



ROME FOUNDATION REPORTER

Volume 10, Issue 1, Spring 2017

Rome Foundation Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Douglas A. Drossman, MD
President, Rome Foundation
April, 2017

Dear Rome Foundation Members, Friends and Sponsors,

The Rome Foundation serves the GI community with a platform of research, diagnostic aids, and clinical tools to make GI professionals more efficient and patient-focused in their work. We were pleased to announce that the rollout of ROME IV in 2016, with its comprehensive toolkit of resources, was met with enthusiasm and positive reviews by clinicians and researchers alike.

Over the last year, the Rome Foundation shared Rome IV knowledge and resources with the international GI community at several symposia, conferences, and other events around the world. In 2017, we have continued to present at GI symposia at national and regional GI meetings including most recently at the Innovations in Gastroenterology meeting in Tel Aviv, Israel (January, 2017), and at the ANMA/JSNM in Osaka, Japan and at the Eastern Europe Neurogastro in Iasi, Romania (both in March, 2017).

ROME IV LAUNCH CONTINUES

With the approach of DDW in Chicago in May 2017 we look forward to introducing our newest resources to the global GI community: **Rome IV Interactive Clinical Decision Toolkit**, **Rome IV online**, **Rome IV eBooks**, and **Rome IV slide sets**. These newer resources will help expand Rome IV knowledge to experts around the world.

ROME IV ONLINE – BY SUBSCRIPTION

In 2017 the entire Rome IV toolkit of resources will be available online on a subscription basis. Users will now be able to **access information using free-text searching across all book platforms** in addition to standard access of book chapters in the individual books. For example, searching “functional dyspepsia” will lead to links in the Rome IV, diagnostic algorithm, MDCP, and the pediatric and primary care books. Furthermore, the online content will also include **nearly 700 hyperlinked graphic images** that are not available in the Rome IV printed books. These images can also be obtained as a slide set (see below). We are also looking to partner with a publishing house to develop site licensing for hospitals and academic institutions. Rome IV Online, password accessible

for convenience, will be a very popular option for clinicians, investigators and institutions with several discount options are available for those who also purchase the companion hard copy books.

ROME IV EBOOKS

Electronic format books (eBooks) for the 6 Rome IV printed books (Rome IV volumes 1 and 2, MDCP, algorithms, pediatric, primary care and questionnaire books) will be released at DDW 2017. They can be accessed using the standard Kindle or Amazon platforms and will allow for text search capability within the books. These new eBooks may be purchased at the same price as the printed editions individually or in bulk discounts.

ROME IV INTERACTIVE CLINICAL DECISION TOOLKIT – A ROME FOUNDATION/LOGICNETS® STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The Rome Foundation in partnership with LogicNets®, producers of intelligent decision-support automation platforms, have developed the **Rome IV Interactive Clinical Decision Toolkit**, just released at DDW, May 2017. This intelligent software system addresses the sophistication and complexity of FGID diagnosis and treatment by providing an online resource to assist practitioners in achieving optimal clinical outcomes. It offers a powerful online and interactive approach for accessing the combination of the **Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithms** and the **Rome IV Multidimensional Clinical Profile for FGIDs (MDCP)**.

A select committee of expert clinicians from The Rome Foundation Board of Directors and Rome IV chapter members has worked over the last two years to refine information from these two sources to create an intelligent and flexible software platform capable of being modified as new information accumulates, ensuring that the toolkit provides the most up-to-date compendium of clinical information in one place.

Users will have access to the full range of Rome IV diagnostic algorithms and MDCP treatment guidelines with options to explore, select, and de-select different factors or decision points in any order. Through its logical series of interactive questions, the toolkit will help practitioners in real-time care of their patients

