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News from the Editor

Dear ISBM members,

I am happy to present you the fall issue of our society's newsletter in 2011!

As you will see on the following pages, we have covered some very interesting topics with this issue, such as our president's address, news about the International Journal of Behavioral Medicine, and a profile of the Venezuelan Interdisciplinary Society of Behavioral Medicine (SIVMEC). Also, and most prominently, you find the updated conference news on the upcoming ICBM in Budapest, Hungaria, as well as related news on the Society's awards and recent activities of the International Network for Supporting Promising Individual Researchers in their Early career (INSPIRE) with this issue.

With the president's deeply moving address, including his personal experience of the earthquake in Japan and the Fukushima power plant accident, I again realized how tightly connected our research, practice, and cultural circumstances are and how important behavioral medicine concepts might be in this context. Speaking of the importance of behavioral medicine concepts, our Editor in Chief of the IJBM reports an increase in this journal's

impact factor. This might not only reflect the increasing awareness of behavioral medicine in research and public. I believe that this is also an index of the high quality of the papers that have been published in the journal.

Also with this newsletter edition, I would like to draw your attention to the presentation of the SIVMEC. For me personally, it was highly interesting to learn how this first Latin American society of behavioral medicine developed and, due to the personal engagement of those involved, keeps to grow larger.

Naturally much of this newspaper edition is dedicated to the upcoming International Conference for Behavioral Medicine, ICBM, our big event to look forward to in 2012! You will find further information on abstract submission, the conference schedule and deadlines in this newspaper. Also, and coming along with this section, there is news about the upcoming Early Career Awards and the activities of INSPIRE.

So, on behalf our Society's board, I hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter and I wish you all a wonderful fall 2011!

Beate Ditzen
Newsletter Editor

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Letter from the President

First, I deeply appreciate help and empathy from people in the world including members of the ISBM for the East-Japan disaster with a huge earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear plant accident in the northern Japan on March 11, 2011. At the earthquake, I was at the 14th floor of a building at which we had the 17th Annual meeting of the Japan Society of Behavioral Medicine in Tokyo. We had a big shake, but fortunately no one in the hall was injured. After a wide pollution by radiation from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant was found, an emergency committee organized within the Japanese Association of Public Health found a difficulty in communicating a possible health risk associated with a low-dose radiation exposure to people in affected and non-affected areas. Dr. Vishwanath, our Organizational Liaison Committee chair, and Prof. Theresa Marteau, a member of the UK Society and a past chair of Scientific Program Committee of the ICBM2008 in Tokyo, kindly responded to my e-mail request to give us their thoughts and suggestions. Other ISBM members kindly provided information on post-disaster stress management for school children. I am very much obligated to these kind contributions and I am convinced that the "disaster and health" could be another focus of behavioral medicine.



The Board meeting on April 15, 2011

The Board had a very good on-site meeting at the VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on April 15, 2011, hosted by the President-elect. The Board discussed many important issues related to the ISBM business. You may find these in the minutes of the meeting available at the member page of the ISBM website (click "Members login" at <http://www.isbm.info/>). One of the important decisions made is to select a venue for ICBM 2014, the conference following Budapest. Two bids for ICBM 2014 were received by the deadline: one from Melbourne, Australia, and one from Groningen, the Netherlands.

Both proposals were excellent and it was very hard to make a decision. Finally, the Board voted and selected the Groningen proposal

for ICBM 2014. The Board is currently working with the Dutch Society to finalize the proposal before sending it via e-mail to the Governing Council for the approval. The Board also agreed to modify the organization of the Awards Committee and include the Newsletter Editor as a full Board member. Recommendations to change the bylaw accordingly to these decisions will be discussed and voted at the next Governing Council in Budapest.

Call for nomination of new Board members

Member societies of the ISBM should already have received a call for nominations for open positions in the ISBM Board for 2012, from our Nominations Committee Chair, Redford Williams. The open positions include President-elect, Secretary, Finance Committee Chair, Communications Committee Chair, and International Collaborative Studies Committee Chair. I hope that member societies nominate candidates as many as possible to Redford (redfordw@duke.edu) or the Secretary (nater@uni-marburg.de) by the deadline, November 1, 2011.

**Journal**

Our next IJBM-Editor-in-Chief, Christina Lee, is now handling new manuscripts since May 1st, 2011. She will take over all duties as Editor on January 1st, 2012. In general, the journal is in good and stable condition. We were glad to learn that the impact factor of the journal increased to 1.762 in 2010, with a deep appreciation for all ISBM members contributing to it, particularly for Joost Dekker, Editor-in-Chief, for his extreme hard work.

