

ESPN Newsletter December 2020

COVID-19 pandemic message

We hope you are all safe and well and we hope that 2021 will be a better year with less restrictions, good health for all and possibility for face-to-face meetings that we had not achieved this ongoing year unfortunately.

Please find out our latest news and what we have managed since last time we reached out for you:

ESPN Virtual meeting, 18th September 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ESPN organised a one-day virtual meeting with focus on cystinosis, oxalosis and distal RTA. The meeting was very successful with 8 well-known speakers presenting and 502 people having registered.

IPNA-ESPN Master for Junior Classes 2020, 19-20th September 2020

The IPNA-ESPN educational program keeps running on a 3-year basis. In 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic the courses were delivered virtually with much success. There were 12 lectures and 1 Up-to-Date lecture on COVID-19 with special focus on the kidney. The attendance was great: 150 confirmed attendees and 40 nationalities from all over the world. Among these attendees, 30 students have completed their IPNA-ESPN Master. We congratulate them all for completing the 3-year course successfully.

As a reminder, this IPNA-ESPN educational program is especially dedicated to Paediatric residents, Paediatricians with special interest in Paediatric Nephrology, fellows in Paediatric Nephrology and young Paediatric Nephrologists. The whole program includes three meetings in three consecutive years, and the full attendance will allow the achievement of the IPNA-ESPN Master. After the announcement at the web in 2021 for application and registration, please send your CV (short form, with birthday information) to Prof. Rezan Topaloglu (rezantopaloglu@hacettepe.edu.tr) or Dr. Ana Teixeira (anafteixeira@gmail.com).

ESPN Education Committee

Our Education committee continues to work together for the Harmonization of Paediatric Nephrology Training in Europe and the European Paediatric Nephrology certification. In November 2021, it was the first year of our Board Examination in Paediatric Nephrology. We had 112 participants from 32 countries. It was a very successful overall experience as 83 of our candidates passed their exams. The colleague for scoring the highest among all participants will be announced and receive an award for the excellent performance. The Board examination will continue on a yearly basis.

Fellow of European Society for Paediatric Nephrology (FESPN)

In the context of having senior/qualified colleagues in Paediatric Nephrology and after introducing our Board Examination, we are introducing for the first time a category called Fellow of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology (FESPN). To apply for this Fellowship, applicants must meet four out of six requirements and be ESPN-members for the last 5 years.

The 6 set requirements include having ESPN or National Activity, the Board Certification of Paediatric Nephrology, specific number of CME credits, grant support/funding, publications and teaching experience. For more details, please check this out at our website.

All applications will be evaluated by an internal and external committee and the deadline for applications is the 28th of February 2021. <https://forms.gle/6kvHZYJntdPa2a9aA>

Mentorship Program in ESPN

A mentoring program within our ESPN is going to be announced soon. The program aims at enhancing the scientific community networking, helping in transforming young's paediatric nephrologists strategies for career development, development of their personal, clinical and scientific skills alongside with development of their management and leading skills. All the above based on a trustful connection between mentor and mentee.

The training and seminars organised by ESPN for both our mentors and mentees could serve as a basis for the communication between them. On the long run the networking developed by such a mentoring program can help fostering future collaborations within the ESPN community between former mentees. The criteria for participating will be announced soon in our website and an email will be sent to our members with further details.

ESPN New Council Members

In September 2020, five new members joined our council. Please find here attached their details alongside with their responsibilities in ESPN:

- Dorota Drozd (Poland): EDTA-dialysis and nurses, pharmacists, diet task force, Immune mediated glomerulopathies (liaison with ERKNet WG)
- Aysun Karabay Bayazit (Turkey): Advisory board of the European renal best practice (ERB) by ESPN, CKD-MBD WG link, Mentoring program, Metabolic Nephropathies (liaison with ERKNet WG)
- Evgenia Preka (United Kingdom): Young Paediatric Nephrology Network, Newsletter
- George Reusz (Hungary): Relation with national societies for Paediatric Nephrology, Hereditary glomerulopathies & Tubulopathies (liaison with ERKNet WG)
- Michiel Schreuder (the Netherlands): Newsletter, TMA (liaison with ERKNet WG)

Sad News:

"The ESPN is saddened to announce the death of Professor Richard White, retired paediatric nephrologist from Birmingham, UK and one of the founders of the ESPN". You can read more about his distinguished career on the [obituary page of the ESPN website](#). He was interviewed for the 50th anniversary of the ESPN in 2017 and that interview can be found on [the ESPN history YouTube channel](#).

ESPN/IPNA future congresses & Call for ESPN Congress in 2023

- ESPN 2021 will take place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on the 16-18th September, depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. Should regulations prohibit a full face-to-face meeting, a hybrid meeting will take place at the same date, with a limited number of attendees in Amsterdam, but with full online live coverage and interaction from anywhere in the world. The final decision on the format of the meeting will be taken in May 2021. More information, including the preliminary program and important dates for abstract submission, will be available in January 2021 at ESPN 2021 congress website.
- IPNA will hold a virtual workshop on Evidence-based Clinical Management in Pediatric Nephrology on March 28-31, 2021. The workshop is dedicated to guideline methodology, distribution and implementation. There will be free registration that will open on January 4th. (<https://acpn2020.com>).

- As a reminder, IPNA congress will be held in Calgary, Canada in 2022, however we have decided to hold an ESPN congress also during the year that we do have an IPNA meeting.
- ESPN 2022 will take place in Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- ESPN 2023: We have 2 candidates (Vilnius, Lithuania and St.Petersburg, Russia). The final decision will be made during ESPN 2021.

Honorary members

Our Honorary ESPN members for 2021 that will be awarded in our next annual meeting in Amsterdam are Alberto Edefonti, Ayfer Gur Guven and Lesley Rees.

Research Grants

ESPN awards several research proposals per year. Please remember to send us your application for a research grant. These grants should promote collaboration between different ESPN centres and should be supported by one of the Working groups. A formal call will be announced separately by email and the application window will open after this, in early 2021. <https://www.espn-online.org/application-for-research-grants/>

Call for membership

Our community is getting bigger and bigger! We are proud to announce that we have reached 656 members in 2020!

Please remember to renew your membership. You can do that as a joint membership with IPNA and get our excellent Paediatric Nephrology Journal either as an online or a printed version.

Our society would love to welcome new members from all over the world and empower our dynamic role in the Paediatric Nephrology Society! Do not hesitate to get in contact and submit your interest/apply for membership.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy “COVID-19-free” New Year !



Evgenia Preka

Michiel Schreuder

Rezan Topaloglu