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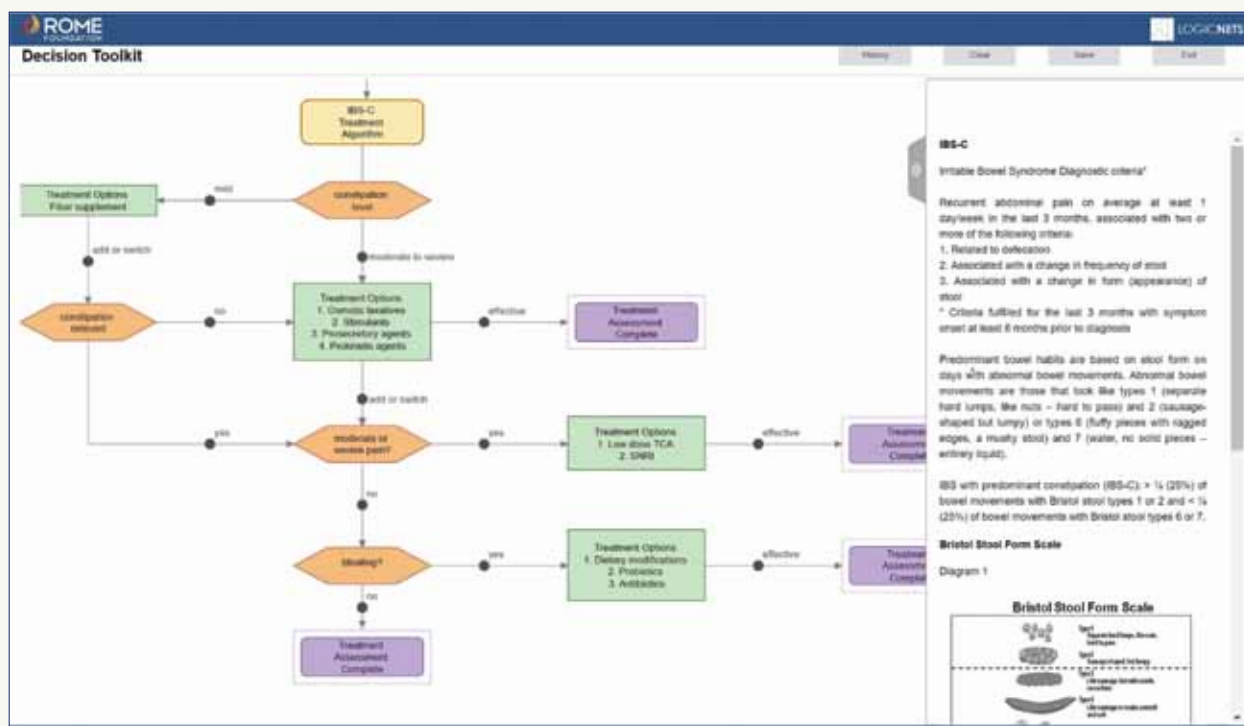


Figure 1

shape diagnostic and treatment pathways for optimal outcomes, and revise them later should new symptoms or conditions arise (Figure 1).

While educating its users, this intelligent software program also continues to learn. Practitioners can use the program to log their conclusions, providing important confirmation of the toolkit's efficacy, or ask for enhanced guidance for providing accurate inputs, which will also help us increase program's usefulness and accuracy. Should uncertainties in the use of the toolkit arise, that information will be made available to our board of experts who will modify its algorithms to improve its performance.

This innovative program will aid practitioners around the world to successfully access Rome expertise, diagnose and treat patients, increase their own knowledge and credentials, and through interaction with this constantly-learning program contribute to outcomes-based learning.

SLIDE SETS

Rome Foundation slide sets provide information in attractive, easy-to-read, multicolor images that include a legend and up-to-date references. They may be used for self-learning or as part of presentations at meetings and conferences.

ROME IV SLIDE SETS (Figure 2)

Rome IV

Drawn from Rome IV book chapters containing 664 PowerPoint graphical images and videos, this slide set includes 58 slides on Rome IV diagnostic criteria. All slides were created by the Rome IV chapter committees to supplement the text material and are only available with the online version of Rome IV or as a DVD set. This product includes the 35

slide **Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithm slide set**, which may be purchased separately as well.

The Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithm slide set

This set of 35 slides includes all the clinical presentations in the Rome IV Diagnostic Algorithm book. Each slide shows the recommended algorithm for each diagnostic workup and also includes clinical information explaining the decision pathways.

Rome IV MDCP slide set. The MDCP slide set is an effective educational tool with 2-3 slides each on 72 individual cases offered as examples in the MDCP containing the history, MDCP categories in play, and recommended treatments for them. The full set contains 204 PowerPoint slides for the MDCP cases.

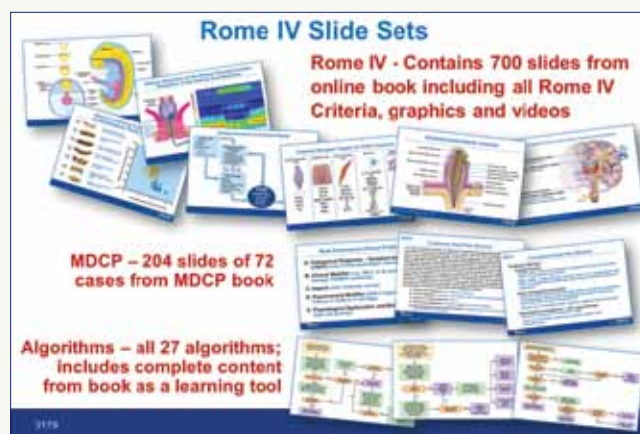


Figure 2

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ROME FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



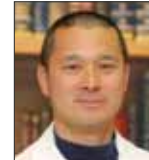
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Leuven, Belgium



