



Spring is just over and all ESPN Council members wish you a wonderful summertime, including our next meeting in **Dubrovnik**, September 14-17
<http://www.espn2011.com/>

JUNE 2010

ESPN Website
espn.cardiff.ac.uk

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Website <i>Graham Smith</i> United Kingdom

10 travels grants for juniors! ➔ www.espn2011.com/travel-grants.php

We received 43 applications, and the selected ones are the following:
Bilal Aoun, Lebanon · Cintia Arambasic, Brasil · Martin Cuk, Croatia · Ayah Elmaghrabi, Sudan · Nora Fanni Banki, Hungary · Reinaldo Espindola, Colombia · Eva Kis, Hungary · Alexandra Mazo, Russia · Ivan Sakharau, Belarus · Betül Sozeri, Turkey

Congratulations!

To be voted at the AGM, Dubrovnik:

- ➔ Venue for 2014 annual ESPN meeting
- ➔ Replacement of 8 council members
- ➔ ESPN secretary general
- ➔ Replacement of 2 IPNA council members

Applications can be sent to pierre until July 15th 2011: cochat@chu-lyon.fr

Financial Report (D Haffner) ➔ March 2011

There is a total of 40,363 59€ in the ESPN account. There is another 46,000€ in the Swiss account, which will be transferred to the ESPN in 2011.

Half of this sum will be devoted to the ESPN-ERA/EDTA Registry; in addition, Kids Kidney Research (UK) provided 10,000€ and the Russian Paediatric Nephrology Society provided 700€ for the Registry. ESPN council acknowledged both societies for their support (PC will write a letter with acknowledgements). The ESPN sincerely acknowledges these two donations. 10 travel grants and 10 best abstract awards will be provided for the annual meeting in Dubrovnik. In 2011 Tax-counselling will have to be performed for approving ESPN as a charitable organization (L Pape and F Schaefer will independently monitor the work of the treasure). The council thanks Dieter Haffner for his extensive efforts and congratulates him on his new position in Hannover [Haffner.Dieter@mh-hannover.de]

Obituary of Rosanna Gusmano, MD

Rosanna Gusmano graduated at the Faculty of Medicine in Genoa, Italy in 1953 receiving Paediatrics board in 1955, obtaining teaching in the same discipline in 1970 and achieving Nephrology board in 1974. Rosanna pursued her entire career within the Giannina Gaslini Children's Hospital in Genoa where she initially entered as assistant (1960-68) progressing to associate (1968-77) and finally heading the newly founded Nephrology Department (1977-1998). Founding member and past president of the Italian Paediatric Nephrology Society, she pioneered paediatric dialysis, introducing this practice in Italy in 1969, as well as paediatric renal transplantation, setting up paediatric waiting list and living donor transplantation in Genoa. Rosanna also had a lifetime commitment to patient care outside her department; she founded the "Fondo Malattie Renali del Bambino" in 1976 to help with the hospitalisation and care of children from low-income families and the "RenalChild Foundation" in 2004 to support scientific research in nephrology. Both foundations are still active today. Rosanna left us on February 12th this year. She leaves a heritage of 450 scientific publications and several chapters on nephrology books. The real treasure of Rosanna was her passion, commitment and engagement for patients both at the bedside and in the laboratory. Thanks Rosanna for the emotions you infused. Enrico Verrina Nephrology and Dialysis Department, G.Gaslini Institute, and RenalChild Foundation Genoa (Italy)

Dear All,

We would like to inform you about the activities of the ESPN/ERA- EDTA registry during the ERA- EDTA and IPTA conferences. All these would not have been possible without your great contribution to the registry and we would like to thank you for this.