ICBM 2012

The preparation for the International Congress of Behavioral Medicine (ICBM) in Budapest, Hungary from August 29 to September 1, 2012 (<http://www.icbm2012.com/>) is going very well, lead by The Program Committee Chair, Frank J. Penedo, and the Local Organizing Committee Chair, Adrienne Stauder, as well as other committee members. The Call for Abstracts has just started this September, and the deadline for Abstract Submission for Symposia, Papers and Posters is January 15, 2012. Please start preparing submitting your abstract(s) to the ICBM 2012!

In the fall, I plan to attend an annual conference of the International Council of Science (ICSU), the leading organization of scientists in the world, in Rome, Italy, and visit the Venezuelan Interdisciplinary Society of Behavioural Medicine in Caracas, Venezuela. The next web Board meeting is scheduled on December 13, 2011. Member societies and individual members, please send an e-mail to me if you have anything to propose for the discussion among the Board.



Norito Kawakami, MD, DMSc

President of ISBM

president@isbm.info



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News from the Editor-in-Chief of IJBM

August 2011

2010 Impact Factor

Although its value should not be exaggerated, the Impact Factor is a reflection of the scientific impact of papers published in the journal. The 2010 Impact Factor for IJBM has been published recently: **1.76**, and the 5-year Impact Factor is 2.25. The trend in the Impact Factor over the years is clearly upwards: the IJBM Impact Factor is now the highest in the last 5 years.



Looking back

As of 2012 Christina Lee will take over as Editor of IJBM. In an Editorial to be published in the last issue of 2011, I have evaluated the major developments during the 5 years of my term. I believe IJBM has been successful in publishing high quality papers in each of the three major domains covered by IJBM: biobehavioral mechanisms, clinical care and public health. The profile emphasizing three major domains brings the risk of lack of focus. Researchers working in a specific field may feel that their audience is 'diluted' by readers from the other two fields: they could prefer a more targeted audience and submit to a more specialized journal. To counteract this risk, IJBM has put strong emphasis on publishing special series, focusing on a specific theme in behavioral medicine. These special series bring together research coming from basic science, clinical medicine or public health, all contributing to the specific theme. These spe-

cial series, prefaced by an editorial describing the context and cohesion of these papers, have been major achievements. The special series have been instrumental in bringing out the very essence of behavioral medicine, i.e. interdisciplinary research on the interactions among behavioral, psychosocial, environmental, genetic, and biomedical factors relevant to health and illness. Overall, I conclude that IJBM is in good shape. I trust that the growing worldwide interest in behavioral medicine and the continued efforts of the editorial team will boost the scientific impact of research published in IJBM even further.

The Editor's choice

Ng et al. *Strategies for Managing Osteoarthritis*. Int.J. Behav. Med. (<http://pubget.com/pdf/21614451>). Although there are recommendations for the management of osteoarthritis (OA), little is known about how people with OA actually manage this chronic condition. The aims of this study were to identify the nonpharmacological and pharmacological therapies most commonly used for the management of hip or knee OA, in a community-based sample of adults, and to compare these with evidence-based recommendations. The findings suggest that many people with knee or hip OA do not follow the most highly endorsed recommendations for management of OA. Health professionals should be encouraged to recommend evidence-based therapies to their patients.



Joost Dekker
Editor IJBM



Venezuelan Interdisciplinary Society of BM (SIVMEC)

The Venezuelan Interdisciplinary Society of Behavioral Medicine (Sociedad Interdisciplinaria Venezolana de Medicina Conductual, SIVMEC) was created in 1995, sixteen years ago. It was Dr. Ray Rosenman who motivated us to establish contact with the ISBM during his 1990 visit to Venezuela. In Hamburg, 1992, our first president Dr. Nuri Bagés attended the II International Congress of Behavioral Medicine where the first meeting for the organization of the ISBM took place and in which the attendants were invited to create and promote regional societies in their countries.



Dr. Nuri Bagés (past president and first president of SIVMEC) with Dr. S. Weiss (past president of ISBM) during the I. National Congress of BM in Caracas (1999).

SIVMEC was first constituted as the Venezuelan Interdisciplinary Group of Behavioral Medicine, where different professionals in the health sector could participate without affecting the relationships with already existing

medical societies. After eight years, in 2003, it became the Society of Behavioral Medicine, functioning as any other scientific society.



