

# INTERNATIONAL STUDY OF ASTHMA AND ALLERGIES IN CHILDHOOD

## Newsletter - December 1993

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### The Registration Document

The Steering Committee believe it will be very helpful for ISAAC to have each collaborating centre formally register interest in the study. A Registration Document has been developed, printed in Auckland, and is available now from Regional Coordinators.

### The International Video

This is being completed by the Wellington Asthma Research Group. It will be available in January 1994.

Contact Professor Richard Beasley,  
Fax: (64) 4-389 5725  
Email: CRANE@kokako.wnmeds.ac.nz  
(C/- Julian Crane)

### How BIG is ISAAC?

**BIG!** This map of the world shows the places where there are scientists interested in ISAAC. In many places Phase One is underway. In others, planning for the study is still developing. In still others there is only an interest.



\* ISAAC Collaborators or Interested Centres

### Airway Responsiveness Satellite Workshop

There have been many scientific and practical issues to consider in the choice of a standard method(s) for testing airway responsiveness as part of ISAAC. Making a decision has proved difficult. Therefore a workshop was organised by Julian Crane, Leader of the Airway Responsiveness Module for ISAAC Phase Two. The workshop took place in Auckland on December 7 1993. Participants included Australians Sandra Anderson & Jenny Peat (Sydney), Colin Robertson (Melbourne); New Zealanders Julian Crane & Robyn Shaw (Wellington), Philip Pattemore (Christchurch), Innes Asher & Ed Mitchell (Auckland); Erika von Mutius (Munich) came all the way from Germany. The workshop considered all the issues and reached a consensus - details to follow in the next newsletter.

### The Newsletter

Thank you for your positive responses to the October newsletter.

If you have any items for inclusion in the next newsletter, please let me have these by 4 February, 1994.

Please let me know if you do NOT want to receive the ISAAC Newsletter.

### Season's Greetings

- Innes Asher

(On behalf of David Strachan & Richard Beasley - ISAAC Executive)

### SHARE WITH A COLLEAGUE!!

In the interests of conservation of both money and trees we ask that the receiver of this newsletter copies and distributes it for other colleagues at the same address.

### Organisation of ISAAC

A detailed document on the organisation of ISAAC is being finalised by the Steering Committee and will be circulated with the next newsletter.

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ISAAC PHASE ONE IN DORTMUND, GERMANY

We are happy to let you know that we are making good progress with the implementation of ISAAC Phase One in Dortmund. During our preparatory field work we will soon approach officials and schools.

After a meeting with the head of the Health Department of Dortmund we realized that in some areas of the city there is a high proportion of Turkish citizens who might not speak fluent German. To address this problem we decided to translate the questionnaire for parents of 6 and 7 year olds into Turkish; the translation is currently under way.

After the pilot study in March 1994 we will perform the first part of the data collection during the main pollen season, from May 1994 until June 1994; the second part will be done after the main pollen season from September 1994 until October 1994. Each time we will apply 1,500 questionnaires plus the Caucasian video to the 13-14 year olds and 1,500 questionnaires to the parents of 6-7 year olds.

The questionnaires will also include optional questions specifically designed to investigate in more detail smoking habits of the 13-14 year olds and the association between atopic diseases and air pollution from car exhaust.

The other German Phase I Centers are Dresden, Hamburg, Leipzig and Munich. They are in a good position to get funding and they are expected to start data collection in 1995.

- *Heinrich Duhme, Stephan Weiland, Ulrich Keil*

### CORRECTION...

#### Western Europe

The Regional Coordinators for Western Europe are Professor Ulrich Keil and Dr Stephan Weiland:

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Westfälische Wilhelms Universität  
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The ISAAC collaborative centre at Pamplona, Navarre has received a grant from the "Departamento de Salud del Gobierno de Navarra" (Dept of Health of the State of Navarre) funding ISAAC Phase One. - *Prof Dr Francisco Guillen Grima*