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

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VISITING PROFESSORSHIP AND LECTURESHIP PROGRAM

As a nonprofit academic organization with high credibility in the field, the Rome Foundation well placed to develop a cutting-edge curriculum for diagnosis and treatment of FGIDs. We therefore consider our Visiting Professorship and Lectureship Program, now in its third year, a key facet of the Rome Foundation's mission and Rome IV's launch in particular. The Program helps us imbed scientists and clinicians familiar with Rome IV in medical centers and support their speaking at GI meetings to share the most up-to-date information on FGIDs and brain-gut interactions, including that in Rome IV, with GI professionals. For further information about applying for this program go to www.theromefoundation.org/programs-projects/education-program/international-program-for-visiting-professorships-and-lectureships/.

ADDITIONAL ROME FOUNDATION MAJOR INITIATIVES

New – Rome Foundation Mentoring Program

This year we are launching the **First Annual Rome Foundation Investigator Mentoring Program**. Directed by Rome Foundation Board members Magnus Simren and Jan Tack, and with the assistance of two experienced administrators Dianne Bach and Michael Stolar (formerly of the AGA), we will provide a venue for early-stage investigators to obtain expert consultation on research that they are developing.

The mentoring program will launch at DDW in a special session during which young investigators will present proposed research studies to experienced investigators (Foundation Board and others invited by the Foundation) for review and feedback. The program seeks out usually early career investigators who are interested in or are already investigating functional GI disorders and/or GI motility problems but who lack sufficient mentoring input or support for their project. Participants are selected via a competitive application process conducted by the Foundation. For DDW 2017 five investigators have been selected for presentation

GLOBAL EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDY

The Rome Foundation is constantly trying to improve our diagnostic resources and to that goal we are in the midst of a three-year global epidemiology study under the direction of Ami Sperber MD, a Rome Foundation Board member with deep knowledge of Rome IV and an

internationally-recognized figure in the GI community. This extensive effort is already underway with the completion of a questionnaire to validate the translation of the Rome IV Diagnostic Questionnaire into 21 target languages to ensure its accessibility for practitioners and patients in a variety of clinical environments, and a clinical validation of the efficacy of the Rome IV Diagnostic Questionnaire in eight culturally different countries on the three most common FGIDs: functional dyspepsia, IBS, and functional constipation. With these first two parts done we are ready to conduct a global FGID epidemiology study involving 34 countries (Figure 3). In addition to the results and insights of the global study itself, this process will provide us with close to 50 language versions (including localizations for specific countries) of the Rome IV Diagnostic Questionnaire.

ROME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

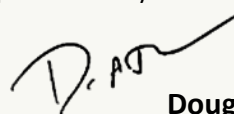
The Rome Foundation relies on its board for expert advice and strategic direction. We would like to thank those who have served and welcome others to our mission. Please join me in thanking Fernando Azpiroz, MD, PhD, for his decade of service as a Rome Foundation board member. We have valued Dr Azpiroz's contribution and dedication as a devoted member, and we wish him the best as he continues with contributions to the field of gastroenterology. Beginning at DDW 2017, we welcome our newest board member, Sam Nurko, MD MPH, Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, and Director of the Center for Motility and Functional Bowel Disorders at Boston Children's Hospital. Please join me in welcoming him as we look forward to his contributions to the Rome Foundation.

COLLABORATION WITH THE AMERICAN GASTROENTEROLOGY ASSOCIATION (AGA) INSTITUTE

For the last several years the Rome Foundation and the AGA have worked together to enhance the dissemination of knowledge in the FGIDs. Collaborative activities with the AGA have included our annual Research competitive awards, AGA endorsement of Rome satellite symposia, and co-marketing of Rome Foundation books. The AGA is also a participant in the Rome Foundation Advisory Council. This work is directed and coordinated through Ms. Nancy Chill of the AGA.

One visible sign of this partnership is our Rome-AGA Lectureship at DDW, now in its 10th year, which features co-sponsored speakers—often the brightest minds in the GI community—for popular Sunday morning sessions at the conference. We hope you can make these years lecture at DDW **on Sunday May 7 from 10:00-11:30 at McCormick Place Room S100ab**.

We are excited as we embark on the 2nd year of the Rome IV Launch especially as we look forward to sharing our newest educational products and initiatives with the broad and global GI Community. We would like to thank everyone who came to our events, visited our booths, and showed interest in The Rome Foundation's work. Thank you for your continued support of our mission, and for your work in improving the lives of patients everywhere.



