History of the Society

The Society was created officially in 1991, but found its roots in informal and formal meetings among Belgian microbiologists, clinicians and other health professionals interested and active in infectious diseases and anti-infective therapy. Belgium has always been a place where infectious diseases has been taught and exercised according to very high scientific standards, as reflected in the quality of Belgian participation in international meetings and in the number of national courses, seminars and educational meetings on infectious diseases, organized every year. The society was launched to consolidate at a national level the many individual activities undertaken by the founding members in Belgium.

Objectives of the Society

1. To promote the development of the disciplines of infectious diseases and clinical microbiology. These disciplines should be considered in the broader sense, which includes the study of epidemiology, physiopathology, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.
2. To encourage and stimulate the interest in infectious diseases and microbiology, as an individual or as an institution, by:
   • actively encouraging the official recognition of infectious diseases and microbiology as autonomous specialties in the Belgian and European frameworks
   • promoting the teaching of infectious diseases and clinical microbiology at the graduate and postgraduate level in Belgian universities
   • promoting basic and applied research in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology by promoting all scientific exchanges between members and establishing active collaboration with other Belgian and foreign institutions
   • informing the public, physicians, academic institutions and the authorities of the medical, social and economic importance of epidemiology, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases

Activities (1)

- Scientific meetings: Every year, the Society organizes two symposia, presented in English. We collaborate with other scientific organizations from Belgium and other countries. These are some of the past or future symposia:
  - 40th Symposium (spring 2013) Joint symposium with Orthopaedica Belgica: Bone and Joint Infections, Biofilm and Bugs
  - 41st Symposium (fall 2013) Joint symposium with the Scientific Study Group of Travel Medicine. Preparing your dream trip for next year. Your dream trip turns sour...
  - 42nd Symposium (spring 2014) Joint symposium with the Belgian Society of Nephrology Bridges between Nephrology & Infectious Diseases
  - 43rd Symposium (fall 2014) Joint symposium with the VIZ (Vereniging voor Infectieziekten) and the NVMM (Nederlandse Vereniging voor Medische Microbiologie) A Mirror between North and South
  - 44th Symposium (spring 2015) State of the Art on PK/PD of Glycopeptides (with PK/PD working group)
  - 45th Symposium (fall 2015) Prevention & treatment of respiratory infections: from babies to oldies (with pediatric working group)
  - 46th Symposium (spring 2016) Seminar Diagnosis And Surveillance of Infectious Diseases Joint symposium with the Institute of Public Health 47th Symposium (fall 2016) Joint Congress with the Belgian Society of Internal Medicine, Brussels, 19/5/2016
  - 47th Symposium (fall 2016) Joint symposium with the Belgian Society of Internal Medicine, Brussels, 2-3/12/2016
  - 49th Symposium (16th-17th November 2017) Joint symposium with the VIZ (Vereniging voor Infectieziekten) and the NVMM (Nederlandse Vereniging voor Medische Microbiologie) De Ruwenberg – Den Bosch (NL)

Activities (2)

- Working groups:
  - Working group on PK/PD. President: Isabelle Spriet
  - Pediatric working group. President: David Tuenterlnckx
  - National Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Committee. President: Youri Glupczynski

Antibiotic guide:
Our Society is ready to publish new comprehensive national guidelines for anti-infectious therapy.

Website:  http://www.sbimc.org
http://www.bvikm.org