

# The European Society for Paediatric Nephrology

## NEWSLETTER



January 2010

**ESPN Website**  
<http://espn.cardiff.ac.uk>

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Dear All,

First of all, I sincerely wish you a very Happy New Year 2010!

We have had a very active year in 2009, and the main points are the following:

- Our budget has been significantly improved thanks to the ERA-EDTA grant for the ESPN-ERA registry and to the positive balance of the Birmingham meeting.
- ESPN has just been registered as a charity, thanks to Peter Hoyer and Dieter Haffner.

- Only one third of ESPN members pay regularly their membership, so that instead of increasing membership fees, it has been decided that people who do not pay 3 years of membership will be automatically cancelled from the ESPN list.

- Ulla Berg and Otto Mehls have been nominated Honorary members, and 19 new ordinary members have been elected (B Adams, S Akman, A Bakr, R Chafai, J Dötsch, D Drozd, V Edvardsson, J Harambat, AL Lapeyraque, K Lolín, A Moczulska, M Miklaszewska, N Ristoska-Bojkovska, MD Rodrigo-Jiménez, R Salomon, K Vrljicak, A Vyalkova, K Zachwieja, M Zaniew).

- Franz Schaefer will replace Jane Tizard for running the Registry Committee together with Enrico Verrina.

- Educational programmes will now favour joint ventures with IPNA, ERA-EDTA and ISN, and 50 travel grants of 500 € will be given to selected applicants younger than 35 years.

- An Educational Committee for paediatric nephrology in Europe is currently chaired by A Gür Guven.

- The annual meeting in Birmingham included 578 participants and 455 abstracts were received. The next meetings will be the IPNA meeting in New-York (August 29 – September 2, 2010), the ESPN meeting in Dubrovnik (September 14-17, 2011), and Cracow was elected for 2012.

Best regards,

Pierre Cochat  
ESPN Secretary General

Kids Kidney Research are delighted to have been able to support the the ESPN Registry with a donation of Euros 10 , 000 on behalf of The British Association for Paed ia tric Nephrology. The Trustees of the charity sincerely hope that the work of the ESPN Registry will make an important contribution to the understanding of kidney disease in children



ESPN Council Meeting in Birmingham, September 2009

The ESPN is now registered in the Yearbook of International Organizations (edited by UIA, in formal associate relations with UNESCO) – [www.uia.org](http://www.uia.org)

# 43rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology

A Joint Meeting with the Renal Association

2 - 5 September 2009, University of Birmingham, UK



## Young Nephrologists Symposium @ ESPN2009 Birmingham, UK.

A brief report on the background, development and ultimate success of this meeting, which took place on the day prior to the commencement of the main ESPN2009 Congress.

The original concept of a “trainees” satellite meeting was based loosely around UK experience with trainee meetings. Two to three times a year UK trainees organize, for themselves, mandatory two day training meetings; there is a rolling program of topics that cover the core curriculum over 3 years. The program for these meetings is based around expert lectures from local leaders, and in addition trainees present cases and guidelines to each other. This format provides an excellent learning opportunity for trainees, and in addition has aided in the development of important and significant work related and social relationships.

Due to the different models of training throughout Europe, we thought the symposium should appeal to the cohort probably best described as “Young Nephrologists”, although no connection with age was intended.

The aims of our symposium were:

1. Formal education sessions in ‘Transplantation’ and ‘Transition of the Transplanted Adolescent’
2. Forum to compare and contrast clinical practices and training issues
3. Facilitation of the development of pan-European relationships.

We were overwhelmed by the level of interest in the meeting. The number of pre-registrations was 75 with a further 19 registrations on the day; delegates from 29 separate countries (17 European countries) attended

The costs of the meeting were small. Expert lecturers were local with minimal expenses. The main financial outgoings were related to room and audiovisual equipment hire. However, we were extremely fortunate to receive funding from the Astellas Transplant Foundation, sufficient to allow us to offer 5 travel bursaries to participants from Romania, Kosova, Turkey, Poland and Ghana.

In addition Dr Ma, from Hong Kong, won the prize for the best case.

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We negotiated return of the registration fee from the conference organizers, permitting us to organise an evening social event, further facilitating the development of new pan-European friendships.

Participants filled in an evaluation form on leaving; the results were very positive. The lectures scored highly and the subsequent workshop/breakout groups functioned very well to emphasise national similarities and differences:

*"Fascinating to find out what happens around Europe",*

*"Good to see differences".*

These informal work groups also facilitated the development of relationships:

*"Great opportunity to share ideas",*

*"Really enjoyed the discussion groups".*

One hundred percent of responders thought that the meeting should be held again, and comments about the overall concept of the meeting were very positive;

*"I believe the meeting will go from strength to strength",*

*"The day before the conference is a very good day for basic training", "Absolutely fantastic".*

The level of commitment is emphasised by the trainees from Poland who have already expressed to us their desire to develop this concept in Krakow 2012.

