# Annual Report 2017



A society for physicians with a research or clinical interest in Paediatric Neurology.



# Contents

EPNS President's Overview	. 2
Invitation to 13th EPNS Congress	. 3
EPNS: The Neurokids App and Workbook	. 4
EPNS Board Members 2014 - 2018	. 5
EPNS Board Members 2018 - 2022	. 6
EPNS Treasurer & Finance Report	. 7
EPNS Research & Scientific Report	. 8
EPNS Education & Training Report	11
EPNS Membership & Public Relations Report	18
EPNS Webmaster Report	21
Committee National Advisers (C N A) Report	22
Training Advisory Board (TAB) Report	23
European Journal of Paediatric Neurology Report	24
A little more information	25
Contacting and Joining the EPNS	26



# **EPNS President's Overview**

As my term in office comes to an end, I would like to thank you for all the support you have given me during this time. It has been an honour and a pleasure for me to serve as President of the EPNS for two terms. With the enduring support and assistance of our proficient EPNS Board members, I hope I have helped the EPNS to achieve its goals and visions for the way forward. Looking back over the last 8 years, so many moments serve as reminders of the important challenges our field of paediatric neurology faces, as well as the amazing power we have as a collective force to bring about



greater change for children with neurological issues. For me, perhaps the most defining of those moments are when colleagues get together for educational and research activities. The EPNS Congresses, EPNS Research Meetings, EPNS Training Courses, EPNS Fellowships are a few examples where the energy of networking can make a real difference.

It has been gratifying for me to see the EPNS become more professional and grow from strength to strength. For example, 8 years ago we had around 570 members, and today we have over 1,300 members. The EPNS has a strong tradition and is now one of the largest groups of paediatric neurologists around the world. With 2017 marking another year of accomplishment and acclaim for Society, our EPNS Board consistently demonstrates a commitment and dedication to the success and advancement of Paediatric Neurology in Europe and the rest of the world. I invite you to read this report which I hope will give you a clearer idea of the Society's many achievements, the core scientific, research and educational mission, together with providing a reminder of the strong bonds and distinction that characterise the EPNS community. The new board for 2018 – 2022 will be meeting in January 2018 in Leuven. I am delighted to still be part of the board and I am excited to work with our newly elected

executive committee team and president. There will be many plans for the future, and I hope to help begin with the implementation of a new strategic action plan.

I end my term as President of the EPNS with gratitude for all those who helped to make progress possible, with high hopes for the future and with renewed appreciation for this remarkable Society. I especially also want to thank Mrs Sue Hargreaves, who has become our solid and reliable secretary and behind-the-scenes multitask manager. As we move forward with new technological developments, political developments and environmental changes, we will confront new challenges in our field of paediatric neurology. By working together and supporting each other our Society's future is bright and together we can continue to play an important role by promoting training, clinical care and scientific research in the field of Paediatric Neurology.

#### **Best wishes**

Lieven Lagae, EPNS President 2010-2018



# **Invitation to 13th EPNS Congress**



We are delighted to inform you that Greece will be hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress at the Megaron Athens International Conference Centre in Athens on 18-21 September 2019.

The main theme for the 2019 congress will be:

## Paediatric Neurology and Rare Diseases: Genetics & Environment, Progression & Transition

thus, coinciding with the fact that 2019 has been declared as "the Year of Rare Diseases"

Therapy, prognosis and outcome of rare diseases, as well as their progression & transition to adolescence and adulthood, represent important issues and challenges both for the family and the patients, as well as for the whole health system in general (health care professionals, industry and national authorities).

A large number of pediatric but also adult specialists, apart from neurologists, are involved in the care of little patients with complex rare neurological diseases, thus highlighting the need of interaction and collaboration needed at the highest level in order to offer optimum therapeutic options and a better quality of life.

This prestigious congress will cover, in plenary and parallel sessions, the following major topics: Emergency & critical care neurology, rare neurogenetic & neurometabolic diseases, clinical trials & registries, sleep, but also epilepsy, movement & neuromuscular disorders, intellectual disability and autism, among them.

For more information, please visit the congress website: <u>http://www.epns2019.org/</u>

We look forward to welcoming you to Athens!