Activities during the ERA-EDTA conference (Prague)

- ➔ **Thursday June 23, 10:00-12:00 Room 220**
ERA- EDTA registry meeting for National and Regional registries. Presentation by Marjolein Bonthuis-Body mass index in children on renal replacement therapy. (approximately 11 o'clock) Please note- this is a meeting for registries contributing to the ERA- EDTA registry. However, if you are providing data to the ESPN/ERA- EDTA registry you are very welcome to attend as well.
- ➔ **Friday June 24, 14:45- 16:15 Chamber Hall**
Paediatric nephrology session. *Presentations by:*
· Karlijn van Stralen- Anemia in dialysis patients (15.00)
· Karlijn van Stralen on behalf of Jerome Harambat
· Outcomes in Primary Hyperoxaluria (15.15)
· Marjolein Bonthuis- The use of growth reference charts in Europe (15.45)
- ➔ **Saturday June 25, 08:00 - 09:30, Forum Hall**
ERA-EDTA registry symposium. *Presentation by:*
· Elena Levchenko- Long-term outcomes in cystinosis (9.15)

Saturday June 25

- Poster presentation on transplantations policies in the pediatric nephrology section

Activities during the IPTA conference (Montreal)

- ➔ **Tuesday, June 28, 8:30 am - 10:00 am**
Presentation by Leah Krischock- Anemia in renal transplantation in European children (8.30)

We look forward to seeing you in Dubrovnik where there will also be a lot of data from our Registry!

The ESPN/ERA- EDTA registry team

Plan with Flap Tour

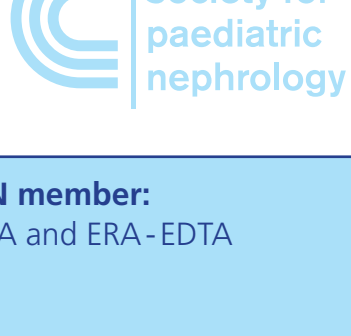
Flap Tour has been selected as the official ESPN PCO (Professional Congress Organizer) for the coming 3 years. Therefore, representatives of Flap Tour were invited to the council meeting in Amsterdam (March 2011) in order to get acquainted with the council and to present their work on the organization of the ESPN congress in Krakow.

Contact persons for the ESPN are:

Mr. Harun Tulunay (HT) - project manager of ESPN congresses: harun.tunulay@flaptour.com.tr
Ms. Yonka Goktas Caylak (YG) - responsible for ESPN association management: yonca.caykak@flaptour.com.tr
There is also a common email address: espnco@flaptour.com

Tasks for Flap Tour in 2011:

- Preparation of the ESPN meeting 2013
- Search for sponsors at EU level
- Preparation of council meetings and general assembly, taking minutes, recording the meetings
- Searching for the best location of the ESN council meetings
- Preparation/design of diploma for ESPN best abstract awards, for ESPN golden kidney award, and for ESPN honorary members award (for Dubrovnik congress)
- Membership management will be taken over by Flap Tour from Dieter Haffner starting from 2011
- Preparation of the ESPN Newsletter
- Searching for funding via EU (education, updating of paediatric nephrology centres...)
- Accrediting ESPN website, developing protected domain for members.



Please invite your colleagues to become an ESPN member:

- ➔ A stimulating scientific society connected with IPNA and ERA- EDTA
- ➔ Access to ESPN e-information
- ➔ Reduced fee for Annual Meeting registration
- ➔ Experiences for teachers and trainees
- ➔ Access to specific grants
- ➔ Participation at ESPN-ERA/EDTA registry activity

This needs:

- ➔ A curriculum vitae in English
- ➔ A motivation letter including a brief summary of your involvement in paediatric nephrology
- ➔ A letter/email from 2 paying ESPN members
- ➔ Annual fees: 50€

Training grants

ESPN will provide training grants for young paediatric nephrologists or fellows in paediatric nephrology from developing countries to improve their theoretical and practical skills.

Selection criteria were discussed and the following criteria were approved by the council:

- age below 40 years, working in developing country, intention to stay in the field of paediatric nephrology, clear training aim.

Grant conditions: max 1000€ per month, minimum 1 month stay, maximum grant 3000€

Applications should be sent to pierre.cochat@chu-lyon.fr and will be approved by the council.

