XXII IFSO World Congress

Rome, Italy

September 6-9, 2017

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LETTERS OF INVITATION AND SUPPORT

FIVE GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE ROME, THE ETERNAL CITY

- History
- Architecture
- Art
- Shopping
- Food

TRAVEL TO ROME

- Connections to Rome

TRAVEL IN ROME

- Public Transport services
  - Metro

THE CONGRESS VENUE

- Hilton Cavalieri

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

VENUES FOR THE SOCIAL EVENTS

THINGS TO DO IN ROME

PRE AND POST CONGRESS TOURS

September 6-9, 2017

Italy

XXII IFSO World Congress Rome
1. LETTERS OF INVITATION AND SUPPORT
Letter of invitation from the Host Committee Chair

As member of the Italian Society for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders and IFSO President Elect, I have the great ambition and desire of organizing in Rome the XXII World Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders in 2017. It is a great honour and pleasure to propose the candidature of the Italian capital with the full support of the President of the Italian Society, Professor Marcello Lucchese, and the entire society which is one of the largest in Europe. Honorary Presidentship of this Congress is devotedly tributed to Professor Nicola Scopinaro, founder and mentor of this discipline in Italy and in the world.

Italy, in fact, has had a definitive place in the modern history of obesity surgery with the development of interest and concepts of laparoscopy applied to bariatric operations. There, in March 1999, I organized, with the co-chairmanship of Nicola Scopinaro, the first International Symposium on Laparoscopic Obesity Surgery named “ISLOS”. More the 400 surgeons from all over the continents attended that meeting presenting their experience to debate the surgical access of obesity surgery which, at that time, seemed to be still controversial. The young generation of “Pioneers” in laparoscopic obesity surgery, were put face to face with traditional legends of classic bariatric surgery: Mason, Maclean, Scopinaro, Fobi, Garrido, Deitel, Cowan.

In Italy, after the extraordinary work of Nicola Scopinaro, which opened the way to modern malabsorptive obesity surgery and his recent tremendous input to the surgery of diabetes in patients with low BMI, Franco Favretti, at the University of Padua in 1994, pioneered and quickly standardized the most common bariatric operation around the world: laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding.

Rome has always been one of the most important tourist destinations of the world, due to the incalculable immensity of its archaeological and artistic treasures. Rome is the 3rd most visited city in Europe and receives an average of 7-10 million tourists a year, which sometimes doubles on Holy years.

The city has an extraordinary number of hotels and accommodation structures ready to host a large amount of people from everywhere. That’s why Rome is one of the most multicultural and hospitable city in the world.

The position of Rome, in the centre of Europe, makes the city a very easily reachable destination, with millions of passengers a year.

In the spare time you will enjoy an extraordinary visit of the Eternal city that will give to our guests and their families an unforgettable experience. The very good weather in September makes that the best period for taking a trip near Rome, to visit Florence, Venice, Naples, Capri or the Costiera Amalfitana.

Above these logistic factors, IFSO Secretariat, which is based in Italy, will be able to give a much more direct support to the organization of the whole congress.

For all these reasons I think that Rome will be a great choice for the XXII IFSO World Congress.

Come and enjoy ROMA!

Prof. Luigi Angrisani
IFSO President Elect 2012-2013
Dear Professor Chowbey,

As official member of IFSO, the Italian Society for the Surgery of Obesity (SICOB), of which I am President, is writing to request IFSO to consider Italy, in particular Rome, as the host city for IFSO 2017. Prof. Luigi Angrisani, who will be the local organizer of the meeting, strongly believes that this unique city is very well suited to host IFSO delegates from around the world.

According to Prof. Angrisani there is a lot of enthusiasm for the Italian bid with Rome and the local tourism authorities as well as the local institutions have already confirmed their logistic support to the event, which will attract people from all over the world to this beautiful city full of history, tradition and culture.

I do believe Rome would be a perfect choice and hope you will consider it for the 2017 congress.

