

## 28th European Cystic Fibrosis Society Conference

CFW participated in the 28th annual ECFS conference in June, 2005. The program took place on beautiful island of Crete, Greece. CFW presented the lay program, which featured lectures and workshops presented by CF experts and CFW partners.

Presentations included:

What is new in the field of CF – Dr. Brigitte Strandvik  
Highlights of CF Care in Denmark - Hanne Wendel Tybkjaer

Highlights of CF Care in Romania – Dr. Ion Popa  
Standards of CF Care in Europe – Dr. Jim Littlewood  
Highlights of CF Care in India – Dr. Sushil Kabra  
CF Care in Central and Eastern Europe – Helen Holubova



A new CFW Board was also elected during the conference.



**From L to R:**

**Ulrica Sterky (Sweden)** Board Member  
**Mitch Messer (Australia)** President & Treasurer  
**Peggy Green (Canada)** Vice President  
**Enrique Silver (Uruguay)** Secretary  
**Katarina Stepankova (Slovak Republic)**



Doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, nutritionists, psychologists, and students specializing the care of CF shared their research with an international audience. The conference also provided great opportunities for networking among health professionals. Daily social functions and evening events gave the opportunity to reflect on presentations and to become more familiar with CF care from other perspectives.

## ECFS Research: Global Education Plan for CF Patients Presented

Karleen De Rijcke enthusiastically presented the global education plan used by the Belgian CF Association at the 28th ECFS conference. Her lecture addressed the need for lifelong, therapeutic education for CF patients and families. Due in part to their small patient population, the association was able to involve the majority of Belgian CF patients, families, doctors, and professionals in the survey they used to create their education program. Facets of the education plan include:

- 1) Education Plan – The plan aims to implement the permanent development of a wide range of educational materials for all ages taking all parties into consideration.
- 2) Follow Up – Doctors and staff review what materials were distributed to patients and families and address any remaining questions.
- 3) CF Care Booklet – The booklet is designed to enhance communication between the patient, their family, and the CF care center, and is brought to each doctor's visit.
- 4) Caregivers can write important notes and give advice, and patients can write questions while at home to later present to their doctor.
- 5) School Kits – Kits are developed for CF children and their peers at various age levels. Kits are brought to school and teachers are requested to implement the materials into their curriculum.

*For more information about the Belgian CF Association, email: [karleen@muco.be](mailto:karleen@muco.be)*