Dr. Brian Oldenburg (past president of ISBM) during the II. National Congress of BM (2002).

We were very proud to be the first Latin American society of behavioral medicine, until the creation of the Mexican society and later the Chilean society. In line with ISBM guidelines, our main interest has been to focus on an interdisciplinary approach to health problems, emphasizing the understanding, knowledge and diffusion of psychosocial factors and their impact on the different health-illness process levels. To promote and spread this concept we have very strongly recommended and supported all effort for the education and training of health professionals through congresses, courses, and workshops with national and international speakers. Our members teach about BM issues in several graduate programs and are members of research teams in prestigious centers in our country.





Part of the Board during the II. National Congress of BM (March 2002).

To date we have organized 4 national congresses and five meetings with excellent acceptance and participation of professionals coming from a diversity of disciplines. In this moment, we are planning our fifth national congress and the II Regional Meeting for next November in Caracas (16-18 November, 2011). To these events Presidents and members of ISBM Governing Council have been invited as Guest Speakers. Likewise, we have invited ever more frequently and have been please to attend to different medical meetings in our country. We have strategic associations with other Venezuelan and Latin-American scientific societies, such as the Health Psychology Society (Sovepssa), the Latin American Association of Health Psychology (Alapsa) and with longstanding medical societies in Venezuela, such as the Venezuelan Cardiology Society, Internal Medicine Society and Bioethics Society. Recently a section of Behavioral Medicine has been created, by invitation, in the Venezuelan Cardiology Society (2010). This we regard as a significant advance in the recognition of BM by medical professionals. On the other hand, we privilege our relations with other BM societies

(Mexico and Spain) as well as with the ISBM. The backing of Dr. Graciela Rodríguez and Dr. María Victoria Gordillo has contributed to strengthen these relationships.

Presently we have a web page (<http://sivmec.grupos.usb.ve>) and a Directory of members and other scientific and health organizations

and societies. This facilitates communication and combined approaches to the community. The increasing spread of the BM approach in our country stands out as our main achievement. Recognition by other scientific societies, invitations to medical meetings as well as the financial support by the pharmaceutical industry, which has contributed to the success of our congresses, are a sample of the acceptance of our points of view. Some of our members have been members of the ISBM Governing Council and of other international BM groups. Likewise we have promoted the



Dr. Graciela Rodríguez (past president of the Mexican Society of BM) with the board at the III. National Congress of BM (2005).

Left: Mrs. Nancy Galeano, Dr. Lya Feldman, Dr. Graciela Rodríguez, MSc. Gisela Blanco. Right: Dr. Eleonora Vivas, Student, MSc Catalina Gisbert, Dr. Marisabel Parada (past president of the National Society of Health Psychology).



understanding of psychosocial factors, the achievements derived from the participation in multidisciplinary teams and the participation in research using the BM approach.

Which are our present challenges? We have had to struggle with several limitations (academic, financial, organizational) and others attributed to socio-political factors that affect third world countries. However, we continue with great enthusiasm insisting in strengthening the scientific and professional alliances which have contributed to our growth. We would like to consolidate the Latin American BM network and obtain the backing of alliances with other national and international societies. We are confident that our membership numbers will increase as well as our participation in interdisciplinary research projects. We will put all our efforts to introduce BM in study programs of the different disciplines related to health. Likewise we hope to augment academic publications and research of our members, encouraging contributions in scientific journals of our specialty in Latin America.



During the registration in IV. National Congress of BM (October 2009). Back from left to right: Dr. Lya Feldman (President of SIVMEC), Dr. Eleonora Vivas (Scientific Committee), Dr. Nuri Bagés (Past President of SIVMEC), MSc. Claudia Pérez (Member of SIVMEC), MSc. Zoraide Lugli (Member of SIVMEC) and MSc. Gisela Blanco (Secretary of SIVMEC).

