

EPNS Monthly Update: 21 October 2015

Dear EPNS member

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EPNS Training Courses 2015-2017: Budapest, Hungary *faculty announced!*

We are thrilled to let you know that the faculty who will be leading of our EPNS training courses for the 2nd year of 3 in Budapest has been confirmed. The programmes for both courses will be uploaded onto the EPNS website and shared with you by email during December 2015, and then the plan is to open registration at the beginning of January 2016. All EPNS members will be sent an email at the same time to let you know when you can start to register – so look out for the email! We are honoured that the following faculty members have been willing to take part in our EPNS training courses, and we are excited to say that the 2 programmes are looking both interesting and stimulating. We are sincerely looking forward to hosting another successful 4 days of training in paediatric training in Budapest!

Kind regards

Dr Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair of the EPNS Education and Training Committee

Prof. Katalin Hollódy, member of the EPNS Board and Local Training Course Organiser

- **8-9 March 2016 'Epilepsy and other paroxysmal disorders'**
 - Prof. Alexis Arzimanoglou, University Hospitals of Lyon, France
 - Dr Peter Barsi, Bethesda Children's Hospital, Hungary
 - Dr Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Erasmus University Hospital/ Sophia Children's Hospital, the Netherlands
 - Prof. Katalin Hollódy, University of Pecs, Hungary
 - Prof. Lieven Lagae, Univ. Children's Hospital Gasthuisberg, Belgium
 - Prof. Sameer Zuberi, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow UK
- **10-11 March 2016 'Behavioural, psychological and psychiatric aspects of neurology, including autism and learning difficulties'**
 - Dr Femke Aarsen, Erasmus University Hospital/ Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
 - Dr Peter Baxter, Sheffield Children's Hospital, Sheffield UK.
 - Dr Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Erasmus University Hospital/ Sophia Children's Hospital, the Netherlands
 - Prof. Peik Gustafsson, Lund University, Lund, Sweden
 - Prof Philippe Paquier, Hopital Erasme, Brussels, Belgium
 - Dr Lucy Raymond, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
 - Prof. Sameer Zuberi, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow UK

EPNS Fellowship 2016

My colleagues and I on the EPNS Fellowship committee will be meeting on 12 December (when it is the full EPNS Board meeting). During this meeting we will discuss the plans for Fellowship 2016 and we hope to announce the timescales and process for Fellowship 2016 in the December issue of the 'EPNS monthly update'.

Kind regards

Dr Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair of the EPNS Fellowship Committee

EPNS Fellowship 2015: *feedback*

For your information, we were recently delighted to receive feedback from Monika Kukuruzović from Croatia who was successfully awarded an EPNS fellowship at the beginning of 2015. Her fellowship was undertaken at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital in the UK, and this is what she had to say:

I have spent 3 months at the neurology department at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, one of four centers in England which provide high quality brain surgery for children with epilepsy. My goal was to improve our care pathway in Croatia so as to identify children with drug resistant epilepsy more quickly and in particular those likely to benefit from surgical intervention. During my fellowship I learned the criteria for epilepsy surgery and became familiar with the protocol for pre-surgical evaluation including clinical review, EEG, MRI scans, video telemetry, SPECT). I was able to attend the neuropsychology and neuropsychiatry assessments as well as discussions regarding the test results and making decisions about whether surgery can be offered. It was very valuable to learn specific risks of epilepsy surgery and how the risks need to be carefully considered against the risk of an individual child continuing development with seizures. I have observed all the processes of invasive EEG, surgery and after-surgery care. I have visited the all neurology clinics (pediatric epilepsy clinic, the ketogenic diet clinic, the neuromuscular clinic, the NF clinic, and the

general pediatric neurology clinic), the weekly x-ray meetings, and the monthly genetic and neurohistology meetings. This experience allowed me to become more familiar with the most common pediatric neurology diseases and to learn algorithms in approach, diagnostics and treatment. Perhaps the most valuable experience was getting to know wonderful colleagues and staff as well as some patients. I am grateful to the EPNS for wonderful opportunity which allowed me to gain new experience and improve my knowledge and create new friendships among colleagues. This education will greatly help me in my future work as a child neurologist in Croatia and help us implement new approaches and algorithms in diagnostics and treatment of children with neurological diseases and most importantly help children candidates for epilepsy surgery.