Best regards

Marcello Lucchese
President SICOB
Prestigious Professor,
As Mayor of Rome I'm glad to promote and support the candidature of my City to host the XXII IFSO World Congress, attended for 2017. I’m honored that you’ve thought to Rome for a such import event and I’m sure that every effort will be done to allow the delegates to join a Congress of such high profile and success in our city. I’m sure that the Capital of Italy will be an ideal location for the medical congress and I hope that you will share and embrace my proposal. I will wait for a sign of acknowledgment.

Kind Regards,
Gianni Alemanno
Mayor of Rome
Dear Professor Angriani,

It is an excellent initiative to propose Rome as the host city for the 20th World Congress in 2017. Covidien is very engaged supporting the development of bariatric surgery and will be honored to remain a privileged partner of the IFSO. Covidien will support the 2017 IFSO congress according to the FLUCMED guidelines and based on the high value of scientific program and the limited social activities.

The details of Covidien support in term of participation to the congress (booth, symposium etc...) will be agreed as we come closer to the congress.

The IFSO congress will be supported by both Covidien Europe and Italy and we appreciate your willingness to bring the IFSO congress in the heart of Europe where we have committed teams who work every day with the bariatric surgeons and their clinical teams to improve the quality of life of the patients.

Yours sincerely,

Wilfred Leclerc
Vice President Sales & Marketing
Advanced Surgical Technologies Europe

Dr. Olivier Meilleur
Procedural Director Bariatric Europe
Surgical Solutions
Prof. Luigi Angriani
President Elect IFSO
Director of the Department
General and Emergency Surgery
San Giovanni Bosco hospital

Verona June 13, 2013

Dear Prof. Angriani,

your candidacy for the organisation of the VII World Congress in 2017 in Rome receives all our interest and appreciation.

Your noticeable expertise, your professionalism and recognized internationally prestige are paramount for the high scientific content expected for this event.

Rome also lends itself perfectly to the purpose, as logistically an ideal location for the size and importance of the conference, and fully in line with our guidelines and business ethics criteria, as well as the main national and European associations representing the medical industry (ASSORDIMEDICA, ENREMED).

Please be so kind to let us know if your candidacy has received an official appreciation.

Sincerely

Fabio Andrea
Southern Europe Sales Leader
General Surgical Products Division
W.L. Gore & Associates SRL
Divisione Prodotti Medici
Dear Prof. Angrisani,

Thank you for introducing us to your objective to appraise for Rome to become the host location for the upcoming IFSO World Congress in 2017.

Johnson & Johnson, as a traditional main sponsor and supporter of the IFSO scientific congress events, would support this location and the congress in the expectation of a solid scientific program with limited social activities and in the expectation that the IFSO World Congress 2017 will be aligned with EUCOMED and Assoobiomedica compliance guidelines applying at the Eucomed Congress Vetting System in absence of which we will not be able to proceed with event’s sponsorization.

We would support the IFSO World Congress in Rome 2017 from the perspective of the regional ESC MedIt Cluster as well as from the perspective of the EMEA ESC Organization.

The level of sponsorship and the appropriate services in return (ie. booth area, promotional activities) need to be aligned on in time.

It is always an honor to have the IFSO World Congress in our geographical region and we believe that Rome with its International airport and hotel infrastructure provides good access to western Europe.

Please be so kind as to let us know if your appraisal has been successful.

Zeb Viana        Alessandro Piga
Marketing Director        Business Unit Lead
Gynecology, Bariatric & Metabolic, Hernia Ethicon Surgical Care
EMEA  - Johnson & Johnson Johnson & Johnson Medica Italy
8 May 2013.

Dr Luigi Angrisani  
Direttore - UOC Chirurgia Generale, Laparoscopica e d’Urgenza  
Ospedale “S.Giovanni Bosco” ASL Napoli 1 centro  
Presidente Eletto - Federazione Mondiale per la Chirurgia dell’Obesità (IFSO)

Dear Dr Angrisani,

We would like to thank you for the opportunity for Touchstone to become a supporter of the IFSO World Congress 2017.

Touchstone International Medical Science Co., Ltd. as a technology innovation company in Bariatric and Metabolic Disorder, supports Rome as the location for the IFSO World Congress 2017 with its scientific programs and social activities.

