

Annual Report 2019



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

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EPNS President's Overview

It is my privilege to share this year's EPNS Annual Report with you. I am very proud of the Society's progress over the past 12 months. This year has been marked by new initiatives and developing collaborations as well as our highly successful training courses in Alicante and biennial congress in Athens. In the report, you will learn about our recent work and the accomplishments of the EPNS board and EPNS members who both embody the spirit of the EPNS.



Photo: Sameer Zuberi
EPNS President

There are many highlights from 2019 contained within the report, including of course the 13th EPNS Congress which delivered an outstanding scientific programme and excellent networking opportunities. I hope that those of you who were able to join us in Athens agree, and that attending has supported your continuing medical education and improved care for your patients.

As satisfying as it is to reflect on the past, I am most excited about the future of the EPNS as we not only strive to continuously achieve our goals to promote training, clinical care and scientific research in the field of Paediatric Neurology but we strengthen our partnerships, and build new connections. Great steps have been taken this year to raise the profile of the EPNS and child neurology with many other national and international societies, including the following:

- European Academy of Neurology (EAN): where we hope to have an EPNS representative on all the relevant EAN scientific panels
- European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP)
- European Academy of Paediatric Societies (EAPS)
- European Academy of Child Disability (EACD)
- European Brain Council (EBC)
- European Reference Networks (ERNs), including ERN-RND, EpicCare
- International Child Neurology Association (ICNA)

As a Society, it is important we continue to lobby for high quality patient management to prevent and treat childhood onset neurological disorders. Recently together with several of our national paediatric neurology European associations, the EPNS contributed to the consultation for the Strategic Plan of Horizon Europe, a research and innovation funding programme, to be launched by the EU, that will fund and support research across Europe from 2021-2027. We stressed that it is vital that the significant burden of neurological diseases in childhood is addressed through research and education as these disorders have a lifelong impact on the individual, their carers and society as a whole.

In addition, the changing nature of child neurology in the gene therapy era means child neurologists will be the clinicians who advise on and monitor these life transforming therapies. It is our opinion that Paediatric Neurology will evolve significantly as a discipline over the next decade and we need to be prepared to grasp the opportunities and challenges that face us.

There are changes ahead in our field and I look forward to sending updates on the progress of our EPNS activities during 2020 via the monthly e-newsletter. This is your Society and you are welcome to get involved; add your voice; share your talents; contribute your expertise; encourage your colleagues to join; celebrate the profession of paediatric neurology and make a difference!

I hope you enjoy reading this report of the highlights from the past year and thank you to our members for their continued support the EPNS.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year.

Best wishes

Sameer Zuberi

EPNS President



Invitation to 14th EPNS Congress

1-5 June 2021: Glasgow, United Kingdom

Dear Colleagues

We look forward to welcoming you to the 14th biennial congress of the European Paediatric Neurology Society at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) in Glasgow, United Kingdom.

The EPNS Congress provides an opportunity to learn about the latest developments in the rapidly evolving field of child neurology including basic science, diagnostic methods and novel treatments. You can network with colleagues and industry partners all focused on providing the best possible care for children with neurological disorders. The welcoming, vibrant city of Glasgow is well served for international and domestic flights by three international airports.

Best wishes

Sameer Zuberi

EPNS President

- ✓ Bring home the latest updates on developing technologies, clinical applications and practical solutions.
- ✓ Educate yourself as you earn CME Credits maintain or achieve certification.
- ✓ Swap ideas, share problems, discover solutions with international peers. You'll create a network you can rely on long after the congress ends.
- ✓ Recharge your batteries and return to your workplace brimming with innovative ideas and suggestions for improvements.
- ✓ Evaluate which products will be best for your organisation as exhibitors showcase their latest products and services.

For more information, please visit the congress website: <https://epns-congress.com/>

EPNS Board Members 2018-2021

President	Sameer Zuberi, Glasgow, UK
Past President	Lieven Lagae, Leuven, Belgium
Secretaries	Dana Craiu, Bucharest, Romania Rob Forsyth, Newcastle, UK
Treasurer	Michel Willemsen, Nijmegen, Netherlands
Chair Scientific & Research Committee	Barbara Plecko, Graz, Austria
Chair Education & Training Committee	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Chair Finance Committee	Florian Heinen, Munich, Germany
Chair of the Membership /Public Relations / Website Committee	Finbar O'Callaghan, London, UK
Webmaster	Francisco Carratala, Alicante, Spain
Chair Committee of National Advisors (CNA)	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Members	Banu Anlar, Ankara, Turkey Sophia Bakhtadze, Tbilisi, Georgia Nadia Bahi-Buisson, Paris, France Nina Barisic, Zagreb, Croatia Guenther Bernert, Vienna, Austria Linda De Meirleir, Brussels, Belgium Leena Haataja, Helsinki, Finland Anna Jansen, Brussels, Belgium Pavel Krsek, Prague, Czech Republic Tally Lerman-Sagie, Tel Aviv, Israel Jean-Pierre Lin, London, UK Alasdair Parker, Cambridge, UK Zvonka Renner-Primec, Ljubljana, Slovenia Kevin Rostasy, Datteln, Germany Thomas Sejersen, Stockholm, Sweden Maja Steinlin, Bern, Switzerland Jurgis Strautmanis, Riga, Latvia Federico Vigevano, Rome, Italy Dilek Yalnizoglu, Ankara, Turkey Dimitrios Zafeirou, Thessaloniki, Greece

