

Newsletter Autumn 2022

Dear ESPN members,

We hope that you are all well and enjoy a peaceful, cheerful, and wonderful autumn!

We hope you enjoyed the recent ESPN congress in Ljubljana and the IPNA congress in Calgary either virtually or face-to-face and we would like to thank our colleagues from ESPN for their active participation at ESPN 2022 and IPNA 2022.

EDUCATION, RESEARCH & TRAINING

- IPNA/ESPN Masterclass for Juniors

The 3rd cycle of the 3rd IPNA/ESPN Junior Master classes took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia in a hybrid form. There were 143 participants from 50 countries. The topics that were covered were: latest updates on Hypertension, Acute Kidney Injury, Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Transplantation, and, additionally, an Interactive kidney transplant-Pathology course.

The next course will be held before our annual congress in Vilnius, September 2023 and will be again in hybrid form. The course is free of charge and ESPN updated membership is mandatory. You can access all previous Junior Master Class lectures on our [website](#).

- Mentorship program in ESPN

ESPN 1st Mentoring program is successfully continuing with 11 mentees from all over Europe. We last met virtually in June during our ESPN Congress in Ljubljana and we are planning to meet again in November 2022. We meet at least 3 times per year with our mentees and we cover different aspects in terms of education and career coaching. The mentees find the program very fruitful, full of useful advice and tools for their future. Three out of eleven mentees have already been successful in obtaining grants and almost half of them are involved in one of our ESPN Working Groups. More to come by this group of young and talented people, so stay tuned!

If you want to find out more about this exciting program, come and meet us. Next call will be in 2023. More details about the program can be found in our [webpage](#)

- ESPN Board Examination in Paediatric Nephrology

Since 2020, we are running this yearly session for our members with a lot of success. This year it is planned on November 19, 2022 (12:00-15:00 CET, via an online platform).

Those who successfully pass this examination will receive 'ESPN Board Certification in Pediatric Nephrology' as a quality label of theoretical knowledge and adequate clinical thinking in pediatric nephrology.

The examination will consist of 100 case-based questions covering all aspects of pediatric nephrology, including pediatric dialysis and transplantation.

For preparing to this examination, we advise you to consult:

- ESPN curriculum in Pediatric Nephrology (<https://www.espn-online.org/education-committee/>)
- ESPN Junior Master Classes past lectures (<https://www.espn-online.org/ipna-espn-junior-class/previous-espn-ipna-master-for-junior-classes-cycle/>)

Applications deadline was October 15th, 2022. For more information and registration details, please visit our [website](#)

- **ESPN research grants**

ESPN is offering research grants on an annual basis in three categories:

- 1) General grant awards (application should be supported by an ESPN WG),
- 2) ESPN WG grant awards, and
- 3) Young Investigator grant awards (for our young members aged up to 35 years old).

Please check our [website](#) and/or do not hesitate to [contact](#) one of our members for further information. Deadline for applications this year will be around Spring 2023, and winners will be announced during our annual congress in Vilnius and posted on our website.

- **ESPN training grants**

ESPN is offering **training grants** for our young members in order to benefit from clinical attachments in large ESPN training centres within Europe. The total amount of each grant can be up to €3,000 for a period of 6 months spent in another centre and we accept applications throughout the whole calendar year and decisions taken at the spring and fall council meeting. For more information before applying and support throughout the application process, please check our [website](#) .

YOUNG PAEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY NETWORK (YPNN):

We are proud to update you that our network is becoming bigger and bigger with a lot of active participation from all around Europe as the participation of young and early career paediatric nephrologists in our society is progressively increasing.

The last ESPN meeting in Ljubljana demonstrated a very active contribution of junior doctors, with many of them presenting their job as pitch posters and oral presentations, and for the first time some of them participated as moderators during the Pitch Posters sessions.

In the same meeting we had a specific YPNN symposium, enriched by the outstanding inspired lectures given by Prof Alessia Fornoni and Prof Franz Schaefer.

In Ljubljana we had the second (hybrid) meeting of the Junior National Representatives (JNRs) group, launched in December 2021 with the aim of disseminating the YPNN initiatives in each country (webinars, training grants, master classes, educational workshops) and increasing the participation of junior colleagues. The meeting offered to the JNRs the opportunity to meet each other, discuss the priorities of young pediatric nephrologists around Europe and the strategies to improve the current and future activities of the ESPN for young people. The next virtual meeting of JNRs will be held in December 2022.

The YPNN was also successfully involved in the social program of the ESPN meeting in Ljubljana. For the first time we organized a Pub Quiz, in which more than 60 young (and less young) colleagues enthusiastically participated: it was a great success, thanks to the participation of so many people, but also to the effort of a sub-group of JNRs, who actively helped in organizing this event. Congratulations to the winners!

For the YPNN it is already time to look at the next ESPN meeting, which will be held in Vilnius in September 2023, as the participation of junior doctors will be even more active. Early career paediatric nephrologist will be fully integrated in the main program, to give some talks and moderate some sessions. Our YPNN members will also participate in several other activities, including ground rounds, talks with

senior nephrologists, speed networking, 3-min thesis, and many others. Once again, YPNN will be deeply involved in the social program of the meeting as well, so stay in touch!

To further increase the participation of early career people to the life of our society and take advantage of their enthusiasm and fresh ideas, great changes will be soon implemented in the ESPN Working Groups' organization: according to the new rules approved by the ESPN council and ESPN working group chairs, each working group board will include a young paediatric nephrologist. These changes will definitely help in making our society more and more oriented towards junior doctors.