Douglas A. Drossman, MD
President, Rome Foundation

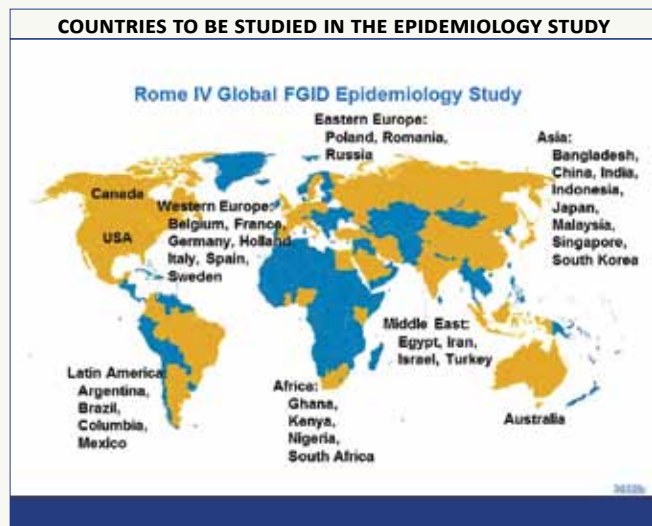


Figure 3

- NEW -

ROME FOUNDATION MENTORING PROGRAM

Out of a need to encourage young investigators to enter the field, this year we are launching the First Annual Rome Foundation Investigator Mentoring Program. Directed by Rome Foundation Board members Magnus Simren and Jan Tack, and with the assistance of two experienced administrators Dianne Bach and Michael Stolar (formerly of the AGA), we will provide a venue for early stage investigators to obtain expert consultation on research that they are developing. The program is consistent with and supports the Foundation's commitment promoting science-based activities.

The core of the Program is a meeting at DDW during which young investigators present proposed research studies to experienced investigators (Foundation Board and others invited by the Foundation) who would review their proposals, identify pitfalls or opportunities and give advice on how to improve them. The presenters need to be: (1) interested in

functional GI disorders and/or GI motility problems or function as their area of investigation, and (2) do not have sufficient mentoring input or support for their project. Participants would be selected via a competitive application process conducted by the Foundation.

Applicants must submit an application that describes their current research plan that is relevant to functional digestive problems or other gastrointestinal motility disorders, and certify that they do not have a suitable mentor to guide them in pursuing a GI research career in the afore mentioned proposal. There is no age or geographic restriction.

Those individual's selected will attend a meeting at DDW on Saturday May 6 from 3-5 PM in the Hong Kong Room of the Chicago Regency Hyatt. Each participant will have 20 minutes to present their proposal and to participate in the discussion about their proposal.

**THE ASSOCIATES OF ROME PROGRAM
HAS GROWN TO WELL OVER 1900
MEMBERS IN 84 COUNTRIES SINCE ITS
INCEPTION IN 2010.**

Associates
OF ROME

Members are enjoying benefits such as:

- Discounts on Rome products
- Quarterly newsletters
- Conference registration
- discounts
- Certificate of Association
- Specially designed Associates of Rome pin

New Associates Benefit!

All Associates of Rome are eligible to download up to 15 Rome IV slides from the Rome IV Slide Set for FREE from our website.

To join, please visit our website at www.theromefoundation.org/associates-of-rome-program/.

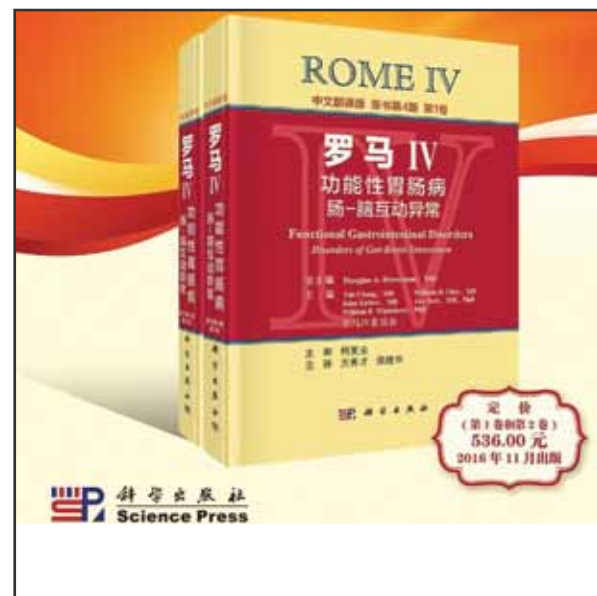


ROME IV LAUNCH

Reports from the Rome IV Launch Events in China and Israel

ROME IV LAUNCH BEIJING, CHINA

On 5th-6th November 2016, “The 15th Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH) Symposium of Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (FGIDs) and Psychological Disorders (2016)” was held in Beijing. As a national continuous education program of China, this annual symposium has been organized by PUMCH for more than 16 years, which focuses on FGIDS and psychological aspects in diagnosis, therapy and clinical research. With strong support from the Rome Foundation (as a chief co-organizer), this year’s symposium achieved great success. In the symposium, Dr. Douglas A. Drossman and Dr. Lin Chang presented 8 wonderful lectures, focusing on highlights in Rome IV Criteria-recommendations from Rome experts, understanding brain-gut interaction disorders, influence of psychosocial factors and selection of neuromodulators, the inspirations from Rome IV and how to conduct clinical research. Chinese experts presented their work and research about FGIDs and Rome criteria in China. The in-depth discussions between Rome experts, Chinese experts and audiences went into overtime forcing shortened or canceled tea breaks. More than 500 audiences attended the symposium, and the live webcast of the symposium attracted over 6000 online visitors to participants.



