
From the President

John M. Kane, M.D.

Dear JCP Readers,

With the new relationship between the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology (ASCP) and *The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, we wanted to use this month's column to provide you with more specifics about procedures for joining the Society as well as some of the Society's ongoing and upcoming activities.

The ASCP is committed to advancing research, training, and clinical practice in psychopharmacology. We welcome your suggestions as to how the Society can best achieve these goals and serve our members.

The Society is open to M.D. or D.O. practitioners in psychopharmacology or doctoral level investigators of clinical psychopharmacology or pharmacology. Membership dues are \$100 annually, payable to the ASCP. Membership applications can be obtained by contacting the ASCP office at 718-470-4007 or downloading the application form from our Web site at www.ascpp.org.

Update on Psychopharmacology

The ASCP offers an annual update on psychopharmacology. This year's program will be held on November 5 and 6, 2005, at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. This is a world-class meeting, with a faculty consisting of many well-known clinical psychopharmacologists. Topics include the latest pharmacologic approaches to schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, and other major disorders. Dialogue between the faculty and audience is strongly encouraged.

ASCP/AADPRT Joint Curriculum Committee

The Society has developed a curriculum for the teaching of psychopharmacology that is available to training programs throughout the United States and internationally. We recently joined with the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training (AADPRT) to formulate the next edition of the curriculum, including a neuroscience component, which will be made available to every U.S. psychiatry residency program. Dr. Ira Glick of ASCP and Dr. David Goldberg of the AADPRT are co-chairs of the joint curriculum committee, which has the overall responsibility for development of the curriculum and policy about the curriculum. The next edition is due to be published in 2006.

Examination for Certification in Advanced Clinical Psychopharmacology

The ASCP has developed an examination for certification in advanced clinical psychopharmacology that is given annually the Saturday prior to the American Psychiatric Association (APA) meeting. This year's examination is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2005, in Atlanta, Georgia. The cost is \$525 for ASCP members and \$599 for nonmembers. Physicians certified by an American Board of Medical Specialties member board are eligible to take the exam. The application form can be downloaded from our Web site.

Workshop on Clinical Trials in Psychopharmacology

The ASCP hosts a 3-day Workshop on Clinical Trials in Psychopharmacology. This workshop is intended for physicians, Ph.D.s, and other interested researchers in the pharmaceutical industry, clinical research organizations, foundations, governmental agencies, and academic settings involved in psychopharmacology clinical trials and CNS drug development. The program focuses on the general problems and challenges of designing and implementing clinical trials with an emphasis on methodology. Topics include trial design, diagnosis, clinical assessment, patient ascertainment, ethics, and recruitment.

The organization of the course includes didactic sessions, discussion, and interactive workshops. The workshop is held annually in New York City during the month of April. A limited number of travel stipends are available for promising young investigators who are nominated by their chairs, department head, or training director. More information can be obtained on our Web site or by contacting Jennifer Russo at the ASCP office at 718-470-4007 or jrusso@lij.edu.

ASCP to Exhibit at APA

In October, ASCP unveiled a new meeting exhibit at the APA Institute on Psychiatric Services meeting in Atlanta. In May 2005, the APA returns to Atlanta, and ASCP will be there! Featured will be *The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry* as well as our meetings, curriculum, and certification examination.