We believe that holding the IFSO World Congress 2017 in Italy 2017 will be beneficial on many fronts. Rome is a city of significant culture and heritage and a historical place of learning. Touchstone has a strong European team based in Italy and would be greatly honored to be involved in ensuring a successful congress.

Please kindly inform us if your appraisal is approved.

With kind regards

Eyal Miller  
Senior Business Development Director  
Europe

Kevin Wang  
Vice President - Global Marketing & Sales

Global address
21A Scientific Plaza  
No. 1355 Jinjihu Ave.  
Suzhou International Science Park,  
Suzhou, China 215021

Touchstone International Medical Science Co., Ltd.
21A Science Plaza, International Science Park, No. 1355 Jinjihu Avenue, Suzhou, China, Post code: 215021
IFS0 members will have the possibility to meet in Vatican city the Holy Father, Pope Francesco I during a private meeting.
2. FIVE GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE ROME, THE ETERNAL CITY
Rome’s history spans more than two and a half thousand years, since its founding in 753 BC, with the union of rural villages. It was the capital city of the Roman Kingdom, the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire, which was the dominant power in Western Europe and the lands bordering the Mediterranean for over seven hundred years from the 1st century BC until the 7th century AD and the city is regarded as one of the birthplaces of western civilization. Since the 1st century AD Rome has been the seat of the Papacy and, after the end of Byzantine domination, in the 8th century it became the capital of the Papal State, which lasted until 1870. In 1871 Rome became the Capital of the Kingdom of Italy, and in 1946 that of the Italian Republic.
ART

The art of Rome ranges from Roman mosaics and Renaissance masterpieces by Michelangelo and Leonardo to baroque statues by Bernini and modern still lifes by Morandi. After the Middle Age, Rome was ruled by popes such as Alexander VI and Leo X, who transformed the city into one of the major centers of the Italian Renaissance, along with Florence. Two towering artists left a great legacy in Rome, including Raphael and Michelangelo. For Pope Julius II, Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel frescoes (1508-12) and the Last Judgment (1535-41). He sculpted his world famous Pietà in 1500 at the age of 25. It stands in St. Peter’s Basilica.

The city also hosts many masterpieces by famous artists as Giotto, Caravaggio, Rubens, Bernini, Bramante, Velazquez, Tiziano, Canova, Modigliani and de Chirico. Monuments and museums such as the Vatican Museum and the Colosseum are among the world’s 50 most visited tourist destinations (the Vatican Museum receiving 4.2 million tourists and the Colosseum receiving 4 million tourists every year).
ARCHITECTURE

Rome's architecture over the centuries has greatly developed, especially from the Classical and Imperial Roman styles to modern Fascist architecture. Rome was for a period one of the world's main epicenters of classical architecture.

Its historic centre is listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Ancient Rome
One of the symbols of Rome is the Colosseum (70–80 AD), the largest amphitheatre ever built in the Roman Empire. Originally capable of seating 60,000 spectators, it was used for gladiatorial combat. A list of important monuments and sites of ancient Rome includes the Roman Forum, the Domus Aurea, the Pantheon, Trajan’s Column, Trajan’s Market, the Catacombs, the Circus Maximus, the Baths of Caracalla, Castel Sant'Angelo, the Mausoleum of Augustus, the Ara Pacis.

Renaissance and Baroque
Rome was a major world centre of the Renaissance. Among others, a masterpiece of Renaissance architecture in Rome is the Piazza del Campidoglio by Michelangelo. During this period, the great aristocratic families of Rome used to build opulent dwellings as Palazzo del Quirinale (now seat of the President of the Italian Republic), Palazzo Venezia, Palazzo Farnese, Palazzo Barberini, Palazzo Chigi (now seat of the Italian Prime Minister), and Villa Farnesina.
Shopping in Rome is fantastic, no matter if you are searching for haute couture, antiques, or a bargain. Some of the biggest names in Italian fashion - Fendi, Valentino, Bulgari - hail from Rome and you will find their flagship stores, as well as boutiques by Prada, Armani, Versace, Ferragamo, Cavalli, Gucci, and many others, along the grid of streets near the Spanish Steps. **Via Condotti** is Rome’s main drag for haute couture and “aspirational” window shopping, though you’ll also find high fashion beckoning from the boutiques on Via Borgognona, Via Frattina, Via Sistina, and Via Bocca de Leone.