EPNS Treasurer & Finance Report

Following another busy year at the EPNS, we are pleased to report that the Society's healthy financial situation continues, with adequate EPNS funds domiciled in safe bank accounts at a Private Bank in Germany where all monies are guaranteed.

This year the EPNS bookkeeping has moved to a new company for convenience and to reduce costs.

A system for detailed budgeting for our four main committees is strictly monitored, giving us closer management of expenditure. Administrative costs are kept to a minimum, including the costs associated with the biannual EPNS board meetings which take place in low-cost, easily accessible locations.

Using our existing funds, the financial contributions generated from our member subscription fees, and royalties from the Society Journal, the EPNS has organised many educational and scientific activities in 2019.

The Education and Training Committee have funded training courses in Spain and Uzbekistan plus supporting several national training events in Azerbaijan, Italy and Ukraine. Furthermore, 2 countries were supported in relation to the EPNS visiting teacher initiative and 3 EPNS Fellowships were funded.

The Scientific and Research Committee supported the 13th EPNS Congress in Athens plus the joint EACD/EPNS session in Paris received EPNS funding.

Again, our EPNS subscription fees have not been increased for any categories in 2020.

We are delighted to be able to serve our EPNS members by funding our Society's goal to provide enhanced training and scientific research in the field of Paediatric Neurology.

Best wishes

Michel Willemsen, EPNS Treasurer

Florian Heinen, Chair EPNS Finance Committee



Photo: Michel Willemsen
EPNS Treasurer



Photo: Florian Heinen
Chair EPNS Finance

EPNS Scientific & Research Report

13th EPNS Congress 2019



Photo: Barbara Plecko
Chair EPNS Scientific &
Research Committee



Photo: Dimitrios
Zafeiriou

The EPNS Congress is held biennially. The 13th EPNS Congress was held in Athens, Greece on 17-21 September 2019. With 1799 delegates from 75 different countries, and excellent feedback, we are delighted to conclude that this was our biggest congress so far! The stimulating programme reflected the main theme of the congress which was '*Paediatric Neurology and Rare Diseases: Genetics & Environment, Progression & Transition*'.

The Congress featured an exciting line-up of expert speakers and an excellent platform for the exchange of clinical and scientific knowledge on the latest developments and emerging challenges of paediatric neurology. We received a total of 578 abstracts. 100 selected for oral and 561 poster presentations. In keeping with the tradition of the EPNS congresses, the event was also a highly stimulating occasion both scientifically and socially. On behalf of the EPNS board I extend our thanks to Dimitrios Zafeiriou, the Chair of EPNS Congress 2019 and his team as well as Convin, for organising such a wonderful event. We are sincerely grateful to all speakers, chairs, supporters and delegates for contributing to the success.

At the EPNS congress opening ceremony, 2 awards were presented:

EPNS Linda de Meirleir Award

In memory of our much-loved colleague and EPNS board member Professor Linda de Meirleir (1954-2018), the EPNS donated an additional award for young investigators. The Linda de Meirleir award was presented by Linda's husband, Prof Jacques De Greve to Dr Hanna Hulshof from the Netherlands for her winning oral communication '*Neuroimaging findings as biomarkers of epilepsy risk and neurodevelopment at two years in patients with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex*'.



EPNS Aicardi Award



In recognition of our honorary EPNS member and internationally renowned French child neurologist, Professor Jean Aicardi (1926-2015), the EPNS in partnership with MacKeith Press, has established a series of award lectures since 2017. Professor Lieven Lagae was awarded the 2nd Aicardi Award in Athens. The very well received talk was entitled 'Miss Understanding is the Greek Goddess of Clinical Research' and covered the problems, challenges, successes and failures of clinical research in paediatric neurology.