Dimitrios Zafeirou, Chair EPNS Congress 2019 On behalf of the organising committee and EPNS Board





# **EPNS: The Neurokids App and Workbook**



## an innovative answer to the clinical challenges in child neurology!

With the basic idea of Mind Maps, the classic textbook has been further developed to provide faster and more targeted information – designed for daily professional practice, bundling the broad clinical spectrum. A uniform classification allows quick orientation, providing a condensed knowledge overview and a guide to diagnostic work-up and therapeutic decision-making. Complemented by a comprehensive, precise, internationally orientated drug register, and schemes for neurological and developmental neurological examination with evidence of good practice.

The Neurokids App and Workbook are identical in content, and complement each other in their formats. The App of course will continue to evolve and should be seen as a 'work in progress'. The App in particular is ideal for daily work and can be used on both iOS and Android devices. We are looking for our members to use the feedback function extensively and we really are looking for the future generation. Please see the App as a *beta version* and help us to make it a *better version* (3)

The Neurokids Workbook and App are now available as a package to all fully paid up members of the EPNS at the substantially discounted price of 20 Euros plus 6 Euros postage and packaging, i.e. a total cost of 26 Euros.

This initiative will become a core instrument in the educational programme of the EPNS. Already over 400 EPNS members have purchased this package and we are looking forward to involving all our members in further developing this App idea in a controlled way to 'Ideal App'. Times are changing and the strength of this initiative will be the continuous updating of information based on everyday use of the App and on immediate feedback of our members.

#### **Best wishes**

Florian Heinen, Coordinating Editor



# EPNS Board Members 2014 - 2018

President	Lieven Lagae, Leuven, Belgium
Secretaries	Nina Barisic, Zagreb, Croatia
	Finbar O'Callaghan, London, UK
Treasurer	Florian Heinen, Munich, Germany
Chair Research & Scientific Committee	Linda De Meirleir, Brussels, Belgium
Chair Education & Training Committee	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Rotterdam,
	Netherlands
Chair Finance Committee	Peter Baxter, Sheffield, UK
Chair of the Membership /Public	Sameer Zuberi, Glasgow, UK
Relations / Website Committee	
Webmaster	Francisco Carratala, Alicante, Spain
Committee of National Advisors (CNA)	Dana Craiu, Bucharest, Romania
	Alasdair Parker, Cambridge, UK
Members	Banu Anlar, Ankara, Turkey
	Guenther Bernert, Vienna, Austria
	Isabelle Desguerre, Paris, France
	Rob Forsyth, Newcastle, UK
	Katalin Hollody, Pecs, Hungary
	Jean-Pierre Lin, London, UK
	Alla Nechay, Kiev, Ukraine
	Barbara Plecko, Zurich, Switzerland
	Raili Riikonen, Kuopio, Finland
	Thomas Sejersen, Stockholm, Sweden
	Maja Steinlin, Bern, Switzerland
	Biayna Sukhudyan, Yerevan, Armenia
	Michele Willemsen, Nijmegen,
	Netherlands
	Dimitrios Zafeirou, Thessaloniki, Greece



# EPNS Board Members 2018 - 2022

The following 21 EPNS Board member 2018-2022 candidates (in alphabetical order) received the highest number of votes in the recent election. They will be joining the EPNS board for the term 2018-2022. Congratulations to all the successful candidates and commiserations to those who stood as candidates but received a smaller number of votes. The new EPNS Board will be meeting in Leuven in January 2018, together with the existing board. At this meeting, the appointment of the roles in the new board will be decided and the options available for co-opting more members onto the Board will be discussed.

First Name	Last Name	Country	
Banu	Anlar	Turkey	
Nadia	Bahi-Buisson	France	
Nina	Barisic	Croatia	
Gunther	Bernert	Austria	
Francisco	Carratala	Spain	
Coriene	Catsman-Berrevoets	The Netherlands	
Dana	Craiu	Romania	
Linda	De Meirleir	Belgium	
Rob	Forsyth	UK	
Florian	Heinen	Germany	
Lieven	Lagae	Belgium	
Jean-Pierre	Lin	United Kingdom	
Finbar	O'Callaghan	United Kingdom	
Barbara	Plecko	Austria	
Kevin	Rostasy	Germany	
Thomas	Sejersen	Sweden	
Maja	Steinlin	Switzerland	
Federico	Vigevano	Italy	
Michel	Willemsen	The Netherlands	
Dimitrios	Zafeiriou	Greece	
Sameer	Zuberi	United Kingdom	

# **EPNS Treasurer & Finance Report**

#### Dear colleagues

The continuing success of our Society is reflected in its good financial state. Over the life of the current Board we have built robust systems to monitor and manage our finances, including detailed budgeting and bookkeeping and control of administrative costs. We also have adequate capital reserves maintained in safe accounts. Overall, the financial situation is healthy with for example, the Journal providing continued royalties. Our 12<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress was a great success on all counts, including generating a considerable profit.