The important collaborations between the YPNN and the young members of our sister societies are still ongoing. After the excellent participation to the last conjoint webinars with the young nephrologists of ERA-YNP (on ADPKD, in March 2022) and the young paediatric rheumatologists of the PReS-EMERGE group (on vasculitidis, in April 2022), we are currently organizing the two webinars for the next year. We will keep you informed about the dates and the programs.

ACCREDITATION & HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

- Fellow of European Society for Paediatric Nephrology (FESPN):

The ESPN is determined to strengthen the care for children with kidney disorders, for instance through the recognition of senior/qualified colleagues in Paediatric Nephrology. After introducing our Board Examination, we introduced in 2021 the Fellow of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology (FESPN) accreditation that runs every 3 years. In 2021, 77 colleagues were certified as FESPN. Next call will be in 2024.

- Honorary members:

ESPN offers annually honorary membership for up to two distinguished senior members. In general, such colleagues will have retired from clinical practice and will have made significant contributions to paediatric kidney care at local, national, and international level, including a significant contribution to ESPN.

Honorary membership entitles the holder to lifetime free society membership. In their year of election, the new honorary members will be offered free registration for the annual ESPN congress. The Honorary membership call runs every year and after our last call in 2022, the two Honorary members awarded in Ljubljana Congress were:

- Peter Hoyer, from Germany

and

- Fernando Santos Rodriguez, from Spain

- A call for honorary membership nominations will be made on the ESPN website in January.

IPNA Educational Activity Award

We are proud to announce that Prof Rezan Topaloglu, our former ESPN President and valuable ESPN member has been awarded for the **2022 Educational Activity Award** by the IPNA Honorary Members and Awards Committee, by IPNA Executive Council and ESPN council.



Prof. Topaloglu has been compassionate in providing pediatric nephrology education to young colleagues and she has significantly contributed to our academic field with countless initiatives related to medical education and training. Prof. Topaloglu initiated the IPNA Junior Master Classes in 2013, with the aim of creating a formal educational program collaboration with IPNA regional societies. She made tremendous efforts to establish and promote this three-year program, which covers the complete pediatric nephrology curriculum, and she has served as the first chair of this committee since 2013. In total, she has organized 8 Junior Master Classes. In addition, Prof. Topaloglu facilitated other regional societies in organizing this program, for example, so far the Asian Junior Master Classes were held 4 times starting in New Delhi, and the African societies were held three times starting in Cairo in 2017. The IPNA Junior Master Classes are a great success story: since 2014 around 1,800 juniors have been enabled to undergo a formal pediatric nephrology education.

We are extremely grateful for all her efforts in the education of young pediatric nephrologists all over the world. Prof. Topaloglu represents ESPN and IPNA's mission and goals and has always promoted them on a local and international level.

ESPN CONGRESSES

- **ESPN 2022** – The 54th Annual Scientific meeting of the European Society of Paediatric Nephrology was held in Ljubljana between 22-25 June 2022. We have enclosed an extra sheet with highlights from our 2022 ESPN Congress – Thanks all for your active participation which made this congress such a great success!
- **ESPN 2023** The 55th Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology will be held at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Vilnius, Lithuania from 28 September – 1 October.

The scientific committee for ESPN 2023 is proud to prepare a program of outstanding scientific quality to stimulate crosstalk between different specialties involved in the treatment of children with kidney disorders. Our program is designed with young nephrology fellows, the future of our society, in mind.

While this will be a hybrid meeting, we strongly encourage in-person attendance. This will allow opportunities for collaborations with fellow colleagues, networking with leaders in the field, hands-on workshops and interactive discussions to promote education and research.

So, mark your diaries, book your leave and get ready to participate in ESPN 2023!
We look forward to welcoming you in Vilnius!

For more details about the exciting program next year, please visit the congress [website](#) and for some luscious congress highlights, check out our newsletter updates until then!

- **ESPN 2024** congress will be held in Valencia, Spain on 24-29 September 2024

IPNA CONGRESSES

IPNA congress was a great success with 1400 registrations and around 700 in-person attendances. We are delighted to announce that 40% of attendees were from Europe (both in-person and virtual attendance) and we are very proud that 67 out of 178 (38%) of speakers (excluding oral presentations of abstracts) were from Europe! Congratulations to all our ESPN colleagues contributing to this success!

Looking into the future, the 20th IPNA Congress will take place between 19-23rd of February, 2025 in Cape Town, South Africa. Pencil this in your agenda, prepare your scientific work and your lightweight clothing for a great overall experience. Please visit the congress [website](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter:** Find us on [@espn](#) and [@ypnn-espn](#)
- **ESPN website:** We have been working hard to refurbish our website lately. If you have any suggestions on how to make this a more reader-friendly experience please send your suggestions/comments on evgenia.preka@gmail.com.

ESPN Council Members – An update

We are delighted to announce that Prof. Dieter Haffner was elected as our new ESPN President and Prof. Francesco Emma as our new Assistant President. Our new ESPN President and Assistant President honoured Prof. Rezan Topaloglu during IPNA Congress for her tremendous dedication and impact on our ESPN society for the last 5 years.



CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP

We are proud to announce that we have reached **604** members until now!
Please remember that we offer a joint membership with IPNA in case you are interested in.
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 share this newsletter, get in contact and submit your interest/apply for membership.

Wishing you all a lovely autumn season!

Evgenia Preka Michiel Schreuder Francesco Emma Dieter Haffner



The Fall of the Leaf, 1900, Waite, Edward Wilkins

“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.” Albert Camus