Information

- Web page: <http://sivmec.grupos.usb.ve>
- E-Mail : sivmec@gmail.com
- Facebook: Sociedad Medicina Conductual Sivmec
- Twitter: @Sivmec

Next Congress

V Congreso Nacional de Medicina Conductual (V National Congress of BM)
II Reunión Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Medicina Conductual (II Latin America and Caribbean Meeting of BM)
 16th -18th November 2011. Hotel Avila. Caracas.
 More information: <http://v-congreso.sivmec.org>



Newsletter from the Scientific Program Committee of the 12th ICBM

September 15, 2011

Dear ISBM Members,

We are less than one year away from our 12th International Congress of Behavioral Medicine which will be held in Budapest, Hungary from August 29th thru September 1st. The Scientific Program Committee has been working diligently at putting together what promises to be a very engaging and exciting scientific program. Consistent with the Congress theme, *"Behavioral Medicine: From Basic Science to Clinical Investigation and Public Health"*, the program will reflect the breadth of our field across multiple areas of investigation. We are fortunate to have a distinguished list of confirmed Keynote and Master lecture speakers, as well as a series of Tutorial Workshops that will be of high appeal to our members and individuals from all over the world interested in the field of Behavioral Medicine.

Our Keynote lectures will be delivered by a distinguished group of internationally recognized scientists involved in cutting-edge research addressing diverse topics in behavioral medicine. Dr. Irina Todorova from Bulgaria will discuss the implications of cancer screening on health disparities and reproductive health. From the United States, Dr. Neil Schneiderman will present his work in the area of cardiovascular behavioral medicine and discuss work that covers basic research to

population science and clinical trials. Our Keynote lectures will conclude with a presentation from Dr. Jean Claude Mbanya from Cameroon where he will present on international perspectives in diabetes prevention, treatment and care. In addition to our Keynote presentations, we also have a very dynamic group of speakers that will be delivering Master lectures throughout the Congress. Dr. John Cacioppo (USA) will present his work in the area of social neuroscience and the impact of social connections on biological mechanisms and health, while Dr. Harold Snieder (Netherlands) will present in the area of genetic epidemiology in common diseases of aging. In the area of public health, Dr. Yan Guo (China) will discuss her work on health equity and nutrition. Dr. Tamas Freund (Hungary) will present his work on neurobiological mechanisms and novel insights into anxiety and epilepsy and Dr. Linda Carlson (Canada) will discuss the effectiveness of mindfulness-based stress reduction interventions in cancer patients.

In addition to our Keynote and Master lectures, the program committee has identified several areas for invited symposia including behavioral medicine and global health, natural disasters and behavioral medicine and RCTs in behavioral medicine. The legacy of Hans Selye and his contributions to behavioral medicine will also be highlighted in an invited symposium that will include some of his past students. As in previous years, two scientific poster sessions will take place during the congress where congress participants will have an opportunity to present and discuss their latest work in the field of behavioral medicine. Furthermore, several Tutorial Workshops have

been confirmed addressing topics in statistical methods, health behavior change, randomized clinical trials and internet-based behavioral medicine interventions.

We are very excited about the outstanding location for our 12th Congress. The Congress venue will be at the Hilton Hotel in the Budapest Castle Hill district. The Hilton Hotel is set in the heart of the Royal Castle District, and a few steps from several UNESCO World Heritage sites. The venue offers magnificent views of the Danube River, the city of Budapest and the romantic, cobbled streets of old Buda. Our welcome reception will take place at the House of the Hungarian Culture Foundation, an impressive palace of new gothic style built in the early 20th century. In addition to welcoming remarks by the ISBM and ICBM leadership, a performance and show of gypsy musicians will offer a unique musical experience for our attendees. We will also offer an optional Danube river cruise banquet dinner which promises to provide an enchanting evening. Welcome drinks and dinner will be served on board. During the meal, a Hungarian jazz band will entertain guests. Our

Congress organizers have also put together a group of optional tours highlighting the most popular tourist venues and activities in the Budapest region.

As you can see, the 12th International Congress of Behavioral Medicine promises to be a stimulating, exciting and engaging meeting that will take place in one of the most beautiful and culturally rich cities in Europe. Please see below for important dates. For regular updates, please visit www.icbm2012.com.

We hope to see you in Budapest!

Sincerely,

Frank Penedo

12th ICBM Scientific Program Committee
Chair

12th ICBM – Important Dates

- 18 September, 2011** On-line abstract submission opens
- 1 November, 2011** Tutorial workshop submission deadline (submitted via email)
- 15 January, 2012** On-line abstract submission closes
- 16 January, 2012** Rapid communication poster submission opens
- 15 March, 2012** Abstract acceptance notification
- 1 April, 2012** Early Career Award application deadline
- 1 May, 2012** Early bird registration, Rapid communication poster submission closes
- 21 May, 2012** Rapid communication poster submission acceptance notification
- 15 August, 2012** Regular registration

Invitation to ICBM 2012

We invite you to attend the 12th International Congress of Behavioral Medicine (ICBM) to be held in Budapest, Hungary, August 29th thru September 1st, 2012.