As a result, we have been able to meet the Board's objectives of making more resources available to the Education and Training, and Scientific, Committees, to fund our Society's aims. We have been able to help a significant number of colleagues from less

advantaged countries benefit from our activities. For example, the EPNS awarded 6 Fellowships in 2017. In addition, the EPNS supported several training events with bursaries and subsidies. As planned last year, we have been to reduce the membership fees for certain World Bank 4 countries, and we maintain substantially discounted fees for our trainee and World bank 1,2,3 country members. Our EPNS subscription fees have not been increased for any categories in 2018. We have also been able to support initiatives such as the Neurokids App.

The New EPNS Board will continue to focus on how the available funds can be used most effectively to promote training, clinical care and scientific research in the field of Paediatric Neurology. As before please let us know if you encounter any problems especially in respect of membership fees

#### **Best wishes**

Florian Heinen, EPNS Treasurer Peter Baxter, Chair EPNS Finance Committee







# **EPNS Research & Scientific Report**

## EPNS Congress 2017

We were delighted that France hosted the prestigious EPNS Congress at the Cité Internationale of the city of LYON on 20-24 June 2017, together with the 2<sup>nd</sup> EPNS Satellite Symposium on Advances in Neuromodulation in children: Neuronal Networks, Neurophysiology and Neuroplasticity on 19-20 June 2017 – directly before the EPNS Congress. The EPNS would like to offer sincere thanks to Vincent Des Portes,



Alexis Arzimanoglou and their team, together with Jean-Pierre Lin for organising such wonderful events.

EPNS CONGRESS EPNS - EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY SOCIETY



The 1st Aicardi Award (sponsored by MacKeith Press) was presented in Lyon for Excellence in Paediatric Neurology to Professor Alexis Arzimanoglou – congratulations!

All sessions of the Congress were designed to address, among other topics, the *Lifelong course of diseases of the child's nervous system*. Indeed, the prognosis and outcome of neurological diseases in children, as well as transition to adolescence and adulthood represent important challenges for the family, the patients and the healthcare professionals. Conversely, mothers' neurological diseases (muscular, metabolic, autoimmune, psychiatric) might have some consequences in foetus and child neurological outcome.

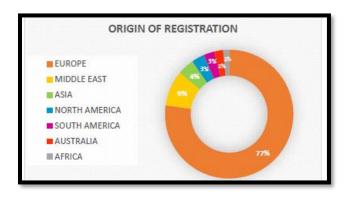
There has been a new development within the EPNS and now authorised presentations are available to EPNS members by logging into the EPNS website and selecting "Meeting Presentations". The presentations can only be used for personal use and cannot be distributed

9



We welcomed a total of 1,512 people to Lyon from 73 different countries!

Our Lyon event offered an outstanding scientific programme, excellent networking opportunities plus some delicious food! We hope that those of you who were able to join us in Lyon agree, and attending has supported your continuing medical education and daily work.



100% of delegates rated the statement 'Quality was Excellent' on the evaluation as either 'strongly agree', 'agree' or 'neutral'.

Two awards were on offer, and the following winners were presented with free congress ticket for the EPNS 2019 congress in Athens. Sincere congratulations to both:

- Best Oral Presentation: Dr Belohlavkova from Czech Republic: Trends in paediatric epilepsy surgery 2000-2016
- Best e-Poster Presentation: M.J.Gonzalez from Spain: DTI in early treated PKU

Here are a few photo's which were taken in Lyon. Also, check out the <u>EPNS CONGRESS</u> 2017 Photo Gallery and re-experience our wonderful meeting in Lyon!





#### EPNS Congress 2019

The next EPNS Congress will place at the Megaron Athens International Conference Centre in Athens, Greece on 18-21 September 2019. The main theme for the 2019 meeting will be: *Paediatric Neurology and Rare Diseases: Genetics & Environment, Progression & Transition Plans.* 

More details about EPNS Congress 2019 can be found on page 3 of this annual report.

