



Canadian Stroke Network

Réseau canadien contre
les accidents cérébrovasculaires

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Hachinski elected President of the World Federation of Neurology

OTTAWA – Dr. Vladimir Hachinski, a research leader in the Canadian Stroke Network, has been elected to the prestigious international post of President of the World Federation of Neurology (WFN).

“This is huge news for Canada and for our research network,” says Katie Lafferty, Executive Director of the Canadian Stroke Network. “Dr. Hachinski is a leader in the world of stroke and we are delighted that, as President of the World Federation of Neurology, he will ensure that Canada remains at the forefront of research, discovery and care for neurological conditions.”

Dr. Hachinski, a professor at the University of Western Ontario, will take the helm of the WFN as of Jan. 1, 2010. He is known worldwide for his work to establish the first comprehensive stroke unit, co-development of the Canadian Neurological Scale to assess and monitor stroke patients, international trials in stroke prevention, and ground-breaking efforts to understand the links between dementia and stroke.

“Neurological disorders have become the leading cause of serious disability worldwide,” says Dr. Hachinski. “The challenges are at every level – awareness, implementation of better diagnosis, treatment and prevention and resources, which are grossly out of proportion to not only the dimensions of the problem, but to what we can do now effectively.”

Begun in 1957, the WFN represents neurological societies from more than 100 countries. Its mission is to reduce the global burden of neurological disorders – including stroke, epilepsy, dementia, Parkinson’s disease and multiple sclerosis. Dr. Hachinski, the first Canadian to hold the presidency in the organization’s 52-year history, was elected at the recent World Congress of Neurology meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

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