Another area popular with Romans is Via Cola di Rienzo in the Prati neighborhood. This long street north of the Vatican has a similar assortment of stores to those on **Via del Corso** but has far fewer tourists crowding the sidewalks.

There are several good outdoor markets, flea markets, and places to buy antiques in Rome. **Porta Portese**, which operates on Sundays from 7am until 1pm, is the most important flea market in Rome and is one of the largest flea markets in Europe. At Porta Portese, you’ll find everything from antique housewares to secondhand clothing and music to original art, jewelry, posters, furniture, etc. Porta Portese is located at the south end of the Trastevere neighborhood.

While you can find many good antiques in Rome’s flea markets, there are several streets and districts that are known for their antiques sellers. Via del Babuino, near the haute couture shops around the Spanish Steps, is particularly renowned for its antique furniture and paintings.
FOOD

Pasta is an important element of Roman cuisine. Famous pasta sauces include amatriciana, carbonara, (a sauce made with beacon, cheese and egg)

Roman cuisine is based on seasonal ingredients coming most from Roman country, and prepared in a simple way. Among these, the most important are vegetables (typical are peas, globe artichokes and fava beans), meat (milk lamb and goat) and cheeses (Pecorino Romano and Ricotta)

Testaccio, Rome’s trade and slaughterhouse area, is the place where Rome’s most original and traditional foods can be still found. The old-fashioned coda alla vaccinara (oxtail cooked in the way of butchers) is still one of the city’s most popular meals and is part of most of Rome’s restaurants’ menus. Lamb is also a very popular part of Roman cuisine, and is often roasted with spices and herbs.

Days of the week are often assigned to food, such as gnocchi on Thursday, baccalà (salted cod) on Fridays, and trippa on Saturdays.
3. TRAVEL TO ROME
Leonardo da Vinci International Airport
Also simply known as Fiumicino Airport, is Italy’s largest airport with 37.5 million passengers served in 2012 and an air traffic of more than 300 thousands planes per year. The airport has four terminals (T1, T2, T3 and T5) for the national, international, and intercontinental flights and four lanes. The airport is named after the Italian polymath Leonardo da Vinci, who first designed a proto helicopter and a flying machine with wings.

Ciampino International Airport
Ciampino Airport was opened in 1916 and is one of the oldest airports still in operation. It was Rome’s main airport until 1960, with traffic amounting to over 2 million passengers per year.

Alitalia Official Carrier
Alitalia Group is pleased to support the XXII World Congress of the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders offering a tariff reduction of 10% on all available booking classes.
4. TRAVEL IN ROME
From Leonardo da Vinci Fiumicino Airport
Leonardo da Vinci is about 35 km (22 mi) by car from Rome’s historic city centre. The airport is served by the six-lane motorway and numerous buses and taxis. Fiumicino Airport railway station is served by the Leonardo Express train operated by Trenitalia, available at the airport terminal. It takes 30 minutes to get to Termini Station in a non-stop trip that is provided twice an hour.

From Ciampino Airport
The airport is situated 12.0 km (7.5 mi) south of central Rome, just outside the Greater Ring Road (Italian: Grande Raccordo Anulare or GRA) the circular motorway around the city. Every 20 minutes there are direct bus connections both to Roma Termini railway Station (about 40 min) and to close local stations (either metro or regular train). From the local stations there are train services to Termini and other destinations.
Public transport services
The Mobility Agency of Rome, the ATAC, offers the city 360 surface routes (including 22 night-time routes) for a total of 8,260 stops, and two underground lines with 48 stations. Public transport carried a total of 1.2 billion passengers a total distance of 170 million kilometers. There are 1,328 traffic lights and 65 measurement stations of traffic flow. Metered parking is available for over 78,080 cars with more than 2,000 pay stations, about a third of which are powered by solar panels.

