

Summary of discussions with presidents and representatives of national societies of paediatric nephrology during the virtual IPNA congress

Time: 17 September, 2020.

Participants: Adrian Lungu, Mar Espino, Marcin Tigaczyk, Thomas Seeman, Anna Bjerre, Gyorgy Reusz, Peter Hoyer, Per Brandstrom, Augustina Jankanskiene, Ashot Arkissian, Justine Bachetta, Johan vande Walle, Lotan Danny, Janne Kataja, Irakli Chevelli and Rezan Topaloglu, Elena Levchenko, and Kjell Tullus from the ESPN board and educational working group. (Apologies for misspellings)

Presentations:

Everybody introduced himself or herself.

European Board exam

Elena Levchenko did on behalf of the working group for education in ESPN present the ESPN board examination in paediatric nephrology that they have developed. This will be approved by the European Union of Medical Specialists.

The working group has done a very large work and been able to launch the exam already for this autumn.

The first ESPN board exam will take place 21 November 2020. The cost will be only 10 Euros for ESPN members

The meeting expressed strong support for the work that had been done. We all acknowledged that it had been a lot of work to come this far in such a short time. Many smaller countries in Europe expressed that this will become an important part of their training in paediatric nephrology. Some larger countries do already have similar exams in place but did express that this can become a very good complement to their training.

Future meetings

Rezan Topaloglu started by given an overview over all work that ESPN is undertaking. We after that discussed the future of our yearly meetings. Two important opinions were voiced. We all find it very useful to meet face to face during meetings and that the personal knowledge is important. We did also acknowledge that the last year's explosion of video based communication is transforming education and conferences.

It was concluded that conferences in the future to some extent will continue as before but that an addition of a virtual element will become inevitable.

Summary

The meeting had a very good discussion on two very important topics for the future of European paediatric nephrology and these meeting will continue at least on a yearly basis.

Kjell Tullus