



WIDER-Barcelona

World Institute for Digestive Endoscopy Research in Barcelona

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Barcelona, July 30th 2009

Distinguished colleague and friend:

On July 20, 2009 the Generalitat de Catalunya and Obra Social "la Caixa" signed with the Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron and its Research Institute an agreement to promote a Endoscopic Surgery Center: The World Institute for Digestive Endoscopy Research (WIDER-Barcelona). This institute, led by me, will focus on teaching, research and dissemination of gastrointestinal endoscopy in all its facets, both medical and surgical, with special attention to development of methodology known as transluminal endoscopic surgery through natural orifices (NOTES).

The financial institution Obra Social "la Caixa" has allocated 10 million euros for this project, which has the support of the Departments of Health and the Economy and Finance of the Generalitat de Catalunya.

At the same time was opened the new Digestive Endoscopy Service of Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron, equipped with the latest technological advances in this field, and that I am also honored to lead.

The Center-WIDER Barcelona started three years ago while awaiting the final signature to that agreement and, during this time, has been developing different activities, among which International NOTES Course WIDER-Barcelona that this year is arriving to its third edition and whose program is enclosed.

We would like to see you amongst us in this edition which has a large number of professionals, national and international, both medical and surgical, dedicated to gastrointestinal endoscopy. If you choose to come, please contact the Technical Secretariat that appears in the Program which will provide you with a free registration.

Soon, we will inform you of different activities that will be developed, among which is the realization of a meeting, the first Friday of each month, under the title "WIDER Barcelona Endoscopic Fridays".

Best Regards,

José-Ramón Armengol Miró

