EUROPEAN ALUMINUM GROUP (Aluminum in Biological Systems)

(Analytical Chemistry, Physiology, Toxicology *in vivo* and *in vitro*, Inorganic Chemistry, Modelling, Spectroscopy)

Aluminum, the most abundant metal ion in the earth's crust, is involved in important pathologies (aluminopathies) related to uremic subjects in dialysis treatment. In addition, aluminum could be a risk factor to subjects who receive parenteral nutrition and pharmacological treatment. Particularly exposed appear to be the infants. Aluminum has been also hypothesized to be involved, most likely as a secondary factor, in Alzheimer's disease.

The data bank BIOSIS shows that, every year, about 1200 scientific publications are produced by the scientific community around the world on different aspects of aluminum studies.

Since 1985, we have constituted in Padova, Italy (University and National Research Council) an interdisciplinary group formed by chemists, biologists, medical doctors, pharmacologists, dealing with various aspects of aluminum in biological systems with the aim to better understand the role of this metal in analytical chemistry, physiology and nutrition, toxicology, pharmacology and pathology.

With the aim to enlarge an exchange of information, we wish to propose the formation of an **European Aluminum Group** to share information, publications and to organize workshops as well as to promote more interest in this metal at conferences on Metal Ions in Biological Systems.

All European and Non-European colleagues interested to join this group can contact

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and send him their name, address, fax and telephone numbers, and e-mail address as well as their field of interest, research specialization and titles of three of their most relevant papers.