International Geneva Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

International Osteoporosis Foundation | IOF

http://www.iofbonehealth.org/

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

The International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) is the world's largest nongovernmental organization dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and related musculoskeletal diseases. IOF members, including committees of scientific researchers, leading companies, as well as more than 200 patient, medical and research societies from over 95 countries, work together to make bone, muscle and joint health a worldwide health-care priority. IOF functions as a global alliance of patient societies, research organizations, healthcare professionals and international companies working to promote bone, muscle and joint health.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Osteoporosis
- Non-communicable diseases
- Healthy ageing
- Awareness and advocacy actions

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

IOF Research activities include organizing the world's premier bone, muscle and joint health meetings, organizing working groups with leading scientists and researchers, providing grants and awards for innovative science and resources. It also organizes training courses, symposiums and congresses around the world. IOF also produces educational resources to advance understanding of osteoporosis and related musculoskeletal disorders, and promote medical innovation and improved patient care. At an international level IOF works to influence policy makers when they create law, distribute resources, and make other decisions related to bone, muscle and joint health. IOF's goal is to promote prevention, while increasing accessibility to the diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and bone, muscle and joint disorders. It has also been granted Roster Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. IOF is involved in initiatives to raise public awareness like the organization of World Osteoporosis Day, the Capture the Fracture campaign, and outreach projects such as snap! the breaking spine.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

The IOF Board comprises four representatives from each of the five IOF regions. Current president is Cyrus Cooper. The Executive Committee is a subgroup of the Board which functions as the decision-making body for the International Osteoporosis Foundation in the absence of the full Board. It guides the Chief Executive Officer in the day-to-day

management and deals with those questions not handled directly by the President and the senior officers. The International Osteoporosis Foundation's (IOF) headquarters are located in Nyon, Switzerland, with regional offices established in Buenos Aires, Dubai, and Singapore. IOF's global structure is comprised of three committees: The Committee of National Societies representing 240 societies in 99 locations, the Committee of Scientific Advisors comprising 155 members, and the Committee of Corporate Advisors representing 12 companies. Members are independent, not-for-profit osteoporosis societies or organizations, which carry out medical activities, generate public awareness and policy change, and provide a variety of services to people with bone, muscle and joint disorders.

PUBLICATIONS

A whole section with statistics, educational resources, scientific articles and reports can be found at http://www.iofbonehealth.org/data-publications

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