

ARIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SPONSORS MEETING

June 8, 2003

Le Pre Catalan, Paris, France

Participants: Jean Bousquet, Chair, Paul van Cauwenberge. Co-Chair, Nadia Ait-Khaled (EC), Isabella Annesi-Maesano (SC), Claus Bachert (EC), Carlos Baena-Cagnani (EC), Sergio Bonini (SC), G. Walter Canonica (EC), Kai-Hakon Carlsen (EC), Alvaro Cruz (AC), Stephen Durham (EC), Peter Howarth (SC), Jean-Michel Klossek (SC), Violeta Kvedariene (AC), Hans-Jorgen Malling (AC), Joaquim Mullol (EC), Charles Naspitz (AC), Kristof Nekam (AC), Nikolaos Papadopoulos (AC), Ruby Pawankar (EC), Ted Popov (AC), Paul Potter (EC), David Price (EC), F. Estelle R. Simons (EC), Vaclav Spicak (AC), Erkka Valovirta (AC), Onno Van Schayck (EC), Barbara Yawn (EC), Osman Yusuf (AC). ARIA: Anna Bedbrook, Larry Grouse, Alan Wright.

WHO: Nikolai Khaltaev.

Sponsors: Lars Jacobsen (ALK-Abéllo), Jesus Gomez (Almirall Prodesfarma), Neil Williams (AstraZeneca), Eric Abramson, Jeff McFadden (Aventis), Albert Kroon (EAMG), Gilbert Nadeau (GSK), Bryan Rafalko (Merck), Keith Allan (Novartis), Alan Harris, John Stimson (Schering-Plough), Albert Saporto (Stallergenes), Didier Louapre, Gary Warburton (UCB Farchim SA).

ARIA AGENDA

Professor Bousquet called the meeting to order and presented the agenda.

The activities of Phase 3 of ARIA have been extraordinarily diverse and successful and he wanted to first review the past activities and then discuss the current and future activities in Phase 4.

Among the more than 60 attendees there were ARIA experts representing more than 25 countries as well as representatives from all 12 ARIA sponsors.

SCIENTIFIC MISSION

Prof. Bousquet outlined the crucial scientific mission of ARIA and the activities of the Scientific Committee to maintain the up-to-date evidence-based model for the management of allergic rhinitis as a key component of asthma and rhinitis. The dissemination of this information has primarily been accomplished through the activities of the Dissemination Committee in collaboration with the Advisory Committee and through the 33 language versions of the ARIA Pocket Guide document.

Translation of ARIA's messages to the Pharmacy community has been accomplished through ARIA and the 7 Pharmacist's Guide sponsors. Both the

Guide and the Pocket Guide have been completed and will be printed and delivered to all the ARIA national leaders, Committee members, and sponsors within the next few weeks.

Through national research projects and collaboration with IUATLD, adaptations of ARIA for developing countries have also been disseminated.

In Phase 3 more than 200 workshops, lectures, and presentations have been given worldwide with very prestigious sessions given at EAACI, AAAAI, and ACAAI. Key WHO CRD Conferences have been held at the ARIA Secretariat and Montpellier Collaborating Center.

ARIA's initial 2 year term as a WHO NGO is completed and Dr. Nikolai Khaltsev of WHO praised ARIA and its leadership for its great achievements and close collaboration with WHO in improving rhinitis and asthma education and care worldwide. He was very positive about the submission for continuing NGO status and praised ARIA for their continuing plans and projects.

Prof. Bousquet introduced the members of the ARIA Scientific Committee who are reviewing the world's peer-review literature to update the ARIA evidence-based Guidelines. ARIA is following the procedures developed in collaboration with the GINA and GOLD Scientific Committees, which are in press in the European Respiratory Journal. A list of the members of the ARIA Executive, Science, and Dissemination Committees is attached to this e-mail.

The mission to define the scientifically valid clinical approach to rhinitis and its impact on asthma is at the core of the current and future (Phase 4) ARIA program.