Members of the scientific committee agreed on two awards granted for best oral and best poster presentations respectively. Both awardees get free registration for the next EPNS conference taking place in Glasgow 1-5 June 2021:

Award for the Best Oral Presentation: 'Genotype-phenotype correlations in Italian patients with KCNQ2-related Epileptic Encephalopathy' presented by Dr Anna Balagura from Italy. Congratulations!

Award for the Best Poster: 'Expanding the neurological spectrum of Seipin Deficiency (BSCL2), a complex lipid defect' presented by Dr Alejandra Darling from Spain. Congratulations!

EPNS Congress: Athens

On Friday 20 Sept 2019 the EPNS was delighted to collaborate with the EACD in a joint session on "Cerebral palsy and Developmental Neurology". The EACD speaker was Mijna Hadders-Algra, and the session was chaired by Sameer Zuberi and Gunther Bernert.

EPNS Congress 2019 sharing the science:

- Book of Abstracts can be viewed: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Speaker authorised presentations can be viewed by EPNS Members: Click <https://www.epns.info/epns-congresses/congress-2019/#1573474871367-97a98f0e-c6dc>

Photo Gallery: Check out the EPNS Congress 2019 Photo gallery and re-experience our wonderful meeting in Athens: [CLICK HERE](#)

3rd International Advances in Neuromodulation in Children Symposium



Photo: Jean-Pierre Lin

This event organised by Jean-Pierre Lin, took place in Athens directly before the 13th EPNS Congress on 16-17 September 2019. A meeting on the latest on Advances in Neuromodulation in Children. This two-day symposium covered new ground in the field of neuromodulation in children bringing together new concepts in neurophysiology, pathophysiology and neuromodulation for movement disorders and epilepsy. Both days had a specific focus on clinical and neurophysiological characteristics and improved patient selection, applying the principles of precision medicine and surgery.

NEURO-MIG SYMPOSIUM: Reverse phenotyping and pattern recognition in genetic malformations of the brain: Approach to MCD and phenotyping

Anna Jansen, Grazia Mancini, Nadia Bahi-Buisson, Daniela Pilz and Dina Amrom organised this satellite symposium on brain malformations supported by the European Neuro-MIG consortium. The goal of this educational session was to discuss the diagnostic approach for MCD and show the distinctive patterns that are highly associated with specific genes and syndromes.



Photo: Nadia Bahi-Buisson



Photo: Anna Jansen

European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD)

31st EACD Annual Meeting, May 23-25, 2019 Paris, France



The EPNS collaborated with the European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD) in a joint session at the meeting in Paris this year with 2 speakers representing the EPNS: Ludger Schoels and Michel Willemsen, and Leena Haatja as Chair.

32nd EACD meeting: Poznań, Poland 17-20 June 2020

EPNS has been invited to organize a joint session under EACD and EPNS auspices and plans are now underway.

EPNS Research Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden: 29-30 May 2020



EPNS Research meetings are held every 2 years, in alternate years to the EPNS congresses.

Child Neurologist researchers at all stages of their career are encouraged to present project outlines in an early phase that look for international collaborations and research networks.

Professor Thomas Sejersen will host the EPNS Research Meeting in 2020 at the Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden.

Registration will open in 2020.

Ten bursaries will be granted upon individual application and there will be two EPNS Research Prizes of 2,500 Euros per person awarded to young neurologists who present outstanding, innovative ideas in research in Paediatric Neurology.

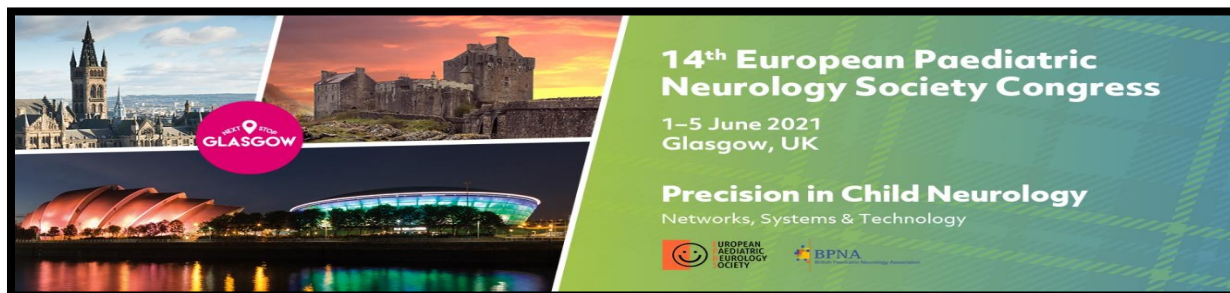
There will be 8 Working Groups and the Chairs should be contacted if there is an intention to present a project:

1. Autoimmune and Infectious Diseases
2. Ataxia
3. Epilepsy
4. Movement Disorders
5. Neonatal Neurology & Developmental Neurology
6. Neurometabolics
7. Neuromuscular
8. Paediatric Stroke

The Draft programme and Working Group details are available on the EPNS website:

<https://www.epns.info/epns-research-meeting-2020/>

14th EPNS Congress 2021



The 14th EPNS congress will take place in Glasgow, United Kingdom on 2 – 5 June 2021. The theme will be ‘precision therapies in child neurology looking at networks, systems and technology.’ The organising committee have started to put together a stimulating programme with invited speakers from a broad range of countries. More details about EPNS Congress 2021 can be found at <https://epns-congress.com/> and on page 3 of this annual report.

