GI disorders. AGA staff and Rome Foundation have also discussed collaborating on regional meetings to expand the reach of Rome IV. We look forward to exciting opportunities between AGA and the Rome Foundation in the coming months.
Rome Copyright and Licensing

The Rome Foundation has a copyright policy and licensing fee schedules for usage of its copyrighted instruments and available translations. In 2010 the Rome Foundation created a copyright committee consisting of John Kellow MD, Magnus Simrén, MD, PhD, and Ami Sperber, MD. At this time we have the following instruments (available in English unless otherwise marked):

- 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). Visit www.theromefoundation.org/translations/avail_translations.cfm to see available translations for these tools.
- 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) Additional translations – Spanish, Korean
- Celiac Disease - Quality of Life survey (CD-QOL) Additional translation – Dutch, Japanese, Portuguese
- Functional Bowel Disorders Severity Index (FBDSI)
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome - Quality of Life survey (IBS-QOL) Additional translations — Afrikaans, Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Cantonese, Chinese, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Italian, Kannada, Korean, Latvian, Malay, Malayalam, Mandarin Chinese, Marathi, Norwegian, Panjabi, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Tamil, Thai, Telugu, Ukrainian, Urdu
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome - Symptom Severity Scale (IBSSSS) Additional translations - Bulgarian, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Latvian, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish
- Rating Form of Irritable Bowel Disease Patient Concerns (RFIPC) Additional translations – Afrikaans, Arabic, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, French Canadian, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Ukrainian, Turkish
- Comorbid Medical Conditions Questionnaire (CMCQ)
- Satisfaction with Care Scale (SAT-37)
- Trauma Questionnaire
- Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn’s Disease Health Status Scales (UC-CD)

Beginning in 2016, we will be adding the Rome IV questionnaire and related Rome IV products. Please note that Rome Foundation sponsors and academicians not funded by industry or federal grants are licensed at no charge. For more information, please contact Michele Pickard at mpickard@theromefoundation.org.

Join the Rome Foundation Mailing List

Subscribe to our mailing list to receive the Rome Foundation's quarterly newsletter and free updates on:

- Special Announcements
- Educational product special offers
- News of upcoming events
- Quarterly e-newsletter

Under normal circumstances, emails will be sent no more frequently than once per month. Your information will be kept strictly confidential. We do not share our mailing list with other organizations under any circumstances. This list also helps us serve you better by providing us with valuable information on the visitors on our website.

Complete the form on our website to sign up www.theromefoundation.org/join_mailing
To enhance the knowledge and promote the dissemination of Rome IV educational materials, the Rome Foundation is privileged to bring on Mark Schmitter (kmschmitter@msn.com) who will serve as our marketing director.

He is a graduate of the University of Georgia in marketing and, for the last 25 years, has worked as account supervisor or consultant with prestigious companies like Saatchi and Saatchi, ICC, and Cline Davis & Mann. His expertise has been in the concept development, creation and implementation of various pharmaceutical products including those in gastroenterology, as well as other medical areas.

Mr. Schmitter is currently developing our strategic marketing plan for Rome IV. He is also serving as contact person for academicians and industry sponsors with regard to international translations and bulk sales orders.

The Rome Foundation is pleased to have begun collaboration with the Pediatric Committee of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) to help develop recommendations for endpoints and outcomes and the conduct of clinical trials for pediatric patients with FGIDs. The subcommittee of the Rome IV Design of Treatment Trials Committee with the participation of Jan Tack, MD, PhD (Rome Foundation Board), Jan Taminiau, MD (EMA – Pediatric Committee), Miguel Saps, MD (Chair Rome Foundation Pediatric Subcommittee on Clinical Trials, Rome IV Child-Adolescent Committee), Marc Beninga, MD, PhD (Rome IV Neonate-Toddler committee), Miranda Van Tilburg, PhD (Rome IV Child-Adolescent Committee), John Lavigne PhD and Adrian Miranda, MD has finalized the first document. The document upon approval by the Board of the Rome Foundation was submitted for publication and consideration of the Pediatric Committee of the European Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP). The document will be included in the Rome IV Design of Treatment Trials online publication.