During the symposium, the launch ceremony of Chinese translation version of ROME IV textbooks had been held at the lunch break on November 5th, 2016. As honored guests, Dr. Drossman and Dr. Chang attended the ceremony. The Rome experts were very impressed by high efficiency of Chinese translators and high quality of Chinese translation.



THE PEKING UNION MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL SYMPOSIUM HELD IN NOVEMBER, 2016 HIGHLIGHTED THE LAUNCH OF THE CHINESE ROME IV BOOK. INCLUDED HERE ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE TRANSLATION TEAM HEADED BY DR. XIUCAI FANG (FAR LEFT) AND GUEST SPEAKERS FROM THE ROME FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS LIN CHANG MD (WHITE COAT) AND NEXT TO HER DOUGLAS DROSSMAN MD.

ROME IV LAUNCH TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

In January 2017, the Israel Gastroenterology Association held its annual meeting under the title "Innovations in Gastroenterology, 2017 Symposium" in Tel Aviv. The meeting was attended by over 1,000 attendees from around the world with a large faculty of experts from overseas and lectures from 3 Israeli Nobel Prize laureates. The focus of the meeting was on innovations in terms of technology, scientific advances in diagnosis and treatment, etc.

One of the scientific advances in the field of Gastroenterology in the past year is the publication of the Rome IV diagnostic criteria and the Rome IV book and additional material. In honor of this advance the symposium included a session devoted to Rome IV included the following speakers and topics:

- *Path to Rome IV and Changes from Rome III:* Douglas Drossman
- *Pathophysiology: Roles of the Microbiome, Inflammation, Permeability and Food:* Magnus Simren



AMI SPERBER AT THE 2017 INNOVATIONS IN GASTROENTEROLOGY MEETINGS IN TEL AVIV, ISRAEL.

- *Chronic GI pain - Understanding and Managing:* Jan Tack
- *Rome IV, the Global Initiative and the Israeli Perspective:* Ami Sperber
- *Rome IV Innovations: Multi-dimensional Clinical Profile (MDCP), Clinical Diagnostic Algorithms, and Rome IV Interactive Clinical Decision Toolkit:* Douglas Drossman

The session was very well attended with a large room filled with attendees and many of them expressed great interest in the topics discussed.

UPCOMING ROME IV LAUNCH EVENTS IN 2017

NEUROGASTRO 2017

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK, IRELAND

AUGUST 24-26, 2017

INDIAN MOTILITY AND FUNCTIONAL DISEASES ASSOCIATION

KOLKATA, INDIA

SEPTEMBER 2017

DUTCH SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY (NVGE)

VELDHOVEN, NETHERLANDS

OCTOBER 5, 2017

ROME FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR VISITING PROFESSORSHIP AND LECTURESHIPS

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, braingut 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.

VISITING PROFESSORSHIP AND LECTURESHIP

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

Since March 2015, we have conducted 17 visiting lectureships and 21 visiting professorships and a total of 57 lectureships. Several more are planned for this year. The programs are highly endorsed with satisfaction scores averaging 4.9 out of 5. The third year of applications will be accepted from June 1, 2017 through May 30, 2018 and awards will begin on June 1, 2018.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Since May 2015, Focus Medical Communications has been working with the Rome Foundation on the Visiting Professorship/Lectureship Program. They have helped us to complete 27 programs reaching from the United States to Australia. In 2017, the Rome Foundation will be handling the programs in house.

**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)

ROME FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM



Ray E. Clouse, MD

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.



Mira M. Wouters, MD

Department of Gastroenterology, Translational Research Center for Gastrointestinal Disorders
Leuven, Belgium

Title: *Histamine receptor H1-mediated sensitization of TRPV1 mediates visceral hypersensitivity and symptoms in patients with irritable bowel syndrome. Gastroenterology 2016;150:875-87.*

Dr. Mira Wouters is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Gastroenterology, Translational Research Center for Gastrointestinal Disorders (TARGID) in KU Leuven, Belgium. Her primary area of focus has been on the mechanisms underlying increased visceral pain perception as a hallmark symptom of IBS, with particular interest in neuronal sensitization by immune mediators. More recently, she expanded her research interests to identify molecular receptors and their signaling pathways involved in modulating neuronal sensitization and contributing to the development of visceral pain.