#### EPNS Congress 2021

Following a successful bid this year, Glasgow, United Kingdom will host the 14th Congress of the European Paediatric Neurology Society in 2021.

#### **EPNS Research Meeting 2018**

The EPNS Research Meeting is held biennially in alternate years to the EPNS Congress.

The 6th EPNS Research Meeting 2018 will be taking place in Alicante, Spain on 26 –

27 October 2018.

There will be a plenary



sessions focusing on two topics together with 8 or 9 different working groups. This is a smaller meeting with usually about 180 participants. A limited number of bursaries will be offered to young investigators. The EPNS Research Prize will be awarded to one or two young neurologists who present an outstanding, innovative idea in the area of research in Paediatric Neurology. A commission of the board members will decide the prize recipients.

The EPNS looks forward to welcoming you to our future EPNS Research Meeting in Alicante and our future EPNS Congresses in Athens and Glasgow!

Best wishes Linda DeMeirleir Chair EPNS Research & Scientific Committee



# **EPNS Education & Training Report**

**In 2017** this committee was responsible for the following opportunities:

- 1. EPNS Training Courses in Hungary and Kazakhstan
- 2. EPNS Masterclass in the United Kingdom
- 3. EPNS Fellowships
- 4. EPNS Visiting Teacher Scheme

## 3<sup>rd</sup> EPNS Training Course 2017: Budapest, Hungary

**Aim:** to cover most main topics in the syllabus over a three-year cycle, promote contact between paediatric neurology trainees and qualified paediatric neurologists to refresh their knowledge. The 2017 training course was the final year of the 3-year cycle in Budapest. There were 79 participants from 27 countries. EPNS stimulated participation by granting 30 bursaries.

Local Organiser: Professor Katalin Hollódy.

3 April 2017: Infantile metabolic encephalopathies 4 April 2017: Neonatal Neurology





Scientific Organiser: Professor Barbara Plecko







#### 5 and 6 April 2017: Neuromuscular Disease





Scientific Organiser: Professor Thomas Sejersen

#### Prizes for the best presentations: congratulations!

- Dr Filipe Palavra from Portugal awarded for the best participant presentation at the Infantile Metabolic Encephaloparhies / Neonatal Neurology training course.
- Dr Ana Kosac from Serbia awarded for the best participant presentation at the Neuromuscular disorders training course.



The EPNS extends sincere gratitude to Professor Hollódy and her team for hosting three exceptional years of training courses on behalf of the Society.



## 1st EPNS Teaching Course 2017: Astana, Kazakhstan

#### 18-20 October 2017: Child Neurology in Infancy



**Local Organiser:** Dr Altynshash Jaxybayeva 80 Participants from 5 countries participated with 10 Speakers from 4 countries.

Based on the book by Professor Colin Kennedy: "Principles and Practice of neurology on the first year of life"



#### Prizes for the best presentations: congratulations!

- Dr Adel Abdelelah Kareem (Iraq) case about tyrosine hydroxylase deficiency syndrome.
- Dr. Bakhytkul Myrzaliyeva (Kazakhstan)– case about White matter vanishing leukodystrophy
- Dr. Ismatulla Rizametov (Kazakhstan)- case about FCD.







## EPNS Master Class 2017: Cambridge, United Kingdom

14-16 September 2017: Functional Disorders – Child Neurology meets Literature



**Local Organisers:** 

Professor Florian Heinen



Dr Rob Forsyth



Master Class Characteristics:

(1) Mentor-Young Neurologist Couple

(2) An in-depth-view of a major challenge in Paediatric Neurology practice – Functional Neurological Symptoms.

34 Participants from 7 countries participated with 6 invited Speakers from 4 countries. We were honoured that our eminent invited speakers agreed to join us. We were very excited to have Siri Hustvedt contributing to the meeting. Siri is a writer of novels and non-fiction including a highly-acclaimed account of her own experiences of "medically unexplained" functional neurological symptoms.







# **EPNS Fellowships 2017**

**Aim:** To create excellence by offering the opportunity for further qualification or experience in an area of paediatric neurology in terms of clinical practice or research. The scheme is targeted at those who are at the early stages of their training in the field of paediatric neurology.

## **Practical considerations**

3-4 month's fellowship in a specialised centre in Europe.

2 types: Clinical elective or Research project

Fellowship budget: max 5,000 Euros

Since 2014 when the scheme started 20 Fellowships have been awarded.