The 12th ICBM will be attended by experts in behavioral medicine and related disciplines from every region of the world offering an excellent opportunity for networking and building collaborations among scientists from diverse regions of the world as well as discussion between disciplines that contribute to the science and practice of behavioral medicine.

Confirmed Keynote Addresses:

- **Jean Claude Mbanya, Cameroon** — International Perspectives in Diabetes Prevention, Treatment & Care
- **Irina Todorova, Bulgaria** — Cancer Screening Health Disparities & Reproductive Health
- **Neil Schneiderman, USA** — Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine: Basic Research, Population Science & Clinical Trials

Confirmed Master Lectures:

- **John Cacioppo, USA** — Social Neuroscience: The Impact of Social Connections on Biological Mechanisms & Health
- **Yan Guo, China** — Health Equity, Reproductive Health & Nutrition
- **Harold Snieder, Netherlands** — Genetic Epidemiology of Common Diseases of Aging
- **Linda Carlson, Canada** — Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Interventions in Cancer



29 August – 1 September 2012 Budapest Hilton, Hungary

Confirmed Scientific Workshops:

- **Maria Llabre, USA** — Structural Equations Modeling Methods in Behavioral Medicine
- **Ralf Schwarzer, Germany** — Mechanisms of Health Behavior Change
- **Lucy Yardley & Leanne Morrison, U.K.** — Developing Internet-Based Health Behavior Change Interventions
- **Peter G. Kaufmann, USA** — Designing Research in the Field of Behavioral Medicine: Design and Analysis of RCTs
- **Wayne Velicer, USA** — Idiographic Research Methodology

Scientific Program

The theme of the meeting “Behavioral Medicine: From Basic Science to Clinical Investigation and Public Health” will be reflected throughout the meeting through a variety of symposia, paper and poster presentations. Midday meetings and career development and networking opportunities will also be available.

Early Career Awards

The Governing Council of ISBM will present up to ten Early Career Awards, each in the value of USD 500, to encourage a further career in behavioral medicine. The awards will be distributed at a congress ceremony. For award winners from countries with limited resources, ISBM will provide additional funds to assist with the costs of travel, registration and lodging.

Venue: Hilton Budapest Castle Hill

The venue is located in the heart of the Buda Castle district, which is a historical and touristic attraction of Budapest. It offers magnificent views of the river Danube and the city which gives the congress a great atmosphere. The city, which is beautifully situated on both sides of the Danube River, has a history dating back over 2000 years. There are ruins from the times of the Roman Empire as well as from the Middle Ages. There are also variations of 5, 4 and 3 star hotels available near the venue at reasonable rates.

**Social Program**

- Welcoming Reception with cultural program
- Candlelight dinner on board a Danube River cruise
- A variety of excursions for Budapest and surrounding regions will be available

Please visit our website for Scientific Program updates and registration information at WWW.ICBM2012.COM

First Announcement on Early Career Awards for ICBM 2012 in Budapest

The Governing Council of ISBM will present up to ten Early Career Awards, each in the value of USD 500, to encourage a further career in behavioral medicine. The awards will be distributed at a congress ceremony. For award winners from countries with limited resources, ISBM will provide additional funds to cover the costs of travel, registration and lodging.

Recipients will have distinguished themselves scientifically or in their clinical practice career.

Eligibility

Selection of the Early Career Award is based on total career achievement and review of a submitted and accepted abstract. To qualify for this award, the applicant has to meet the eligibility criteria listed below:

- Should be no more than seven (7) years out from their highest degree and/or
- Have held a faculty or professional position for no more than seven (7) years.
- Must submit an abstract of empirical work.
- Must be the first or only author of the accepted abstract.
- Attendance and presentation at the congress is required.

Priority may be given to applications from countries with limited resources, and/or representatives from different geographical regions.

Application

In addition to submitting an abstract to the Congress Secretariat, applicants are asked to send a copy of their abstract, a short curriculum vitae (max 4 pages), and a cover letter with full contact details (name, postal address, phone, fax, email) to Dr Anne H Berman, Chair, Education and Training Committee, ISBM, via email (anne.h.berman@ki.se). The applications will be judged by Dr Berman and members of the Scientific Program Committee.

