

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

Time: 17 October, 2019.

Participants: Adrian Lungu, Romania; Julia Vara, Spain; Marcin Tigaczyk, Poland; Tomas Seeman, Czech Republic; Ina Kazyra and Natallia Tur, Republic of Belarus; Harika Alpey, Turkey; Rezan Topaloglu, Elena Levtchenko, Olivia Boyer, Jun Oh, Ana Teixeira and Kjell Tullus from the ESPN board.

Presentations:

Everybody introduced himself or herself.

Training in examination in paediatric nephrology in Europe

A working group within the board of ESPN is developing a European board examination in paediatric nephrology. This will be approved by the European Union of Medical Specialists.

The working group has done a survey among the members of ESPN to learn more about the opinions on such an exam. The results from that survey were mainly positive. Many would contemplate sitting the exam. Some respondents informed that the cost for the exam will be important for their possibilities to do it.

There are presently major differences between European countries. Some larger countries do already have national exams while many, mainly smaller, countries do not have any formal examination in paediatric nephrology.

The proposal for the exam was debated during the meeting. Different opinions were raised. A majority supported the working group to continue to develop the board examination

The importance of a very low fee to sit the examination with stressed. This is essential to make it open for doctors from all over Europe. A high cost would be prohibitive.

ESPN meeting during IPNA years

Dr Levtchenko presented a proposal from the board that the ESPN should have a meeting every year. At present ESPN only organizes meetings during two out of three years and not during the year of the IPNA congress.

The benefits with the proposal are several. One is that the meeting is a great source of income for ESPN and a higher income will enable ESPN to be even more active in its work. IPNA meetings are often far away and thus expensive to go to. A more local meeting should enable, in particular young doctors, to attend one meeting in paediatric nephrology every year.

The problem with already very many meeting was mentioned as a downside to the proposal.

The participants from the different European countries were mainly positive to the proposal. They recommended that this meeting should strongly aim to be a low cost budget meeting. This to make it open for as many participants as possible.

Summary

The meeting provided a good opportunity to meet between different countries and gave the board a useful chance to learn about differences between countries and how we best can work for the common good. We plan to organize a further meeting during ESPN in Ljubljana.

Elena Levchenko

Rezan Topaloglu

Kjell Tullus