

Medscape Partners With International AIDS Society (IAS) as Official Provider of Online Coverage at IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis and Treatment

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New York, NY (June 30, 2003) – Medscape from WebMD (www.medscape.com), the leading source of online medical information and educational services for physicians, will serve as the official provider of online coverage at the International AIDS Society Conference (IAS) on HIV Pathogenesis and Treatment. This year's meeting, which is considered to be one of the leading global scientific forums for professionals who treat HIV disease, will be held in Paris from July 13-16, 2003.

As part of the agreement with IAS, Medscape will provide its highly regarded 'Conference Coverage' of the meeting, with daily news reporting, expert commentary and interviews on major research presentations as well as a series of post-meeting topical reports by leading HIV specialists. These topical summaries will be certified by Medscape for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit for healthcare professionals.

"This is the international forum that brings together scientists and clinical researchers working on HIV/AIDS from both the developed and developing world, forging alliances to jointly address the most pressing issues in the combat against this global emergency," said Professor Joep Lange, president of the International AIDS Society (IAS) and IAS chair of the conference.

Medscape's editors have been working closely with the organizers of the IAS Conference and members of the Scientific Program Committee to help extend the educational reach of the proceedings of the July meeting.

"HIV medicine differs from most other fields in that new research findings frequently have an immediate impact on how patients are treated," said Mark Wainberg, PhD, past President of IAS and member of the Medscape HIV/AIDS Editorial Board. "When patient care and research are linked this closely, it is essential to get important new data, and expert analysis of those data, disseminated as quickly as possible. Because of its distribution capabilities, popularity and reputation, Medscape is the most effective way to deliver key information from the meeting to the international HIV medical community."

"The Internet allows us to rapidly disseminate the latest cutting-edge research that's presented at scientific meetings to a broad global audience," said Steve Zatz, MD, Executive Vice President, Professional Information Services, WebMD.

“Our partnership with the IAS enables us to provide news coverage of unprecedented scope and depth, as well as deliver expert commentary and analysis of conference events from the meeting's scientific committee and other leading HIV researchers and clinicians.”

Medscape's coverage of the 2nd IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis and Treatment will include: daily news and expert commentary; an executive summary of the conference that will be published within one week of the conference's close; and a series of approximately 15 topical reviews, which will be available to physicians for continuing medical education credit, that will be published within 3 weeks following the meeting. Slide kits and slide-based presentations of selected conference sessions will also be published on Medscape at that time.

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