In 2000, Dr. Wouters completed her MS in

Biochemistry at the University of Antwerp in Belgium. Later, she completed her doctoral studies at Janssen Pharmaceutica in collaboration with Université libre de Bruxelles in Brussels, Belgium, and a post-doctoral fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, USA. During her time at the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Wouters' primary research interests were in unraveling the molecular mechanisms underlying slow wave generation and proliferation of the interstitial cells of Cajal (pacemaker cells) in the gastrointestinal tract. Since joining TARGID in 2008, Dr. Wouters established a novel research line on the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying IBS using clinical data and animal models.

ROME FOUNDATION RESEARCH PROGRAM



Ken Heaton, MD

KEN HEATON AWARD

FOR THE PAPER MOST CITED ON FGIDS AND
MOTILITY DISORDERS, 2017
(for the calendar year 2015)

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.



Giada De Palma

McMaster University
Ontario, Canada

Title: *Microbiota and host determinants of behavioural phenotype in maternally separated mice. Nature Communications 2015;6; 7735. doi: 10.1038/ncomms8735. PMID: 26218677.*

This article was cited 35 times.

Dr. Giada De Palma is research associate with Dr. Premysl Bercik and Stephen M. Collins at the Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Institute, McMaster University, since September 2016. Her research focuses on understanding the interaction between microbiome, diet, gut physiology and behaviour in functional gastrointestinal disorders. She completed her PhD on the Influence of gut microbiota in celiac disease in 2011 under the supervision of Dr. Yolanda Sanz

at the Polytechnic University of Valencia in Biotechnology and Microbiology. She then moved to McMaster University where she trained as a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Premysl Bercik and Dr. Stephen M. Collins at the Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Institute. Giada was awarded the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation Postdoctoral fellowship in 2011 and the CIHR-CAG-Aptalis Post-doctoral fellowship in 2014.

AGA RESEARCH FOUNDATION - ROME FOUNDATION

FUNCTIONAL GI AND MOTILITY DISORDERS RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS - 2017



Giuseppe Cipriani, PhD

Post-Doctoral Fellow
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

For his project on the role of Muscularis Macrophages in the development of diabetic gastroparesis

Dr. Cipriani is a post-doctoral fellow at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. His research is aimed at investigating the role of gastric muscularis macrophages in the development of delayed gastric emptying, a major feature of diabetic gastroparesis. His studies so far have drawn his attention to the deep lack of information about macrophages in the muscle layers of the gastrointestinal tract. He's hoping to continue his research with a focus on understanding the basic mechanism leading to the activation of muscularis macrophages in health and diseases.



Geoffrey Preidis, MD, PhD

Post-Doctoral Fellow
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX

Title: Bile acid receptor mediated dysmotility in protein-energy undernutrition

Dr. Preidis is a post-doctoral fellow at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. He became aware of the ravages of malnutrition during his childhood in South America and determined to study it. His research showed that malnutrition induces intestinal motility disorders which slow motility and lead to other adverse consequences such as bacterial overgrowth, and he developed three mouse models of malnutrition which identified an unexpected defect in bile metabolism. This led him to propose two studies: The first tests the ubiquity of the effects of malnutrition on motility while the second experiment evaluates mechanism by giving antagonists to the enzymes. Two outstanding basic scientists will mentor this research. Dr. Preidis expects to devote the majority of his time to this work, which research has the potential to substantially improve the management of childhood malnutrition.



AGA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ROME FOUNDATION

by Maura H. Davis



AGA INSTITUTE



AGA is continuing its partnership with the Rome Foundation to promote mutual educational initiatives including the new Rome IV edition. Rome IV was launched with 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*.

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 functional GI disorders. A cross cultural committee has helped to 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 published a special supplemental issue of the journal *Gastroenterology* in May 2016 devoted to the launch of Rome IV and reviews of functional gastrointestinal disorders. This issue highlighted 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 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.

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 IV Adult Diagnostic Questionnaire
- Rome IV Pediatric Diagnostic Questionnaire
- Rome IV Infant/Toddler Diagnostic Questionnaire
- Rome IV Slide Set
- Rome IV MDCP Slide Set
- Rome III book (Rome III: The Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders, Third Edition, Degnon Associates, Inc., 2006) earlier editions, Additional translations - Spanish, Chinese and Japanese
- 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/products/rome-translation-project/available-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, Chinese, Japanese
- 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 (IBS-SSS) 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)
- Rome III MDCP Slide Set

Beginning in 2017, we will be adding the Rome IV questionnaire and related Rome IV products. For more information, please contact Sherita Barnes at sbarnes@theromefoundation.org.

