



International Press Workshop

Europe's Fight against Tick-Borne Encephalitis

**Austria's successful vaccination campaign
- a good example of a public health project
Europe-wide establishment of a new TBE/FSME patients' platform**

Tuesday, April 25th, 2006 at 10:15 am
in the 1st District of Vienna
at Palais Ferstel in the "Herrensaal", Café Central, Herrengasse 17

30 years ago, TBE vaccine came onto the market in Austria. Five years later, an exemplary anti-tick-bite vaccination campaign was called into being – with success: up to 700 cases of illness being recorded annually in the pre-vaccination era, as opposed to “only” still 100 in the year gone by. Now other European countries could gladly emulate this example, ones where a halt could be put to high numbers of people catching the disease. Thus, in 2005 there were 130 TBE cases in Sweden, over 420 in Germany and as many as 642 in the Czech Republic, meaning a huge upswing during past years.

Under the motto of “**A Gift for Europe**”, the fight against TBE is now being proclaimed throughout Europe. International experts are calling for action. An initial step is being taken with a new pan-European patient platform, in order to both facilitate rapid assistance to sufferers in the future, and to reinforce awareness of the disease as well.

Prof. Michael Kunze
Chairman International Scientific Working Group on TBE (ISW-TBE)

If you would like to receive a press kit of this international press workshop
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Greeting & moderation

Prof. Michael Kunze

Chairman, ISW-TBE, Institut for Social Medicine, Vienna, Austria
Introduction of the experts' initiative: A Gift for Europe

Welcome Note, Austrian Federal Ministry of Health and Women

Tribute to ***Prof. Christian Kunz***, the “father” of TBE vaccination

Speakers & topics

Prof. Franz X. Heinz

Head of the Institute of Virology at the Vienna Medical University, Austria
Austrian success story in the fight against TBE/FSME

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Prof. Roman Prymula

Dean of Faculty of Military Health Sciences
Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic

Prof. Jochen Süß

Head of the National Reference Laboratory
for Diseases Transmitted by Ticks
Friedrich Loeffler Institute, Jena, Germany

**Why is the number of TBE/FSME cases increasing? -
A short analysis from the highly exposed countries Germany and Czech Republic**

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Dr. Victor Luyasu

Reference Center, Research and Information Group on Tick Borne Diseases, Travel Clinic.
Clinique Saint-Pierre, Ottignes-Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

Who protects the travelers in Europe?

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Prof. Mats Haglund

Head of the Department of Infectious Diseases, Kalmar County Hospital, Kalmar, Sweden

TBE/FSME - The acute course of the disease

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Dr. Aukse Mickiene

University Clinic for Infectious Diseases, Kaunas, Lithuania

Who protects our children? - The current situation of TBE/FSME in Lithuania

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Dr. Ulf Baumhackl

Head of the Department of Neurology, Landeskrankenhaus St.Pölten, Austria

TBE/FSME - Its long-term sequelae

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Dr. Vera Weld

Austria

A former TBE/FSME patient reminisces

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Official launch of the first pan-European patients' platform on TBE/FSME