## Congratulations to the following in 2017:

3 Clinical Fellowships and 3 Redearch Fellowships awarded				
	Dr Alice Dica from Romania to UZ Brussel, Belgium.		Dr Marta Gomez Garcia de la Banda from Spain to Hopital Raymond Poincare, France.	
	Dr Elena Maqueda from Spain to Hopital Femme Mere Enfant, France.		Dr Katerina Gaberova from Bulgaria to Uniklinik RWTH Aachen, Germany.	
	Dr Olena Apanasenko from Ukraine to the Royal Hospital for Children, Fraser of Allander Neurosciences Unit, Glasgow, UK		Dr Thomas Foiadelli from Italy to the University Hospital of Leuven, Belgium	



## **EPNS Visiting Teacher 2017**

The concept of the EPNS Visiting Teacher initiative:

A volunteer professor / senior/ distinguished member of the EPNS, who is a recognised expert in a certain field, visits a nominated host centre in a country in Europe which is classified by the World Bank per capita income group 1, 2 or 3 for a short stay of intense teaching. Travel and stay will be supported by EPNS. It may be considered that these visits will take place annually thereafter, if the first visit proves to be a success.



In 2017 Georgia successfully applied for the EPNS Visiting Teacher scheme. The "Ketogenic diet in paediatric epilepsies" workshop took place at Tbilisi State Medical University G. Zhvania Academic Clinic of Paediatrics in Tbilisi, Georgia. Dr. Elles van der Louw from Erasmus University Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. was granted the EPNS Visiting Teacher award. The workshop lasted for 3 days and 50 participants including paediatric neurologists, paediatricians, dieticians from all over the country attended the course.







# **EPNS Education & Training Committee Plans for 2018**

## **EPNS Training Courses: Alicante**



The next cycle of training courses 2018-2020 will take place in Alicante, Spain.

Local organiser: Professor Francisco Carratala

- 8 and 9 May 2018: Immune mediated diseases and infections
  - Moderator dr Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
- 10 and 11 May 2018: Acute Neurology
  - Moderator professor Maja Steinlin

## **EPNS Training Courses: Eastern Europe**

Following the success of the training course in Georgia in 2016 and Kazakhstan in 2017, it is planned further events will be held in this area of Europe. All EPNS members will receive an email announcement as soon as plans are finalized.

## EPNS Masterclass: Cambridge, UK

It is envisaged the next EPNS Masterclass will take place in Cambridge in September 2018, and biennially thereafter. Details will be shared with all EPNS members when arrangements have been made.

## **EPNS Fellowships 2018**

This scheme is now a core focus for the EPNS. The application period for EPNS Fellowship 2018 opened in November 2017. The closing date is 5 January 2018.

# **EPNS Visiting Teacher 2018**

In 2018 new Visiting Teacher awards will be made available.

#### Best wishes

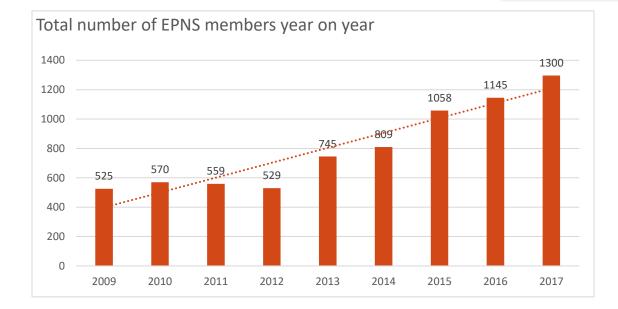
Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair EPNS Education and Training Committee





# **EPNS Membership & Public Relations Report**

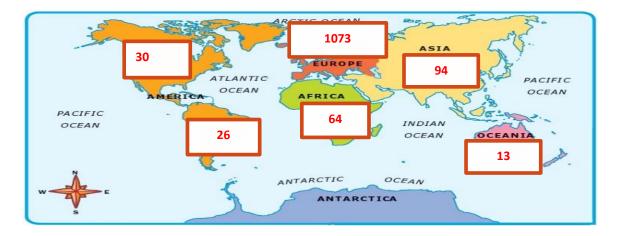
Following the usual trend, I am delighted to report that the number of EPNS members has increased this year. At this moment, we have a total of **1,300** members.



#### Membership Geographic's

**1073** of our members are in Europe. This this is taken as the region for which the European Office of WHO is responsible.

