FFN NEWSLETTER

FFN Global Congress 2012 — Last Chance for Early Registration

by Karsten Dreinhöfer, Congress Chair and David Marsh, President

The 1st FFN Global Congress 2012, to be held from September 6–8, 2012 in Berlin will soon close the registration for early registration.

The FFN Global Congress will be an international congress addressing the full pathway of care for fragility fracture patients. Its themes will include perioperative care, surgical treatment, rehabilitation, secondary prevention, research and policy change.

We look forward to seeing you in Berlin in September 2012!

Participants are requested to register in advance by completing and submitting the registration form online at www.ffn-congress.com

FFN Experts Meeting 2011

by David Marsh, President

100 people from all relevant disciplines and all global regions attended the first FFN Experts Meeting 2011 in Berlin. The presentations were uniformly excellent, the discussion was lively and nobody was left in any doubt that a multidisciplinary network like the FFN has tremendous power to change things for the better!

Read the report about the Experts Meeting 2011 now. Click on the picture below.

FFN Facts & Figures

NBHA officially kicks-off 2Million2Many campaign

Older adults with fracture should get DXA scan

FFN Global Congress 2012

FFN Experts Meeting 2011

Fragility fractures are the most common indicator of severe osteoporosis, frailty, propensity to falls

By Ghassan Maalouf, Vice Chair Scientific Committee

Many organizations are dealing with osteoporosis from all aspects: Epidemiology, prevention, treatment etc.... but only our organization the Fragility Fracture Network (FFN) is working in reverse order.

Fracture -------- > Frailty --------> Osteoporosis

The rate of fragility fracture is set to increase in our region, the Middle East, where we are trying to develop a road map to tackle this serious problem.

We have to note that most fragility fractures are dealt with by the orthopedic surgeon initially. Even in our area, osteoporosis at the start is treated mostly by the same specialty!!! Bearing this fact in mind, fragility fracture secondary prevention fell short of what it’s expected to assure patient safety and good quality for the remaining of life.

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OLDER ADULTS WITH FRACTURE SHOULD GET DXA SCAN

United Press International (UPI) Fifty percent of osteoporosis-related repeat fractures can be prevented, but only 2-in-10 bone breaks get a follow-up osteoporosis test, U.S. bone experts say. The National Bone Health Alliance, a public-private partnership with 42 member organizations, is urging for those age 50 and older to request a DXA scan after suffering an initial fracture.

The public education campaign 2Million2Many -- www.2Million2Many.org -- reflects the 2 million bone breaks that occur in the United States each year caused by osteoporosis.

May 15, 2012

NBHA OFFICIALLY KICKS-OFF 2MILLION2MANY CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON, May 15, 2012 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The National Bone Health Alliance (NBHA), a public-private partnership with 42 member organizations, is urging a simple solution to a big problem: if it’s 50+ fracture, request a DXA scan. This is the call-to-action for the NBHA’s new public and healthcare professional education campaign -- 2Million2Many (www.2Million2Many.org).

To view the multimedia assets associated with this release, please visit: http://www.multivu.com/mnr/56192-national-bone-health-alliance-nbha-prevent-osteoporosis-2million2many

The campaign reflects the two million bone breaks that occur in the U.S. each year that are caused by osteoporosis and urges the public and healthcare professionals alike to take action and request a test for osteoporosis when someone age 50 or older breaks a bone. Despite the fact that 50 percent of osteoporosis-related repeat fractures can be prevented with existing treatments, only two in 10 initial bone breaks get a follow-up test or treatment for osteoporosis.

Designed to bring the under-diagnosed and under-treated condition out of hiding, the 2Million2Many campaign officially launched today during an Osteoporosis Summit, held in Washington, DC, bringing together the nation’s leading experts on bone and women’s health, health economics, policy and patient advocacy to discuss the impact of osteoporosis, the importance of secondary fracture prevention and highlight the need for robust policies to address this health imperative.

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FFN FACTS & FIGURES

- Foundation of FFN: August 18, 2011
- Number of members for 2011: 75
- Number of members for 2012: 274
- Executive Committee: 7 members
- Board: 15 members

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"The sad reality is that the vast majority of patients over age 50 presenting with their first bone break are not tested for osteoporosis, placing them at the highest risk to suffer another bone break which could cause severe debilitation or even death," said Robert Lindsay, M.D., Ph.D, chief of Internal Medicine, Helen Hayes Hospital, professor of clinical medicine, Columbia University and chair, NBHA 2Milli- on2Many Project Team. "If we do not make major strides to intervene and tackle this problem, it will only get worse. The number of annual fractures is expected to swell to around three million and cost the healthcare system$25 billion per year by 2025; hence NBHA’s '20/20' vision will reduce the incidence of bone breaks by 20 percent by the year 2020."

One in two women over age 50 will suffer a bone break caused by osteoporosis in their lifetime, as will up to one in four men. In fact, the number of bone breaks per year caused by osteoporosis exceeds the incidence of heart attack, stroke and breast cancer combined. To illustrate the magnitude of the problem, the NBHA has built "Cast Mountain" to serve as the symbolic centerpiece of the 2Million2Many campaign. The 12-foot tall installation is made up of 5,500 casts, representing the number of bone breaks that occur in just one day due to osteoporosis. As part of the campaign, this jarring display will be touring the country at various events.

NBHA is also tackling the issue directly with its Secondary Fracture Prevention Initiative, through which the organization is fostering a fracture liaison service (FLS) model of care to support osteoporosis screening, treatment and follow-up.

"By studying examples of programs in the U.S. and globally that coordinate the care of patients who break a bone due to osteoporosis, we have real evidence that Fracture Liaison Service programs are successful in reducing hip and other fractures. The problem is that these approaches are not being used nearly enough by most medical practices," said Richard M. Dell, M.D., lead orthopaedic surgeon, Healthy Bones Program, Kaiser Permanente and member of the NBHA Governance Committee and Secondary Fracture Prevention Initiative Project Team. "It is unacceptable that even with all the tools we have at our fingertips, we aren’t properly taking care of fracture patients to prevent one of the most obvious and ominous health issues."

In addition to adopting the campaign's simple call-to-action, NBHA and its partners urge anyone affected by osteoporosis or a bone break to take a stand by signing on to the 2Million2Many virtual pledge posted online at www.2million2many.org, and sharing it with others to do the same. The campaign website also includes patient and physician materials to spread the campaign messages and call-to-action and a public service announcement that drives home the urgency of preventing bone breaks due to osteoporosis. Only by spreading the word that 2 Million is 2 Many can we force osteoporosis out of hiding and keep more bones from breaking unnecessarily.

For more information on the NBHA, visit www.nbha.org.