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BOARD OF DIRECTOR CHANGES



Fernando Azpiroz, MD, PhD

**Chief Department of Digestive Diseases and Professor of Medicine
Hospital General Vall d'Hebron
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Barcelona, Spain**

Fernando Azpiroz, MD, PhD retires after 10 years of service. It has been a pleasure to have had Dr. Azpiroz and his keen insights as a part of the Rome Foundation Board of Directors for the past decade. Dr. Azpiroz has been a strong proponent of developing global collaborations among the neurogastroenterology societies and we have over the last year been quite successful in launching Rome IV symposia at over a dozen societies around the world. His insights have helped us to integrate the interface between motility disorders and physiological dysfunction with the symptom based criteria. Dr. Azpiroz was a member of the Rome IV physiology chapter committee.

He is currently Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Department of Digestive Diseases at the University Hospital Vall d'Hebron, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. He is also Chair of the Microbiota and Health Section of the European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility. Dr. Azpiroz' most recent seminal research has been to help us understand abdominal distension and bloating. He has defined the concept of abdominophrenic dyssynergia and more recently its treatment through biofeedback. We are truly grateful for his contribution to the Foundation and to the field of neurogastroenterology.



Sam Nurko, MD, MPH

**Professor of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School
Director of the Center for Motility and Functional Bowel Disorders
Boston Children's Hospital
Boston, MA, USA**

Sam Nurko, MD, MPH joins the Board as its first Pediatric Gastroenterologist. Dr. Nurko, Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, and Director of the Center for Motility and Functional Bowel Disorders at Boston Children's Hospital will join the Board beginning at DDW 2017. He was born and raised in Mexico City where he completed his medical education at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico.

He moved to the U.S. in 1981 for his pediatric residency at Boston City hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, and later completed his fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology at Boston Children's Hospital. In 1993 he created the hospital's Motility Center which provides state of the art evaluation and care of children with motility and functional gastrointestinal disorders, offering innovative techniques and multidisciplinary approaches for diagnosis and treatment. Dr Nurko is a recognized leader in the field as an academic, NIH-funded clinical researcher, teacher, and mentor. He has a long-standing interest, and dedication to patient oriented research and has written more than 230 manuscripts, reviews and book chapters. He was chair of the Rome IV neonatal and toddler functional gastrointestinal disorders committee, has been Associate Editor of the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, and founder of the Neurogastroenterology Committee of NASPGHAN. He has been recipient of investigator and Research Mentor Awards and along with Max Schmulson MD another Board member from Mexico City, has been very active in fostering education in Latin America. He's been formally recognized by the Hispanic community, Chamber of Commerce and the City of Boston for clinical excellence, and service to the Latin community. Recently he was portrayed as the treating physician of a young girl with severe motility difficulties in the Major Motion Picture: "Miracles from Heaven". We look forward to his contribution to the Rome Foundation and the field of Pediatric Gastroenterology.



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

SPRING 2017



By Tegan Gaetano

When IFFGD was founded in 1991, there was very little information and support available to individuals affected by functional gastrointestinal (GI) and motility disorders. Since then considerable progress has been made, but the need for research to advance our scientific understanding of these conditions and education to help individuals and families struggling with these life-altering disorders understand their symptoms and find appropriate care remains.

Whether by raising global awareness of the impact of functional GI and motility disorders on those affected, advocating on behalf of the digestive health community on Capitol Hill, or supporting and encouraging research to advance the science, IFFGD continues to address these needs.

Continuing our commitment to research, we are pleased to share with you **results of the IFFGD research survey of people diagnosed with gastroparesis**; their burdens, concerns, and quality of life. The survey, developed by IFFGD in collaboration with researchers at Temple University School of Medicine, broadly describes individuals in the community experiencing gastroparesis from the patients' viewpoint. While gastroparesis is well-documented in the medical literature, there is a critical unmet need to better understand the causes, treatment approaches, natural history, and patient experience of people with the condition. By addressing the various issues confronting patients with gastroparesis and their treatment needs, this survey is intended to help clinicians and researchers better identify treatment priorities and improve patient care. The survey, which included participation from 1,423 qualifying adults with gastroparesis, appeared in the peer-reviewed journal *Digestive Diseases and Sciences* in April of this year. 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.

