



ESPN Spring Newsletter 2022

Dear ESPN members,

We hope that you are all well and healthy and we really wish that peace and happiness will come in the European continent soon again.

We are looking forward to meeting you either face-to-face or virtually during our oncoming annual congress in Ljubljana in June 2022 (<https://espn2022.org/>)

Please find here below our most recent news and on a separate document attached with this newsletter we are giving you a flavor of some highlights about our oncoming congress.

EDUCATION, RESEARCH & TRAINING

IPNA-ESPN Junior Master Classes 2022, 20-21st June 2022 (hybrid)



The 3rd cycle of the 3rd IPNA/ESPN Junior Master classes will take place in Ljubljana this year in an hybrid form.

We are welcoming 185 number of participants from 38 countries. The topics that will be covered this year are: latest updates on Hypertension, Acute Kidney Injury, Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Transplantation, and, additionally, we plan an Interactive kidney transplant-Pathology

With regards to the final program please check our [website](#). The course is free of charge. ESPN updated membership is mandatory. Deadline for applications is now closed, but 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 March and dedicated our lectures to Research: planning, scientific writing, discuss with

the Editor-in-Chief in Paediatric Nephrology (Prof. Joseph Flynn) and discuss with 3 role models in our field, all young scientists well-known in the field of clinical, epidemiological and translational research in Paediatric Nephrology. The mentees found the program very fruitful, full of useful advice and tools for their future. Our next meeting will be face-to-face in Ljubljana and we are looking forward to it! 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 and this year it is planned on November 19, 2022. For more information, 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 was 31.05.2022 and winners will be announced 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 announce that our network is becoming bigger and bigger with a lot of active participation from all around Europe.

The major highlight of our recent activities is the creation for the 1st time in ESPN History the group of Junior National Representatives (JNRs) under the umbrella of YPNN.

Until now, 20 countries are actively participating (*Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and UK*) and we really looking forward for more representatives from the countries not yet included.

Our goal is to disseminate among junior colleagues the YPNN initiatives in each country, in particular the educational activities (webinars, master classes, educational workshops), promoting our ESPN mentorship program as well as, the training and research grants. Secondly, we are aiming to mobilize our young colleagues through active participation in various ESPN-YPNN activities and adapt our priorities to what the young people need.

Among our first conjoint projects, a video for the 2022 World Kidney Day was created, with the active participation of more than 64 young nephrologists from 12 European countries, aimed at giving a positive message on what each country is doing to improve the outcome of children with kidney diseases. You can find the video [here](#). This is the first time ESPN is organizing a conjoint project between different countries for WKD, so we are really proud of this work.

To increase the participation and visibility of our young colleagues in ESPN academic activities, we have invited many junior pediatric nephrologists to participate as moderators during the Pitch Poster sessions at the next ESPN meeting in Ljubljana, in June 2022. Join them, meet them and support them!

The JNRs will also be deeply involved in the active organization of future networking and social activities. Precisely, during the next ESPN meeting in Ljubljana, a sub-group of JNRs (JNR ambassadors for our social events this year) are helping us co-organize a Pub Quiz. Refresh your general knowledge and do join us to share the fun! Free entrance and free first drinks from ESPN! For more information and participation, do not hesitate to write to georgeclaudiu.costea@gmail.com and/or follow us on Twitter [@ypnn-espn](https://twitter.com/ypnn-espn). Looking forward to seeing you there!

Last but not least, YPNN initiated and keeps strong collaboration links with other young sister societies for the broad education of our members:

- **ESPN-YPNN & ERA YNP Joint E-Seminar:** We started conjoint seminars with our adult colleagues to give a thorough insight about base care from childhood to adulthood, including a patients' voice. Our first webinar was on Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD) from childhood to adulthood, including a patient's perspective. Similar webinars will follow annually. Please express your interests by emailing us on what you would like to watch next.
- **2nd Conjoint webinar between Paediatric Nephrology & Paediatric Rheumatology:** Our 2nd conjoint webinar with the PReS-EMERGE group was on vasculitides (from the paediatric rheumatology and the paediatric nephrology perspective). You can access all our webinars on our [website](#).

UKRAINE TASK FORCE

The ESPN Ukraine Task Force was created directly after the invasion of Ukraine and launched immediately a number of initiatives to support patients, families and colleagues in need in Ukraine and surrounding countries. Some of the recent initiatives of our group include supplying drugs and medical equipment for dialysis and transplant paediatric patients, arranging online consultations for patients who cannot reach paediatric nephrology centres and providing free online access to the ESPN congress 2022 in Ljubljana for all 42 Paediatric Nephrologists from Ukraine.

We are all grateful and proud of the effort of our Ukrainian colleagues to keep providing care to their patients despite unimaginable challenges, as well as the effort of all our colleagues ensuring the continuation of treatment for our now refugee patients. We hope that this dramatic situation will end soon, and we will continuously offer our support to our patients, their families and our colleagues in Ukraine and surrounding countries until better days come. For further information and updates, please check our [website](#).

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. Please click for viewing latest [call](#).

ESPN/IPNA future congresses



- **ESPN 2022** The 54th Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology will be held at the Cankarjev dom Congress and Cultural Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia. For more details about the exciting program this year, please visit the congress [website](#) and for some luscious congress highlights, check out our extra sheet attached in this newsletter!
- **IPNA congress** will be held in Calgary, Canada in 2022 (<https://theipna.org/ipna-congress-2022/>).



- **ESPN 2023** congress will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania



- **ESPN 2024** congress will be held in Valencia, Spain

SOCIAL MEDIA



Twitter: We remain active on [@_espn](#) and [@_ypnn-espn](#). We will be twitting news & highlights from our Congress in Ljubliana again this year – do join us and please use the ~ ESPN2022. **ESPN website:** We have been working hard to refurbish our website lately. Have a look and please send us any further suggestions/comments on evgenia.preka@gmail.com.

Call for the election of ESPN President and Assistant President (TERM 2022-2025)

Please remember to vote online for the 2 positions. Our candidates this year are Dr. Dieter Haffner from Germany for the position of President and Dr. Francesco Emma from Italy for the position of Assistant president. Electronic voting is open until the 22/06/2022 (first day of ESPN congress). Results will be announced during the General assembly in Ljubljana.

CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP

Our community is getting bigger and bigger! We are proud to announce that we have reached **542** members until now!

Please remember that we also offer a joint membership with IPNA in case you are interested.

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.

Seeing you all in Ljubljana,

Evgenia Preka

Michiel Schreuder

Rezan Topaloglu



Pablo Picasso “Blue Dove of Peace”