We are delighted however that many of our EPNS members practice outside Europe.

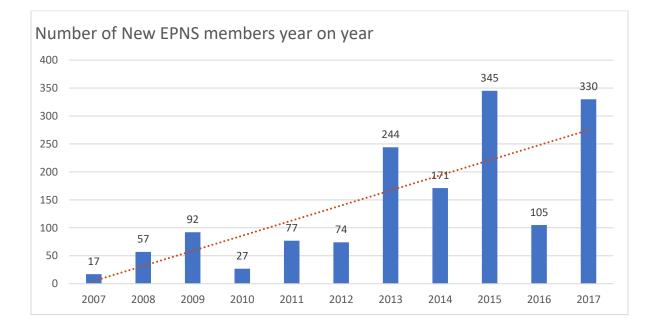






#### New Members

In 2017 it has been a pleasure to welcome 330 new members. Historically we welcome more new members in a congress year, and this year did not disappoint, with 75 new members joining at the EPNS Desk in Lyon this June.



#### In summary the Reasons for joining in 2017:

- 24% Joined at congress 2017 EPNS desk
- 20% NTA/president national association encouraged me
- 14% Through a training course
- 24% Through a Scientific conference
- 4% Through another national conference
- 5% I saw an advert in the EPNS Journal
- 9% Other reasons

#### **Ratifying new members**

All new members are welcomed to the EPNS as an Associate Member. Ordinary membership is ratified by the Board and approved by a vote at the general meeting of members. The EPNS Board ratified all qualifying members who have joined since the last meeting on 26 May 2015 in Vienna, and on 24 June 2017 in Lyon the new members were approved by the general assembly.

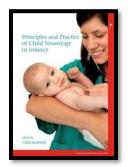


#### **EPNS Annual Subscription fees**

In 2017 we launched a new category of members to the called 'WB4B'. The 2017 annual subscription fees were as follows, which offers great value and appropriate discounts for members in World Bank Class 1,2 & 3 nations and trainees. The annual subscription fees will remain the same for 2018,

	electronic-	printed	
	only EJPN	EJPN	
Category WB4A: Member from World Bank Class 4 nations not	130 Euros	160 Euros	
mentioned in Category WB4B	130 Euros		
Category WB4B: The following World Bank Class 4 nations:		95 Euros	
CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, ESTONIA, GREECE, HUNGARY,	65 Euros		
LATVIA, LITHUANIA, MALTA, POLAND, PORTUGAL, SLOVAK	05 20103		
REPUBLIC, SLOVENIA, SPAIN			
Category WB123: Member from World Bank Class 1, 2 or 3 nations	30 Euros	60 Euros	
Category Trainee: Trainee member from any nation	20 Euros	50 Euros	

The Society continues to advertise appropriate meetings on behalf of other organisations on the EPNS and in return the organisation reciprocates.



**Free copy of 'Principles and practice of child neurology in infancy'** Together with the Neurokids workbook and app, details of which can be found on page 4 of this report, we have been thrilled to offer our members copies of the 'Principles and practice of child neurology in infancy (Kennedy C (Ed.), Mac Keith Press, for a 6EUR postage charge. The recommended retail price is 37.44EUR. Over 890 members have taken advantage of this offer.

**EPNS Membership Certificates** can be requested by members who have paid their current year annual subscription fee.

#### Communication

EPNS Flyers also play an important role in advertising the EPNS, and in 2017 approximately 2,500 flyers were distributed at events around the world.



Twitter: @EPNSnews



Email: info@epns.info

Best wishes Sameer Zuberi Chair EPNS Membership & Public Relations Committee



# **EPNS Webmaster Report**

In the last year, the evolution of the web of the EPNS has been satisfactory to the extent that it has fulfilled the proposed objectives, not without presenting some compatibility problems given the diversity of the systems used to access it from the different points of the world. The increase in the number of visits (Increase average 34%; new visits average 19%) and the time spent reviewing the pages (Increase average 10%), gives good proof of this. However, there are some points about the operation of the page that have to be commented succinctly for discussion and possible improvement.



In the first place, the publishing role of our site of the communications to congresses is often compromised by the demand of the publishing companies for originality of the articles submitted for evaluation. Probably the provision of an open link to communications to conferences published in journals may be a future partial solution to this problem.