TICKETS FOR METRO AND BUS
Bit - integrated time ticket - 100 min (€ 1,50)
Big - integrated daily ticket - 24h (€ 6,00)
Bti - integrated tourist ticket - 3 days (€ 16,50)
Cis - integrated weekly ticket 7 days - (€ 24,00)

Leonardo Express Train
To/from Fiumicino to Termini Station (€ 14,00)
Every 30’, it takes 31’

Terravision Buses
To/from Fiumicino Airport to/from Termini Station (€ 4,00)
Every 40’, it takes about 50’
To/from Ciampino Airport to/from Termini Station (€ 4,00)
Every 20’, it takes about 40’
Metro
Rome's subway, also known as Metropolitana, started operating in 1955. Its network length is 64.5 km, it has 83 stations and 3 line. The frequency ranges from 3' to 5', from 5.30 am to 11.30 pm.

Some of the stops are near to points of interest for the visitor:

**Cipro**: Vatican Museum  
**Ottaviano**: St. Peter's Square  
**Flaminio**: Villa Borghese, Piazza del Popolo and Santa Maria dei Miracoli  
**Repubblica**: Terme di Diocleziano  
**Vittorio Emanuele**: Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore  
**S.Giovanni**: Basilica di S.Giovanni e la Scala Santa  
**Cinecittà**: To visit the famous film studios  
**Spagna**: Piazza di Spagna and Trinità dei Monti  
**Barberini**: Via Veneto and Trevi Fountain  
**S. Paolo**: Basilica di San Paolo  
**Piramide**: To visit the pyramid of Caius Cestius  
**Circo Massimo and Colosseo**: Essential both visits
5. CONGRESS VENUE
HILTON CAVALIERI

Overlooking the panorama that has inspired visitors for centuries there is Rome’s most prestigious address—the Rome Cavalieri Hotel.

Though only minutes from the city’s great monuments, the Rome Cavalieri has the tranquility of an oasis. Enclosed in fifteen acres of lush Mediterranean parklands, this luxury Hotel is a calm retreat in the heart of the Eternal City, an elegant refuge where time slows and hearts quicken. The first Hotel in Europe to be part of the exclusive Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts, the Rome Cavalieri is more than just a 5–star property. The Rome Cavalieri Hotel has an international reputation as the leading business and conference Hotel in Italy. With a plethora of major conference and meeting rooms, and numerous smaller meeting and office suites, the Rome Cavalieri Hotel offers business travelers and guests a wide variety of options, all benefiting from the ambiance and services of a luxury five-star Hotel. Three elements are essential the latest and best technology, an experienced, professional team providing full service backup to assist guests in planning every detail of the meeting or conference, and the flexibility to meet any needs.

The Hotel is able to fulfill any brief, whatever the size or nature of the business gathering, from meetings to presentations, from exhibitions to conferences, with the extra advantage of natural daylight and plenty of outdoor space.
Salone dei Cavalieri and Exhibition Area
A plenary room of 1200m² with 1,800 seats. Outside the room an hall for exhibition and catering of 2,600m².

Sala Belle Arti
A room of 460m² with a capacity of 350 seats.

Sala Michelangelo
A poster area of 600m² or 100 seats.

Terrazza degli Aranci
A 280 m² area with a capacity of 100 seats.

Many other multifunctional rooms are available. All meeting rooms are equipped with the most modern and technological facilities.
**De Luxe Room**
At the Rome Cavalieri Hotel, all the rooms offer prestige and Roman luxury. Each is designed with sleeping and living areas, and comes with a range of stylish features like baths in Roman travertine marble and flat screen televisions, as well as a spacious balcony for an al fresco breakfast or evening aperitifs.

**Imperial Room**
The rooms on the two Imperial Floors have been designed for travelers who demand the very best. They offer a range of extras including separate check-in and lift, king size ‘floating featherbeds’, luxury toiletries, and upgraded entertainment facilities. They also benefit from the use of exclusive Imperial Club, whose complimentary facilities range from cocktails to computer use, as well as complimentary access to the Grand Spa.