European Reference Networks (ERNs)

On 8- 9 October I attended the 2nd conference on European Reference Networks in Lisbon. The aim of European Reference Networks for rare diseases is basically to improve clinical care and expertise in Europe and to promote collaboration between (clinical) centres. At this stage this is a scheme for members of the EU. The conference focused on the implementation of European Reference Networks and facilitated the exchange of information and expertise on establishing and assessing such Networks. It looked into the next steps of the deployment process, in preparation for the forthcoming call for European Reference Networks in 2016. Of course here at the EPNS we would like to ensure that childhood neurological disorders will be represented in some of the networks and thanks to those EPNS members who have kindly been in touch with me, I have been able to start the process of making sure our ideas will be spread to the appropriate teams. This is an important scheme and I will keep you updated about any developments in the future.

Kind regards

Professor Lieven Lagae, EPNS President

Pocket Handbook on Paediatric Neurology

Calling budding authors! Oxford University Press have given the green light for a 3rd edition of our pocket handbook on Paediatric Neurology (<http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199603633.do>). Richard Newton and I would be very interested to hear comments or suggestions for changes or additions, particularly from trainees. Please contact me at rob.forsyth@newcastle.ac.uk

Kind regards

Dr Rob Forsyth, member of the EPNS Board

1st EPNS Cambridge Master Class – ‘Paediatric Neurology meets Immunology meets Literature’

My colleagues and I on the EPNS Education and Training Committee are keen to continuously look at ways to achieve our goal to promote and improve clinical care and scientific research in the field of paediatric neurology. Our successfully established 3 year rolling programme of training courses are now a fixed part of the EPNS's foundation and we have therefore started to look for new innovative educational opportunities. I had the idea about the masterclass a few years ago and together with the support of my EPNS Board colleagues I was delighted to see the vision turn into a reality on 17th to 19th September 2015 at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

It was an entirely new concept where 21 Mentor-Young Neurologist couples were invited to a stimulating 'view beyond one's own nose' - discussions beyond the textbooks. In addition we wanted to include an in-depth-view to an actual topic in Paediatric Neurology. We chose Immunology. The name given to the event was '*Paediatric Neurology meets Immunology meets Literature*'.

Upon arrival, the autumnal sunshine filtered through the majestic Corpus Christi building and it was clear this was going to be a special event. The organisational and preparatory work of Sue Hargreaves (EPNS) and Gabriele Stecher (LMU Munich) was outstanding – thank you. Our faculty did a splendid job and I would like to sincerely thank Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Rob Forsyth, Peter Baxter, Jean-Pierre and Richard Newton for creating a warm and open atmosphere. We were honoured to welcome our eminent invited speakers, who all succeeded in delivering excellent presentations and stimulating exciting ground breaking discussions. I must extend my sincere gratitude to David K Male, Ming Lim, Lieven Lagae, Joseph Dalmau and Ronit & Mirjam Pressler for sharing their time and expertise, and inspiring the group. Personally for me the most outstanding part of the event was listening to Mirjam Pressler the author of "Treasures from the Attic: the Extraordinary Story of Anne Frank's Family". It was an extraordinary experience.

We were delighted to welcome a great group of participants who entered full heartedly into the spirit of the masterclass. We have reviewed the evaluation forms, and of course there are areas for improvement, but it was with pleasure that I noted 81% of participants gave it an overall top rating of 'excellent'. To quote one participant '*An excellent course, well run, setting outstanding, teaching brilliant, fantastic opportunity to meet other young neurologists.*'

It will be the next EPNS Board meeting this December and the EPNS Education and Training Committee will take the opportunity to discuss future educational initiatives.

Kind regards

Professor Florian Heinen, EPNS Treasurer and organiser of the 1st EPNS masterclass

EPNS Research Meeting *save the date!*

28-29 October 2016: Essen, Germany

12th EPNS Congress: week commencing 20-24 June 2017, Lyon, France *save the date!*

The new EPNS Congress 2017 website now open, and plans are already well underway!