Another important point is the informative role of our web on neuropediatric topics. We always filtered this information by actions based on scientific evidence. The complexity of the resulting information for the general public, greatly limits their interest in accessing our information, nevertheless they accesses to all types of non-filtered information in our specialty through social networks, obtaining an unrealistic picture of the progress in neuropediatric research. Our presence in them continues to be a problem, because facilitating our opinions and debates can enter not only into ethical conflict with the principles of medical , but also with national or regional legal frameworks on public diffusion of medical procedures and research, not fully accepted by the health agencies of each country.

Probably, the indispensable connection with the parents and patients associations and also with the general public, must be done in other different scenarios than the official website of the EPNS, so some steps are being taken in that direction in future conferences and meetings of our Society.

We know that our concern to remain within the ethical framework of the actions of a scientific society can be limiting for the adequate diffusion of the interest of our society, which is none other than the best care for the child with neurological problems. However, this commitment has been and should be the reason why we attract the cooperation of European and the rest of the world colleagues.

Please, join us in the task of maintaining this commitment by helping us improve the web.

Best wishes Francisco Carratalá EPNS Webmaster



# **Committee National Advisers (C N A)**

The Committee of National Advisers is constituted of advisers selected by the national paediatric neurology societies and associations of all European countries inside and outside the European Union (EU). Normally each country is represented by one member. The CNA has an executive group consisting of its chairperson, secretary and 3 elected members. The CNA is independent of the EPNS but is intended to work in close relation with it. While the CNA is constituted of advisers



selected by the national societies, the EPNS is a society of individual members. The CNA is represented on the board of the EPNS and the EPNS is represented in the CNA by its president and other relevant persons as full members of the CNA.

The CNA is a forum for mutual information, discussion and debate on matters relevant to paediatric neurology. The Committee serves as an advisory group to the European Society for Paediatric Neurology (EPNS) and as a link to the national paediatric neurology societies.

The CNA tends to meet once a year. The last CNA meeting was held on 20 June 2017 in Lyon where it was agreed a central database should be developed relating to paediatric neurology in each European country with the goal of using the data to publish an article in the EJPN. The database is taking shape and it is hoped that the article will serve as a powerful point of reference for countries to use in the future with statistical information about the specialism.

During the June meeting an election was held and the new Executive Group is as follows:

- Chair: Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
- Secretary: Alasdair Parker
- 4 members: Maja Steinlin, Nina Barisic, Leena Haataja, Dilek Yalnizoglu

This Group will appoint a Finance Officer and two representatives for the EPNS board.

I wish the new Executive Group all the best for the future and as I will continue as the representative for Romania, I look forward to exciting times ahead.

Best wishes Dana Craiu Chair Committee of National Training Advisers (C N A)



# **Training Advisory Board (TAB)**

In 2002 Paediatric neurology was accepted at the European level as a sub-specialty of Paediatrics and also of Neurology. In the process of defining the speciality, a European Paediatric Neurology Training Programme (Syllabus) was compiled and accepted by the European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) and the national societies represented in the Committee of National Advisors (CNA) in Paediatric Neurology as well as the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)sections for Paediatrics and Neurology. The revised Syllabus was again discussed and accepted with entry both from Paediatrics or



Neurology by EAP (European Academy of Paediatrics, the Paediatric Division of UEMS) in December 2010. In order to push the implementation of a high standard of paediatric neurology training, in 2004 the EPNS Board and the CNA agreed to create a Training Advisory Board (TAB) and to develop a training evaluation programme intended to support national societies in developing their training systems

TAB offers the national child neurology societies the opportunity to evaluate their national training system. The aim is a standard of training in accordance with the European Paediatric Neurology Training Programme (Syllabus) in each European country. The assessment is voluntary and initiated by the national paediatric neurology society.

In a first step it is intended to gather as much information on the national organisation of Paediatric Neurology and neurodisability services, number of paediatric neurologist and need for training capacity, national training system in Paediatric Neurology. The usual duration of the visit should be 2 days.

A report is drafted by the visiting TAB members and further developed within the TAB until it can be finally approved by TAB and CNA. The report concludes the impressions from the assessment and gives recommendations for the future development of the paediatric neurology speciality and training. The final approved report is sent as an official document to the national society. The reports are published in the Newsletter of the European Journal of Paediatric Neurology and are available through this website.

The procedure is followed after 1-2 year with a follow-up questionnaire to the national society to gather information on whether the assessment contributed to the future development and whether the conclusions drawn led to any changes or developments.