Applicants from countries with limited resources are requested to clearly indicate if they need funds to cover the costs of travel, registration and lodging. Dr Berman and members of the Scientific Program Committee will evaluate these requests.

Deadline

The deadline for the award applications is 1 April 2012. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by 15 May 2012.

INSPIRE's update

Planning for the INSPIRE events at the next ICBM in Hungary is in progress. To give you a quick preview, one of the new activities that we plan to have is the international "speed-mentoring" session. With the aim to support and mentor student and early career researchers in the field of behavioural medicine, INSPIRE will try out a new approach which will enable students and early career researchers to meet and consult senior researchers mimicking the 'speed-dating' format. Essentially, registered junior researchers will have the opportunity to speak to several mentors during the session and receive mentorship at an international level. They will be expected to bring with them questions which can range from career development, research and other academic-related matters to the session. Details of registration will be disseminated in due course, but meanwhile, we would like to make our first call for mentors.

Experienced researchers, if you plan to attend the next ICBM and you would like to share your experiences with our junior researchers, we invite you to sign up to be our mentors! It is going to be fun and please do not underestimate the value of your contributions! Feel free to email me to register your interest and/or for further information.

Junior researchers, please start planning to attend the next congress. We are going to have a range of social activities in addition to the mentoring session. Please sign up on the INSPIRE forum (www.isbminspire.org) and keep up with what is happening! INSPIRE is a network created for you so please make sure your voice is heard!

Till next time.

Carina Chan, PhD

INSPIRE Chair

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News from the Societies

Event **13th Conference of The German Society for Behavioral Medicine**

Date 29th September – 1st October 2011

Place Luxemburg

Organizer The German Society for Behavioral Medicine (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Verhaltensmedizin und Verhaltensmodifikation, DGVM)

Contact / Info <http://www.dgvm-kongress-2011.de/cms/home>

Event **7th Annual Scientific Meeting of UKSBM**

Date 13th – 14th December 2011

Place University of Stirling, Scotland

Organizer UK Society for Behavioural Medicine

Contact / Info <http://uksbm.org.uk/asm2011>

Event **9th Scientific Annual Conference of ASBHM**

Date 8th -10th February 2012

Place Melbourne, Australia

Organizer Australasian Society for Behavioural Health and Medicine

Contact / Info <http://www.asbhm.org>

Event **70th Annual Scientific Meeting: "Symptoms and Patient-Reported Outcomes"**

Date 14th – 17th March 2012

Place Athens, Greece

Organizer American Psychosomatic Society (APS)

Contact / Info <http://www.psychosomatic.org/AnMeeting/current.cfm>

Event **33rd Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the SBM**

Date 11th – 14th April 2012

Place New Orleans, Louisiana

Organizer Society of Behavioral Medicine (USA)

Contact / Info <http://www.sbm.org/meetings/2012>



*Behavioral
Medicine:
From Basic
Science to Clinical
Investigation
and Public Health*

12th International Congress of Behavioral Medicine

*29 August –
1 September 2012*
Budapest Hilton,
Hungary

Website: www.icbm2012.com

Second Announcement and Call for Abstracts: September, 2011

SEE YOU IN BUDAPEST IN 2012!

We are proud to host this conference that offers a varied scientific program with keynote addresses, master lectures, master panels, workshops, roundtable discussions, oral and poster presentations, and an excellent opportunity to meet scientists and clinicians from all over the world.

The ICBM 2012 conference venue, Hilton Hotel Budapest, Castle district offers an amazing view of the whole city and the river Danube. You will be absorbed by the medieval historic atmosphere when you visit the Royal Castle and wonder around its beautiful surroundings.

The open-air Dominican Courtyard will give place to the Welcome Cocktail and the cultural program. The Gala Dinner during an Evening Cruise on the Danube will also fascinate you by the breathtaking scenery of the illuminated Budapest.

**BUDAPEST IS A CITY WITH MANY FACES
AND PLENTY TO GIVE!**

- *Historic sites from Roman times until the 1900's;*
- *countless museums, churches and concert halls;*
- *a variety of thermal baths;*
- *an ancient labyrinth system in the bowls of the Castle District;*
- *friendly people, and a sparkling cultural and night life,*
- *world famous cuisine and wines.*

Outside Budapest, you can discover the world famous sights of Hungarian countryside: Lake Balaton, the Puszta, the Tokaj wine region or visit the neighboring historic cities of Vienna or Prague.