Committee Composition:
Miguel Saps, MD, Chair (USA)
Jan Taminiau, MD, PhD (Netherlands)
Jan Tack, MD, PhD (Belgium)
John Lavigne, PhD (USA)
Miranda van Tilburg, PhD (USA)
Adrian Miranda, MD (USA)
Carlo di Lorenzo MD (USA)
Marc Benninga MD (Netherlands)
Meetings and events

Due to the great success of the “From guidelines to clinical practice” symposia, these will again be offered in addition to our popular “Advances in clinical gastroenterology & hepatology” featuring scientific breakthroughs on IBD in 2016. Another highlight 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.

UEG Week
October 15-19, 2016
Vienna, Austria

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

Due to the great success of the “From guidelines to clinical practice” symposia, these will again be offered in addition to our popular “Advances in clinical gastroenterology & hepatology” featuring scientific breakthroughs on IBD in 2016. Another highlight 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 www.ueg.eu/week/programme/scientific-programme

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

See you in Vienna!
THE ROME FOUNDATION
ENCOURAGES YOU TO VISIT OUR EXHIBIT BOOThS AT CONFERENCES AROUND THE WORLD

Now available - Rome IV Book and Online Subscription
Rome Foundation Diagnostic Algorithms for Common Gastrointestinal Symptoms in Print
Information on the Associates of Rome and FREE enrollment

Dozens of FREE handouts on Functional GI Disorders

Look for our booth at these upcoming conferences

DDW 2016
San Diego, CA
May 21 - 24, 2016
www.ddw.org

IBS BOLOGNA DAYS 2016
Bologna, Italy
June 9 - 10, 2016
www.ibsbolognadays2016.it

WONCA EUROPE CONFERENCE
June 15 -18, 2016
Copenhagen, Denmark
www.woncaeuropa2016.com

BRAZILIAN CONGRESS OF FUNCTIONAL DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM
July 28 - 31, 2016
www.doencasfuncionais2016.com.br

FNM 2016
Federation of Neurogastroenterology and Motility International Scientific Meeting
August 25 - 28, 2016
San Francisco, CA
www.motilitysociety.org

WORLD CONGRESS OF PEDIATRIC GASTROENTEROLOGY, HEPATOLOGY AND NUTRITION
October 5 - 8, 2016
Montreal, Canada
www.wcpghan2016.com

ACG 2016
American College of Gastroenterology
October 14 - 19, 2016
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.Acgmeetings.gi.org

PAN—AMERICAN GASTROENTEROLOGY ASSOCIATION
Cartagena, Colombia
September 10 - 13, 2016
www.opge.org

UEG WEEK
October 15 - 19, 2016
Vienna, Austria
www.ueg.eu/week
Update from the International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD)
Spring 2016

This year, IFFGD is proud to celebrate 25 years of supporting the functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders patient community. Since the organization was formed in 1991 we have worked to raise awareness, improve education, support research, and broaden understanding of these disorders on behalf of patients and their families, investigators, and clinicians in the field. We are grateful to the many individuals who have supported our efforts over the last 25 years and look forward to working with you to continue to improve outcomes for all those affected by these conditions in the future.

In honor of this major milestone, we are pleased to launch our newly redesigned family of websites. As information becomes increasingly available online, more and more people are turning to the IFFGD websites for answers to their digestive health questions. Last year, the IFFGD websites were visited by nearly 9 million people, and we are on track for even greater visitation this year. With the redesign, we aim to improve the user experience by simplifying navigation, providing a responsive layout for all platforms, and generally making it easier for people to find the information they want.

Additionally, we have recently published our newly updated Reporter’s Guide to Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Second Edition, designed to provide reporters and other members of the media with accurate information about IBS prevalence, financial and personal costs, symptoms, and treatments. While IBS is increasingly being reported on by the media, there is still a need to further educate those who suffer with the disorder and the general public. We hope that this Reporter’s Guide will encourage media coverage of the condition. The Guide has been distributed to writers and reporters with an interest in health, lifestyle, and medical news and is available for free download on our website.