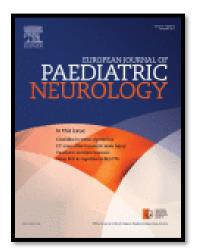
Best wishes Dana Craiu Chair Training Advisory Board (TAB)



# **European Journal of Paediatric Neurology Report (EJPN)**

The European Journal of Paediatric Neurology (EJPN) is the official journal of the EPNS and is available to all members in either electronic or print & electronic format. Published 6 times a year by Elsevier Ltd. on behalf of the society it accepts papers primarily of a clinical nature on the whole spectrum of paediatric neurological disease.





In 2017 there were more than 500 manuscripts submitted to the journal which were handled by an editorial team comprising Sameer Zuberi (Editor-in-Chief) and 4 Associate Editors; Alexis Arzimanoglou, Dimitrios Zafeiriou, Finbar O'Callaghan and Florian Heinen. Manuscripts include original research, reviews, letters to the editor and highly selected case reports. In 2017 we have made a concerted effort to include Editorial

commentaries on key papers in every issue.

The journal has a distinguished international Editorial Board of 30 specialists in the field who advise on the direction of the journal, special issues and review papers. In 2017 the impact factor rose to above 2.0 and we hope this trend will continue. This year we published an innovative special issue guest edited by Jean-Pierre Lin on Neuromodulation in Childhood and in early 2018 there will be a special issue on Movement Disorders in Childhood guest edited by Nardo Nardocci. Other planned Special Issues will cover the topics of Fetal Neurology and Epilepsy and Neurodevelopment. We will be expanding the Editorial Board to 60 members in early 2018 which we anticipate will help to bring Editorial times from submission of an article to electronic publication down.

Best wishes Sameer Zuberi Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of Paediatric Neurology





#### A little more information about

# The European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS)

A society for physicians with a research or clinical interest in Paediatric Neurology.

**Honorary membership** is for persons who the society wishes to honour for outstanding distinction in the field of paediatric neurology.

Associate membership is awarded, on application, to all paediatric neurologists and colleagues in related fields and that belong to their national society or association in their field and to any physician, basic scientist or clinical scientist trainees in paediatric neurology who shows an interest in the neurology of infancy, childhood or adolescence, whether in research or in clinical medical care. There are no geographical restrictions to associate membership. Associate members pay an annual subscription, which includes subscription to the European Journal of Paediatric Neurology, the Journal of the Society.

**Ordinary membership** is for any associate member that is also in practice in Europe (currently taken as the region for which European Office of WHO is responsible). Transition from associate to ordinary membership takes place by the vote of the general assembly at the meeting of The Society. The only difference between associate and ordinary membership is the entitlement of ordinary members to vote for and stand as candidates for election to the Board of the Society.

	electronic-only EJPN	printed copy of EJPN
Category WB4A: Member from World Bank Class 4	130 Euros	160 Euros
nation not mentioned in Category 4B		
Category WB4B: The following World Bank Class 4	65 Euros	95 Euros
nations: CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, ESTONIA,		
GREECE, HUNGARY, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, MALTA, POLAND,		
PORTUGAL, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, SLOVENIA, SPAIN		
Category WB123: Member from World Bank Class 1, 2	30 Euros	60 Euros
or 3 nation		
Category Trainee: Trainee member from any nation	20 Euros	50 Euros

#### **EPNS Annual Subscription Fees for 2018**



# **Contacting the EPNS**



Email

Twitter

info@epns.info

@EPNSnews

Website

http://www.epns.info/

# Joining the EPNS

## There has never been a better time to join!

If you are not already a member, please think of becoming one. By doing so you join a rapidly growing group of like-minded active professionals in our field who are committed to improving standards of care of all children with suspected neurological problems and to collaborating on training, continuing medical education and research. Membership is open to all paediatric neurologists and colleagues in related fields. Membership rates have been substantially reduced for trainees and for colleagues from certain countries after completion of training.

It's easy to join the EPNS! Our new membership application form can be completed online through our website <u>http://www.epns.info/</u> Please scroll down the home page until you see the orange **'BECOME A MEMBER'** button. Please click on this button to get the application form. Once you submit the form, you will receive an email acknowledging receipt. Our EPNS Membership Secretary will then get in touch with you shortly afterwards to formally welcome you to the Society.