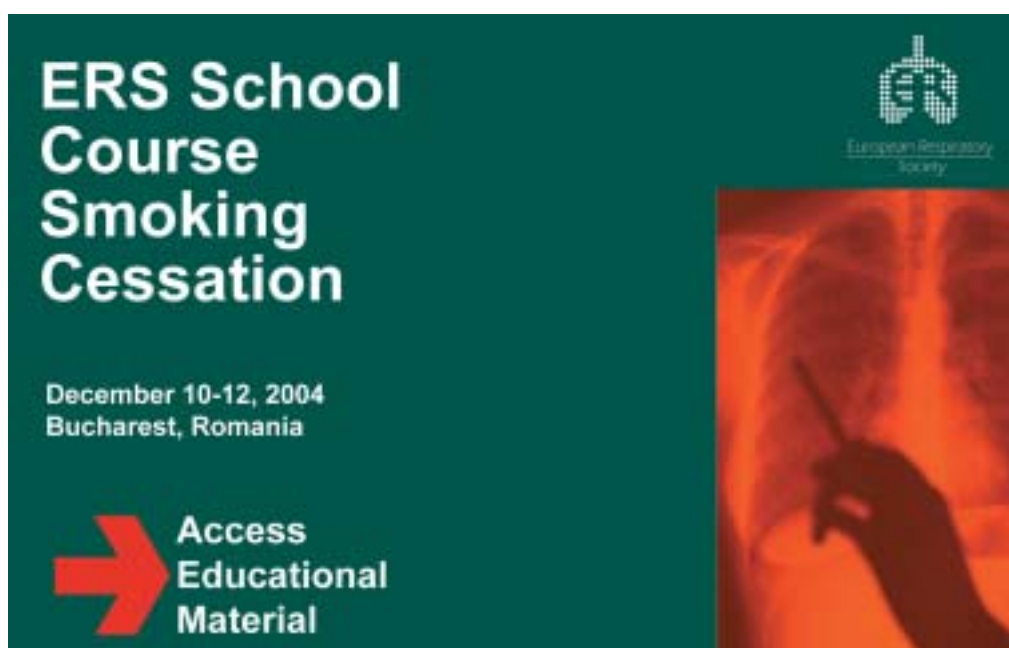




Smoking cessation

On December 10–12, 2004, Bucharest experienced an unusually high concentration of experts in smoking cessation per square metre, as 61 enthusiastic local Romanian physicians, as well those from other countries (30), participated in the European Respiratory Society (ERS) School Course on Smoking cessation.



A first for the ERS School

The educational programme for this first course on Smoking cessation was devised by the ERS Smoking Cessation Committee, under the chair of Yves Martinet (France). The aim of the course was to offer colleagues from Eastern Europe facilitated access to educational resources in the fight against smoking-related diseases. Special registration conditions were offered to participants from Romania and surrounding countries to improve the accessibility of the event. The course material distributed to the participants included a book of >250 pages, which included copies of the slide presentations.

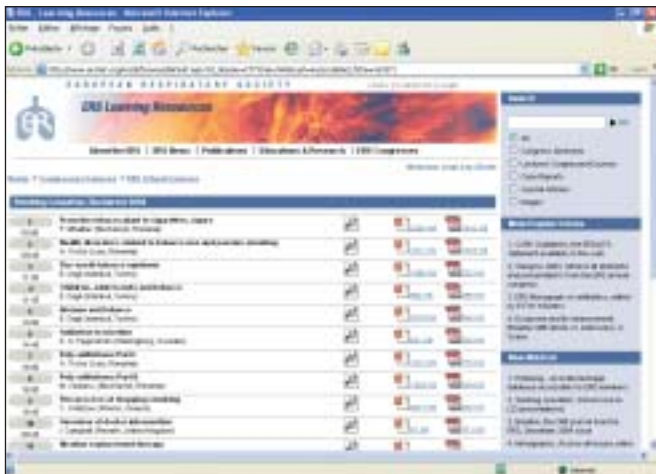
The course provided the ideal opportunity to meet experts in the field including: K. Fagerstrom,

I. Campbell, Y. Martinet, P. Tonnesen, E. Dagli, S. Nardini and B. Nemery, to name just a few. The course covered, in an interactive manner, the epidemiological and historical issues surrounding tobacco, and the specific features of smokers, depending on their sex, age, health disorders, *etc.* One important session explored, in depth, the causes of addiction, the types of medical interventions available and the processes that lead to smoking cessation.

The course attracted major interest and its popularity led to unexpected pressure from those who wanted to participate but could not. The strong nucleus of Romanian physicians who took part in the course will become the focus for future anti-smoking activities. Friendships were formed and future strategies developed. For the smokers, there was a useful exchange of information and



Benoit Nemery, Head of Assembly 6, Occupation and epidemiology.



For each presentation, three icons link to the webcast, the slides and the handout.



In addition to the standard audio recording of the lecture with synchronised slides, the webcast offers new facilities, such as a transcript of the audio and text search tools.

experiences with their Romanian colleagues. Overall, the course was judged to be extremely useful and successful. The School is looking forward to repeating this course in other countries in the future.

Access the course via the web

Educational material from all School courses is available on the ERS website at www.ersnet.org/elearning. The ERS website currently offers access to original PowerPoint presentations and handouts from the courses in PDF format. However, the ERS School has attempted to improve distribution of the excellent material from the Smoking cessation course to make it available to an even larger audience. Therefore, from now on, each course will also be

available as a webcast, and the full content of the course on Smoking cessation is already available. Developed by the ERS, this new webcast platform will offer new facilities. A CD-Rom version of the same educational material is also under preparation to allow even greater distribution. If you are interested in buying bulk quantities of these CDs, please contact us at school@ersnet.org.

From €10 a year...

The content of the ERS Learning resources is accessible to members only. If you are in a low-income country, online-only membership is available for as little as €10 a year. If you are currently an ERS member and wish to have access to the ERS learning and teaching material visit www.ersnet.org/membership.