Severe Outbreak of Haemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) in Germany 2011

Lars Pape¹, Jun Oh², Dieter Haffner¹, Bernd Hoppe³, Markus Kemper²
¹Department of Pediatric Kidney, Liver and Metabolic Diseases, Hannover Medical School, Germany
²Department of Pediatric Nephrology, University Medical Center Hamburg/Eppendorf, Germany
³Division of Pediatric Nephrology, Department of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, University Hospital Cologne, Cologne, Germany

Since the beginning of May 2011 an unusually high number of cases of haemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS) and enterohaemorrhagic *E. coli* (EHEC) infections have been observed in Germany, with most cases in the northern part of the country. Investigations by the German authorities indicate that the vehicle of the bacterium responsible for the outbreak, verocytotoxin-producing *E. coli* (EAggEC VTEC) O104:H4 is bean and seed sprout.

This letter presents the preliminary results of the investigation as of 23 June 2011. The number of patients in Germany presenting with HUS and bloody diarrhoea is 823, and 2865 of EHEC. In total 42 patients have already died. A total of 1804 (63. 9%) of the cases were communicated from three northern federal states (Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein, and Lower Saxony). Overall in Europe, 864 cases of HUS and 2938 cases of EHEC have been reported so far. Most of them have travelled to the northern part of Germany. So far, 351 children were documented to have diarrhoea due to EHEC and in total 89 children developed HUS. The highest cumulative incidence of HUS in children has been recorded in two northern cities Hamburg (n = 33) and Hannover (n = 18). In these cities 37/51 (72.5%) children received dialysis, 28 were girls and 23 boys. Mean age was 10 years (1-16 years). Neurological impairment was observed in 15/51 patients (29.4%), and one pediatric patient died.

Since week 23/2011, the number of reported cases of haemolytic uremic syndrome/enterohaemorrhagic *E. coli* has declined significantly in adults and children. But still the current events represent one of the largest described outbreaks of HUS/EHEC worldwide and the largest in Germany, with a very atypical age and sex distribution of the cases.

Don't forget the ESPN AGM in Dubrovnik!
Scheduled Tuesday September 15th
From 17:40 to 19:00 - Ragusa Hall
Important issues will have to be voted on!

Paediatric Nephrology Education in Europe

The Educational Committee was initiated 2 years ago, including Ayfer Gür (chair), Sverker Hansson, Elena Levchenko, Tomas Seeman, and Tim Ulinski. This group has revisited the recommendations for training in pediatric nephrology proposed by Michael Winterborn and approved by the General Assembly in 1993, including an addendum in 1997 (document attached to the Newsletter). Indeed education and training has dramatically changed and improved all over the world, thanks to the Internet, growing individual training, teaching courses, international meetings, improvement of sister centers, etc. The Educational Committee has sent a questionnaire about the current status of pediatric nephrology in Europe, and you will find the results below. The committee has also provided a proposal for statute that will be voted on at the general assembly in Dubrovnik. *Pierre Cochat & Ayfer Gür Guven*

Present Status of Pediatric Nephrology Training in Europe

The aim of the ESPN is to ensure and encourage high quality training in the field of Pediatric Nephrology, to uphold the maintenance of standards of patient care for children with renal diseases throughout all European countries.

The ESPN Educational Committee, which was established in March 2009, developed a questionnaire to evaluate the current situation in pediatric nephrology training in European countries in the year 2010. As a result of this approach, firstly the database of the presidents of Pediatric Nephrology Societies/Associations or of Working Groups or key persons in the country has been updated.

Alongside this, the recognition process for pediatric nephrology as a subspecialty was evaluated. First, Pediatric Nephrology was recognized by the UEMS in 1998. Subsequently, Pediatric Nephrology and the training program were also recognized by the EBP and CESP in 1999. According to the results of the recent questionnaire, Pediatric Nephrology has been fully recognized by 16 countries, not recognized by another 16 and was recognized only by medical societies, not by governmental institutes, in 4 countries. However, there were some variations in the criteria used to recognize a "Pediatric Nephrologist" in several countries. The ESPN Educational Committee suggests that all efforts should be made for the recognition process with the collaboration of Key Authorities (President of ESPN, President of EAP-TCG, Presidents of National Societies and Key persons, and with ESPN Educational Committee Members, ESPN Council Members).