IPAG PRIMARY CARE DISSEMINATION

An extension of this mandate is contained within the International Primary Care Airways Group (IPAG), which has been underway for the past 3 years. IPAG's mission is to develop a comprehensive document for primary care physicians to help them in the practical management of asthma, COPD, and rhinitis. Profs. Onno van Schayck and David Price of the ARIA Executive Committee are Chair of IPAG and Chair of the rhinitis section of IPAG, respectively.

Prof. Price gave an IPAG progress report that the completion of the document is expected by the time of ERS. This Initiative has been supported by educational grants from GINA, GOLD, ARIA, EAACI, ERS, and Industry and all of these groups will be using the IPAG Pocket Guide in primary care education worldwide.

In the continuing effort to bring the ARIA guidelines to all health care

professionals, ARIA has developed the ARIA Pharmacist's Guide and Pharmacist's Pocket Guide to help these key HCP's provide pharmacologic guidance and education to their clients. A Pocket Guide for school nurses to help them recognize and assist in the care of allergic patients will be developed in Phase 4.

PHASE 3 AND PHASE 4

Prof. Bousquet reported on the research concerning the interactions between rhinitis and asthma revealed through epidemiology, studies of pathophysiologic mechanisms, and management experience. More and more evidence documents the benefits of approaching these closely-linked disease processes in a coordinated management plan. These studies will continue in Phase 4.

An additional Phase 4 effort of ARIA will be to improve recognition and treatment of occupational airway diseases, particularly occupational rhinitis and asthma. Preliminary data indicate that if occupational disease is recognized when rhinitis develops, asthma and severe persistent asthma may be prevented. This effort may be organized as a WHO consultation in 2004.

Complementary and alternative respiratory medicine (CAM) is a controversial area in which the evidence for efficacy and safety is not clear. Because of the frequency with which CAM is utilized, ARIA plans to study the available evidence and report its findings.

A GREES review of rhinitis and airway diseases has been accepted and the first meeting is scheduled for January, 2004. This activity should increase the awareness of the importance of ARIA and of airway diseases in general, particularly in Europe.

Dr. Grouse reviewed the budget for ARIA, Phase 4, which has been approved and has been provided to the sponsors. The upcoming year will continue the focus on the science and clinical practice of rhinitis/asthma management through the activities of the ARIA Scientific and Dissemination Committees. Liaison with primary care groups worldwide to disseminate the ARIA Guidelines will also dominate the plans for Phase 4.

As in previous years, a substantial portion of the ARIA budget will be devoted to consultation, communication, and meetings of the ARIA Committees, presentation of ARIA Symposia at prestigious Asian, American, African, and European Annual Meetings, and meetings of the Executive Committee with sponsors.

ARIA PRINTING AND DISSEMINATION GUIDELINES

Prof. Bousquet concluded the meeting with a review of the Guidelines for Printing and Distribution of ARIA materials. The success of ARIA has increased the desire of 3rd parties to use ARIA documents in promotional ways and for proprietary gain. Prof. Bousquet reminded the group to be alert to such misuses of these materials. He reminded the group to review and follow the Directives for use of ARIA materials prepared 2 years ago by Profs. van Cauwenberge and Bousquet (a copy is attached to this file). ARIA materials may not be adapted without review and permission. ARIA sponsors' educational grants must be acknowledged appropriately. And all materials developed for ARIA must be developed according to independent evidence-based procedures and must be validated by peer-review.

ARIA APPOINTMENTS

Prof. Bousquet announced the appointment of Dr. Barbara Yawn (US) as a member of the ARIA Executive Committee. Dr. Yawn is a leader in developing respiratory medicine policy for the American Academy of Family Physicians and the US government and has been an active participant in the IPAG Initiative.

NEXT MEETING

The next ARIA Executive Committee and sponsors meeting will coincide with the upcoming AAAAI meeting in San Francisco; it will be organized on **Saturday, March 20, 2004 from 1-6 PM, followed by a dinner.**