This spring we are pleased to have two posters accepted for presentation at Digestive Disease Week 2016. The research presents findings from an online community survey conducted by IFFGD of over 1,400 people with gastroparesis. Through the survey we hope to gain a better understanding of the personal experiences of individuals with the condition as well as their treatment needs. Presented results of the survey review the concerns and burdens of gastroparesis patients in the community, as well as quality of life impairment and relationships to symptoms. Many patients reported being unsatisfied with currently available treatments and wanted treatments that specifically targeted the disorder. We are grateful to Daohai Yu, Ph.D., Frederick V. Ramsey, Ph.D., and Henry P. Parkman, M.D., at Temple University for their work on this research project.

We continue to be an active presence on Capitol Hill, advocating in support of digestive health research through The Functional Gastrointestinal and Motility Disorders Research Enhancement Act, which is currently in the House as H.R. 2311. This piece of budget-neutral legislation seeks to advance the scientific understanding of functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders by expanding research opportunities into these conditions through the National Institutes of Health. In support of this effort, we invite you to join us and patients, family members and friends, other health care professionals, and members of the public across the Nation on June 23rd in asking your House Members of Congress to cosponsor bill H.R. 2311. By coming together on this one day we can strengthen our message of the value of research into these conditions. As we did last year, we will host the event virtually, encouraging people to reach out by phone, email, and social media. Through the help of your efforts we can advance this legislation and bolster research activities into the functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders. To learn more about the bill and Virtual Advocacy Day 2016 go to our website at IFFGD.org.

We look forward to many years of continued support of the functional gastrointestinal and motility disorders patient community. We appreciate your support of IFFGD and its mission as well as your valuable contributions to advancements in the field. Thank you.
We are pleased to provide some of the articles that have been published over the last year that highlight the Rome Criteria.


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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 "Rome III Diagnostic Algorithms for common Common GI 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.

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

THE STANDARD
FOR FUNCTIONAL GI
NEW FOR 2016!

Introducing Rome IV:
Five Years of Work Building on
Decades of Research

New for 2016, we are pleased to announce
the release of Rome IV educational
materials for Functional GI, featuring:

• Six new books, in hard cover and online
  formats
• Contributions by more than 120
  investigators and clinicians from
  around the world
• Extensively updated since the last
  edition 10 years ago with new chapters,
  references, diagnoses, and graphics

The All-New Rome IV series includes:

• Rome IV: Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
  Disorders of Gut–Brain Interaction, Vols 1 and 2
• Multidimensional Clinical Profile for Functional
  Gastrointestinal Disorders: MDCP
• Diagnostic Algorithms for Common GI Symptoms:
• Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders for Primary Care and Non-GI Clinicians
• Pediatric Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders – Disorders of Gut–Brain Interaction
• Diagnostic Questionnaires and Tables for Investigators and Clinicians

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Go to theromefoundation.org and click on
Products

Improving the lives of people with functional GI disorders
theromefoundation.org
Visit The Rome Foundation
Booth #4525

At the Booth
• Rome IV updates
• Discussions with the authors
• A chance to win one of several prizes, including t-shirts and access to Rome Online for a year!
• Pick up our popular IBS criteria pocket cards with the Bristol Stool Form
• Preview the upcoming LogicNets intelligent software learning program

Attend Our Annual Rome-AGA Symposium
“The Launching of Rome IV: What’s New and Why”
Sunday, May 22, 10:00 to 11:30AM
Room 30, San Diego Convention Center
• Overview of Rome IV updates (Douglas A. Drossman, MD)
• Functional gastroduodenal disorders (Nicholas Talley, MD, PhD)
• Functional bowel disorders (Fermin Mearin, MD, PhD)

International Rome IV Launches - Join Us!
• IBS Bologna Days 2016 | June 8-11
• Federation of Neurogastroenterology and Motility, August 2016, San Francisco CA, USA | August 26-29
• Pan American Gastroenterology Meetings, September 2016, Cartagena, Colombia | Sep 10-13
• UEGW Meeting in Vienna | October 15-19
• Peking Union Medical Center Hospital Symposium, Beijing, China | November 4-5
• Asian Neurogastroenterology and Motility Association Meeting, Osaka, Japan | March, 2017
• Many more in development

Get a free Bristol stool form scale t-shirt with any purchase of a book or online subscription valued at $50 or more. Use code: PromoCard

Order Rome IV books and subscriptions:
Go to theromefoundation.org and click on Products
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

**About the Rome Foundation**

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