IFFGD has been a voice for the digestive health community on Capitol Hill for many years, advocating for an expanded research portfolio for functional GI and motility disorders and, ultimately, improved treatment outcomes for all those affected. Earlier this year ***The Functional Gastrointestinal and Motility Disorders Research Enhancement Act***

was reintroduced in the U.S. House of Representatives under the number H.R. 1187 by Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner (WI-5). This piece of budget-neutral legislation seeks to expand basic and clinical research into functional GI and motility disorders, promote National awareness of these conditions, and facilitate the development of new and better treatments. Among the primary aims of the bill are to:

- Grant the National Institutes of Health (NIH) new authority to initiate innovative research projects,
- Establish a Centers of Excellence Program in this area,
- Coordinate research activities with the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Veterans Administration (VA),
- And, call of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to improve review, approval, and oversight of treatments for functional GI and motility disorders.

To learn how to take action on this important legislation, go to www.iffgd.org/get-involved/take-action.

April is IBS Awareness Month. With sponsorship from IFFGD, IBS Awareness Month was first listed on the U.S. National Health Observances calendar 20 years ago. Since then we have made great strides to raise global awareness of the condition, promote research into safe and effective therapies, and provide education and support for those affected. But, there is still much to do. IBS is one of the most prevalent digestive disorders, yet many people remain undiagnosed and unaware that their symptoms indicate a medically recognized disorder. The more we work together to raise awareness for IBS and other functional GI and motility disorders, the greater our ability to make a positive impact on the lives of all those affected.

Greater awareness for functional GI and motility disorders and opportunities for advancing research are issues important to us all. We are grateful to the many individuals who have supported IFFGD and its mission over the years and we look forward to working with you to continue to improve outcomes for the functional GI and motility disorders patient community in the future.

Thank you.

THE STANDARD FOR FUNCTIONAL GI NEW ITEMS FOR 2017!

Introducing Rome IV Digital Products

New for 2017, we are pleased to announce the release of Rome IV digital educational materials for Functional GI, featuring:

- **Online books**, in Kindle and full-text formats
- **Interactive Clinical Decision Toolkit**, which provides step-by-step guidance through diagnosis and treatment options
- **Rome IV Slide Set** with over 700 slides, also available individually
- **Rome IV Algorithms Slide Set** with 28 slides, including text from the book to supplement and explain each slide
- **Rome IV MDCP Slide Set** with over 200 slides for MDCP cases



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Improving the lives of people
with functional GI disorders

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Rome Foundation – AGA Institute Lectureship at Digestive Disease Week 2017

Applications of Novel Diagnostic Modalities in the Diagnosis, Pathophysiology and Treatment Response of Functional GI Disorders



John Pandolfino, MD
Northwestern University
USA

*EndoFLIP for Functional
Esophageal Disorders*



Robin Spiller, MD
University of Newcastle
Australia

*Magnetic Resonance imaging
of the intestine in IBS and
Chronic Constipation*



Emeran Mayer, MD, PhD
David Geffen School of
Medicine at UCLA

*Novel Brain Imaging
Techniques in IBS*



McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois
May 7, 10:00-11:30, Room S100ab



25th UEG Week
October 28 - November 1, 2017
Barcelona, Spain

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

25th ueg week

**Europe's premier
gastroenterology meeting**
October 28 – November 1, 2017
Barcelona, Spain

Submit your
abstract until
April 27, 2017



Due to the great success of the “From guidelines to clinical practice” symposia, UEG has created a dedicated pathway on Monday and Tuesday in addition to our popular “Advances in clinical gastroenterology & hepatology” featuring scientific breakthroughs on Functional GI disorders and GORD in 2017. 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 Barcelona and celebrate with us on our 25th anniversary!

THE ROME FOUNDATION



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NOW AVAILABLE

- ROME IV VOLUMES I AND II
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- ROME IV DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHMS FOR COMMON GI SYMPTOMS (SECOND EDITION)
- ROME IV PEDIATRIC FUNCTIONAL GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS – DISORDERS OF GUT-BRAIN INTERACTION (FIRST EDITION)
- ROME IV FUNCTIONAL GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS FOR PRIMARY CARE AND NON-GI CLINICIANS (FIRST EDITION)
- SLIDES SETS: MDCP AND ROME IV



INFORMATION ON THE ASSOCIATES OF ROME AND FREE ENROLLMENT

LOOK FOR OUR BOOTH AT THESE UPCOMING CONFERENCES

DDW 2017

Chicago, IL
May 6 - 9, 2017
www.ddw.org

ESPGHAN

Prague, Czech Republic
May 10 - 13, 2017
www.espghan.org

PRI-MED WEST

Anaheim, CA
May 11 - 13, 2017
www.pri-med.com/west

LASPGHAN

Porto, Portugal
June 22 - 24, 2017
www.laspghan.org

AAFP

San Antonio, TX
Sept. 12 - 16, 2017
www.aafp.org/events/fmx.html

ACG 2017

Orlando, FL
October 13 - 18, 2017
www.gi.org

UEG WEEK

Barcelona, Spain
Oct. 28 - Nov. 1, 2017
www.ueg.eu/week

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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