

NEWS extra

5th Winter Days in Laryngology

Date: 14-17 January 2015 **Venue:** Crans Montana, Switzerland. **Report by:** Ricard Simo FRCS (ORL-HNS), Consultant Otorhinolaryngologist, Head and Neck Surgeon, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London, UK.

Winter Days in Laryngology is now a very well established and popular course that has been running for the past five years. The course organisers are Gauthier Desuter and Marc Remacle from Belgium.

The faculty includes well-known international speakers such as Mark Courey, Ramon Franco, Jennifer Anderson, Marcus Hess, Vincent Vander Poorten, Elisabeth Sjögren and Jan Plzak amongst others and also a well known Swiss faculty with known names such as Sandro Stockli.

The course ran over four days, starting on the Wednesday with a welcome address and a Keynote lecture. This year Professor Mark Courey was the keynote speaker with a lecture entitled "Quo vadis Laryngology" which took the audience through the past, present and future of laryngology discussing many exciting developments.

The course followed on Thursday and Friday and on Saturday there was a morning session followed by a workshop on mediatisation thyroplasty and injection thyroplasty. On this occasion Thursday morning session was on post-laryngectomy rehabilitation and laryngeal cancer. Thursday afternoon was dedicated to thyroplasty and vocal cord injections. Friday morning themes were miscellaneous with some emphasis about crico-arytenoid disorders management and Friday afternoon on controversies.

The Saturday workshop hands-on included mediatisation thyroplasty and the different modalities of injection thyroplasties which delegates performed on pig's larynxes.

Between the am and pm sessions delegates and faculty were free to go skiing or just have a leisurely time. Crans Montana is one of the most well-known Swiss ski resorts with fantastic range of skiing runs to cater from the most experienced to the most novel skiers with beautiful alpine views.

The course is run in a very informal and relaxed manner but the quality of the lectures and speakers is outstanding and covers all aspects of laryngology



Group photograph of delegates, faculty and organising staff.



and it is suitable for junior trainees, specialists and speech and language therapists.

The evening social programme was also excellent. There was always a get together cocktail after the afternoon lectures where all participants were able to socialise, network, share experiences and ask faculty members any questions that might not have been asked during the day sessions.

The course dinner was held on Friday and as always had a typical Swiss theme with cheese in form of raclette or fondue.

This is indeed an excellent course suitable for everyone interested in laryngology and should be a must in your winter CPD diary.

Saturday morning workshop in action.