Given the great success of this meeting and the immense level of interest in attending this type of symposium we are very hopeful that this format of meeting be repeated at future ESPN Congress'. The future of European paediatric nephrology lies in developing collaborative networks across Europe; this type of meeting will provide the foundations for building collaborative structures.

Funding is always an issue, especially at the current time, and as expenses for this meeting can be kept to a minimum, this is the ideal type of 'trainees' event we would like to propose that the ESPN executive consider sponsoring.

Dr Simon Waller

Consultant Paediatric Nephrologist , Evelina Children's Hospital, St Thomas' Hospital, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1, UK

On behalf of the organizing Committee; Drs J Clothier, Leah Krischock, Mohan Shenoy and Lorna Henderson

Professor Pierre Cochat  
President ESPN  
Service de Pédiatrie,  
Hôpital Femme Mère Enfant and Université Lyon 1,  
59 Boulevard Pinel,  
69677 Bron cedex, France

Dr Mark Taylor  
Consultant Paediatric Nephrologist  
Birmingham Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Steelhouse Lane  
Birmingham  
West Midlands  
B4 6NH

Professor Danica Batinic  
Chief of Nephrology  
University Children's Hospital Zagreb  
10000 Zagreb  
Salata 4  
Croatia

Dr N Webb  
Consultant Paediatric Nephrologist  
Royal Manchester Children's Hospital  
Pendlebury,  
Manchester  
M27 4HA

Prof. Ayfer Gur (via email)  
Akdeniz University, Turkey

Dr L. Watson (via email)  
Trainee, UK

Dr K McKeever (via email)  
Trainee, UK

Dr M Drozynska-Duklas (via email)  
Trainee, Poland

Dr A Moczulska (via email)  
Trainee, poland



Avenue de la Couronne, 20  
B- 1050 Brussels, Belgium

**EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF PAEDIATRICS**

U.E.M.S. Section of Paediatrics  
Formerly: CESP (Confederation of European Specialists in Paediatrics)

Académie Européenne de Pédiatrie  
Section de Pédiatrie de l' U.E.M.S.



contact@EAPaediatrics.eu  
www.EAPaediatrics.eu

Athens September 9, 2009

Dear Prof Cochat,

As chairman of the Tertiary Group of the European Academy of Paediatrics/UEMS Section of Paediatrics (EAP/UEMS-SP) I would like to ask your support in providing help to ultimately strengthen the practice of Paediatric subspecialties in Europe.

A careful analysis has shown that Paediatrics and Paediatric subspecialties are lacking a strong European society to act as a common platform for the coordination, cooperation and representation at the European level. With this in mind, the Paediatric Section of the UEMS, approximately three years ago, presented the idea of becoming such a platform. Today, after three years, the Paediatric Section of UEMS has finalized its change in name from the previous "CESP" (European Confederation of Specialists in Paediatrics) to the current "European Academy of Paediatrics" (EAP), and with this change in name it has modified its statutes which now allow for individual membership.

After having successfully changed our statutes we now are in the developmental phase of accumulating a sufficiently sized membership. Subspecialty societies may play an important supportive role in this regard by encouraging their members to also become members of the EAP. Membership benefits that are relevant for such individual members include an online subscription to the "Archives of Diseases in Childhood" (the leading European paediatric journal, and now the official journal of the EAP) and a reduced registration fee at all congresses and educational meetings that the EAP organizes or is actively involved in. However, maybe even more important than these substantial membership benefits is the possibility to actively participate in the programs, committees and task forces of the EAP and, thereby, make an active contribution towards the future of Paediatrics in Europe.

The annual membership fee for an individual member is 80 Euros per year. However, if ESPN actively tries to recruit its members for the EAP (by linking its website with our website, etc.), we are motivated to return this favour by offering your members a reduced annual membership fee while offering them the full spectrum of the above membership benefits.

Should you want to learn more details about the activities of the EAP, please visit our website ([www.EAPaediatrics.eu](http://www.EAPaediatrics.eu)).

We strongly believe that this is an unprecedented opportunity to strengthen paediatrics and the tertiary paediatric care on a European level and we therefore thank you in advance for your dedicated support. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or suggestions.

Best regards  
Constantinos J. Stefanidis

Chairman of the Tertiary Care Group of the European Academy of Paediatrics-UEMS/PS  
Head of Pediatric Nephrology  
"P. & A. Kyriakou" Children's Hospital  
Thivon and Levadias Str, Goudi  
115 27 Athens, Greece  
<http://users.hol.gr/~stefanid>