Please visit www.epns2017.com

EPNS 2015 annual subscription fee payments are now due!

Thank you to the many members who have already kindly paid this year's subscription fee. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to pay, why not pay today?! The easiest way is to pay your subscription fee by debit/credit card by logging onto our website

<http://www.epns.info/> If you have any questions about your payment, please do not hesitate to contact Sue on info@epns.info

EPNS Certificate of Membership

This can now be requested by an EPNS member who has paid their 2015 annual subscription fee. Please email Sue on info@epns.info to request a certificate.

New EPNS membership

We are always looking to welcome new members to our society and therefore we have been delighted to have seen so many new members join us over the last few years. Please continue to encourage your colleagues to join us. A convenient on-line application form is available on our website <http://www.epns.info/> For more information email info@epns.info. Many thanks.

EPNS Trainee membership

Our annual subscription rates are good value and the 2015 trainee annual subscription fee is the lowest it has ever been at an affordable 20 Euros for the full year! This membership payment gives on-line only access during 2015 to the Society's Journal (the European Journal of Paediatric Neurology (EJPN) <http://www.ejpn-journal.com/>) If you are a trainee, this is an opportunity not to be missed... please spread the word!

EPNS on Twitter!

Please follow us. Our Twitter name is @EPNSnews

EPNS website: Job vacancy section <http://www.epns.jmre.es/job-vacancies/>

If you would like to advertise a vacancy for a paediatric neurologist role, please email info@epns.info with the following information: Link to the official job advertising site, name, email address and phone number of the person to contact regarding the role together with deadline for applications.

Below, please visit <http://www.epns.jmre.es/job-vacancies/> to find more details about the following vacancy currently being advertised:

- **Short Term vacancy on Paediatric Residency Programme: Newcastle upon Tyne**
- **Resident in Paediatric Neurology: UZ Brussels**

ICNC2016: 1-5 May 2016: Amsterdam, The Netherlands

www.icnc2016.org **website now open for early registration & hotel bookings**

Important upcoming dates:

1 December 2015: deadline for submission of abstracts

15 February 2016: deadline for early bird registration fee

ILAE Commission on Neuropsychiatry - Task Force on Education

The Task force on Education of the Commission on Neuropsychiatry of the International League Against Epilepsy is conducting a survey about education needs of neurologists and psychiatrists regarding psychiatric problems of people with epilepsy. It is a short questionnaire of only 10 questions and it takes less than a minute to complete it. You are very welcome to complete the questionnaire and the ILAE would be very grateful for your time. They do not need to reach necessarily epilepsy specialists or experts as they would like to have the opinion of a wide audience. To access the survey please use the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M6R8ZXT>

Please visit the 'meetings' page of our EPNS website <http://www.epns.jmre.es/> for a list of other meetings which might be of interest to you, here are some meetings which have been added recently:

- 6 November 2015, **Dravet Syndrome UK (DSUK) Professional Conference**, London, United Kingdom, <http://www.dravet.org.uk/family-support/conference/london-2015/>
- 15 - 17 September 2016, **RTT50.1 CELEBRATING the 50th anniversary of the first publication on Rett Syndrome by Andreas Rett** <http://www.rett2016.wien/>
- 19 – 22 October 2016: **3rd Pan-Slavic Congress of Child neurology and 21st CNM Congress (double event)**, Dubrovnik, Croatia <http://en.childneuro2016.eu/child-neurology-congress/>

And finally... here is a summary of some important EPNS meeting dates for your diaries:

EPNS Training Courses 2016: Budapest, Hungary:

- 8-9 March 2016 'Epilepsy and other paroxysmal disorders'
- 10-11 March 2016 'Behavioural, psychological and psychiatric aspects of neurology'

EPNS Research Meeting 2016: Essen, Germany: 28-29 October 2016

EPNS Training Courses 2017: Budapest, Hungary

12th EPNS Congress: Lyon, France: 20-24 June 2017

EPNS Research Meeting 2018: Alicante, Spain

13th EPNS Congress: Athens, Greece: 2019

EPNS Training Courses 2018-2020: Spain

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact me at info@epns.info if you have any queries about your EPNS membership.

With kind regards

Sue

Sue Hargreaves (Mrs)

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