Additionally, the current status of Pediatric Nephrology training was evaluated on a country basis. According to the data of the current questionnaire, 26 countries require specialization in Pediatrics before undertaking Pediatric Nephrology training, while 14 did not supply any information. The duration of training in General Pediatrics was 3 years or more in 22 countries; no information was available from 15 countries. The duration of Pediatric Nephrology training was 1 year in 5 countries, 2 years in 5, 2.5 years in one and 3 years in 11 countries; no information was obtained from 8 countries. A similar quality of training will be achieved throughout Europe with the approval of the equivalent training programs by each of the European countries. This questionnaire showed that only 18 countries had a commonly-accepted training program in their pediatric nephrology training, whereas 11 countries did not, and no information was available from other countries. The countries that follow previous ESPN training guidelines appeared to show similar figures.

These results show that there is still an unacceptable diversity among countries. The ESPN and the Educational Committee are eager to make every effort towards better collaboration to achieve standards for Pediatric Nephrology training acceptable to all European countries. The greatest challenge is establishing the recognition of "Pediatric Nephrology" as a subspecialty of Pediatrics. The Educational Committee has updated and revised the recommendations for minimal postgraduate training in Pediatric Nephrology and for an adequate infrastructure in training centers to encourage European countries to adopt training programs of comparable quality.

The ESPN General Assembly accepted the task to establish an Educational Sub-Committee on August 30, 2010 in New York during the annual meeting. Below is the regulation of this committee's work:

SETTLEMENT / STATUTE

Purpose

The Educational Committee (EC) works on all educational matters of which the ESPN Council determines for consideration.

Aims of the Educational Committee

The EC will develop proposals to present to ESPN Council for the:
Definition of minimal requirements for pediatric nephrology specialization in European countries
Harmonization of Pediatric Nephrology training
Organizing collaboration among national pediatric nephrology societies in terms of all educational aspects in pediatric nephrology

Cooperation with the European Academy of Pediatrics / Tertiary Care Group of UEMS Section of Pediatrics / representative of ESPN in pediatric nephrology in Tertiary Care Group
Recognition of Pediatric Nephrology as a separate section of pediatrics, describing the specificities of pediatric nephrology compared to adult nephrology in terms of patient care, pathophysiology, endocrinological, nutritional and psycho-social environment

Accreditation of training centers in collaboration with the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) in terms of theoretical and practical training
Planning joined educational meetings to support and assist developing countries to achieve a better pediatric nephrology training

EC Constitution

The EC is composed of 3-5 members: the Chair and 2-4 members; members should be from different countries. Members are elected by the ESPN Council among council members to serve for a maximum of three years and approved by the General Assembly. On completion of his/her term of office, they will be replaced by new council members.

The new Chair is elected for a three-year period starting at an agreed date and is eligible for re-election for a further 3 years to ensure the continuity of EC activities. The chair of the EC must be a council member or a former council member. A new group leader shall be determined one year before the start of his/her leadership and should have worked in the EC for at least one year before his/her election. The Chair attends Council meetings and the General Assembly and presents the report of EC activities.

Meeting

The EC meets at least once a year at the time of the ESPN Council meeting with a formal invitation to the Council from the EC Chair via e-mail at least one month before the meeting. The invitation includes the draft agenda.

Decisions

The EC is legitimately constituted if the Chair and at least two members are present. Resolutions are taken by the simple majority of members present. The EC decides on acceptance by a verbal vote of majority.

All EC members must be informed of the decisions by provision of the minutes. The Chair informs the ESPN Council about the activities and decisions of the EC by sending a written summary to the Secretary General, at least once a year, no later than two weeks before the date of the Council meeting.

Vacancy

In case of a vacancy of the Chair, he/she is replaced by another member of the EC until the election of a new Chair at the next meeting of the ESPN Council.

Financing

Travel and accommodation expenses of EC Chair for the EC meetings will be reimbursed by the ESPN according to ESPN regulation. The EC will provide the ESPN Council with an annual budget plan.