**Suites and Imperial Club**
Available to guests who have reserved Imperial Rooms or Suites, the Imperial Club is one of the most appealing spaces in the Rome Cavalieri Hotel. Situated on the 7th floor of this luxury Hotel, the extended ‘drawing room’ features numerous sitting areas, comfortably furnished with sofas and arm chairs, where guests can meet, browse among a wide selection of newspapers and magazines, catch up on the latest news or sports on satellite television channels, or simply relax with a good book. Breakfast is served every morning for Imperial Floor guests, as well as complimentary light lunches, afternoon tea, evening snacks and drinks, all laid out as a buffet in the Rome Cavalieri’s inimitable style. Help yourself to a glass of prosecco and pull up a chair on one of the Imperial Club’s four balconies to watch the last rays of the sun on the Dome of St. Peter’s.
2 Red Clays Tennis Courts

Wellness and Pampering

Turkish Bath

Fitness Area

La Pergola Restaurant 3-Michelin Stars

800 m “Life Circuit”

Italian Super-Car Experience

1 indoor / 3 outdoor pools
**Courtesy Shuttle Bus Service**
A complimentary shuttle bus runs between the Rome Cavalieri and Piazza Barberini (5km), a short walk from the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain. There is also an intermediate stop on Via Veneto. Complimentary daily service for Hotel resident guests (up to capacity). The service is hourly from 8.30 am to 9 pm.

**Public Transport from Fiumicino Airport**
- Take direct train ‘Leonardo Express’ from the train terminal (every 30 minutes) to Termini Station.
- Take underground line A (direction Battistini) to Barberini – 2 stops
- On Piazza Barberini – corner with Via Veneto, you can find the Hotel shuttle bus (Rome Cavalieri, Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts sign)

**Public Transport from Ciampino Airport**
- Take ‘Terravision’ bus direct from arrivals to Termini Station.
- Take underground line A (direction Battistini) to Barberini – 2 stops
- On Piazza Barberini – corner with Via Veneto, you can find the Hotel shuttle bus (Rome Cavalieri, Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts sign)

**Taxi**
- To / from Ciampino Airport - approx. € 60.00
- To / from Fiumicino Airport - approx. € 50.00
- To / from Termini Station - approx. € 20.00 - 25.00
6. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION
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<th><strong>5 Stars</strong></th>
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<table>
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Rome today is one of the most important tourist destinations of the world, due to the incalculable immensity of its archaeological and artistic treasures. Rome is the 3rd most visited city in the EU, after London and Paris, and receives an average of **7-10 million tourists a year**, which sometimes doubles on Holy years. There are a total of 51,464 bedrooms and 105,375 beds just in the city.
7. VENUES FOR THE SPECIAL EVENTS
The MAXXI
National Museum of the 21st Century Arts is a national museum dedicated to contemporary creativity, located in the Flaminio neighbourhood of Rome, Italy. It was designed as a multidisciplinary space by Zaha Hadid and committed to experimentation and innovation in the arts and architecture.

The Palazzo Colonna
is a palatial block of buildings in central Rome, Italy, at the base of the Quirinal Hill, and adjacent to the church of Santi Apostoli. It is built in part over ruins of an old Roman Serapeum, and has belonged to the prestigious Colonna family for over twenty generations.

Villa Miani
Built in 1873 Villa Miani is an elegant Neoclassic building surrounded by acres of extremely cured English lawn, that offers an absolutely unique and spectacular view over Rome.
9. PRE AND POST CONGRESS TOURS
Venice
The city and its lagoon are recognized as one of the most romantic places in the world. The city is 530 km from Rome, 3.5 h by train.

Florence
Capital city of the Tuscany region. Florence is one of the most beautiful cities in Italy and center of Italian Renaissance 280 km from Rome, 1.5 h by train.

Naples
Capital of a Kingdom until the unification of Italy. Its historic center, the biggest in Europe, is listed by UNESCO as World Heritage Site. 1 h by train from Rome, 230 km.

Capri and Costiera Amalfitana
easily reachable from Naples by boat, this two magic trips will show you these legendary places
looking forward to meeting you in Rome in 2017