15th EPNS Congress 2023

Following the bidding process, I am delighted to announce that Prague will host the 15th EPNS Congress in 2023. The theme will be ‘from genome and connectome to cure.’

Best wishes

Barbara Plecko, Chair EPNS Research & Scientific Committee

EPNS Education & Training Report

2nd EPNS Training Course 2019: Alicante, Spain

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 2019 training course was the second of the 3-year cycle in Alicante. There were 106 participants from 30 countries with 24 European CME credits (ECMEC®s) awarded. EPNS stimulated participation by granting 30 bursaries from 15 different countries.



Photo: Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
Chair EPNS Education and Training Committee



7-8 May 2019: Neurometabolic Diseases

SCIENTIFIC ORGANISERS: Barbara Plecko



and Michel Willemsen



9-10 May 2019: Epilepsy

SCIENTIFIC ORGANISER: Lieven Lagae



Local Organizer: Francisco Carratala



The 2nd course in the Alicante series was a great success, with a stimulating programme, lots of delegate interaction and plenty of networking! Sincere thanks for the wonderful organisation, and all the faculty members for delivering excellent programmes. Special thanks to all the participants for their enthusiastic contributions. The standard of participant presentations was extremely high, and it is with great pleasure we awarded 3 prizes for the best presentations:

Neurometabolic course: Philippa Rodrigues Portugal and Maryia Sigutallina, Spain

Epilepsy course: Tiago Proenca dos Santos, Portugal

Principles and practice of child neurology in infancy, Tashkent, Uzbekistan 13-15 March 2019



The EPNS was delighted to hold an EPNS training course in this series in Tashkent. The event was a great success and the EPNS sincerely thanks the kind hospitality of the local organisers, the contributions of the delegates plus the excellent lectures, hard work and co-operation of the faculty team. 66 delegates attended and there was simultaneous translation to Russian.

Organising Committee: Shaanvar Shamansurov, Shakhlo Saidazizova, Sadokat Nazarova
PRIZES: Congratulations to the winners of the best clinical cases during the teaching course:

Tojiboyev Nurbek, Jalilova Shakhzoda and Nishonov Tuychiboy.

EPNS supporting an educational event



The EPNS offers to support national educational events. Applications are considered on a first come first served basis. The 4 events supported in 2019:

Joint
EPNS/SINP
teaching
course: 11-12
April 2019:
Catania, Sicily.
EPNS
President,
Sameer Zuberi, attended as a speaker.



2nd Congress
on Perinatal
Neurology: 17-
18 Oct. 2019:
Kiev, Ukraine.
EPNS Board
member Tally
Lerman-Sagie
attended as a
speaker.



<p>SINP Nat. Meeting: 28-30 Nov. 2019: Naples, Italy. EPNS President Sameer Zuberi attended as a speaker.</p>		<p>Masterclass on Childhood Epilepsies and Dystonia: 19-20 December 2019: Baku, Azerbaijan. EPNS members Finbar O'Callaghan, Jean-Pierre Lin and Naila Ismayilova attended as speakers</p>	
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EPNS Fellowships 2019

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. Successful candidates spend 3-4 month's fellowship in a specialised centre in Europe. The Fellowship budget max is 5,000 Euros. Since 2014 when the scheme started 30 Fellowships have been awarded.

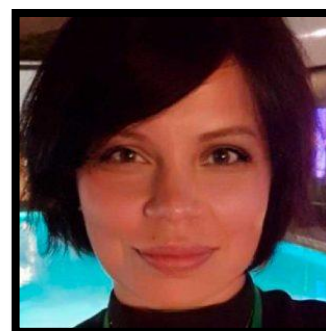
Congratulations to the following in 2019 who received EPNS Fellowships:



Dr Lana Loncar from Children's Hospital Zagreb, Croatia to Bambino Gesu Children's Hospital, Rome, Italy



Dr Daniel Natera from Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Barcelona, Spain to Great Ormond St, London, United Kingdom



Dr Nora Szabo from Szent János Kórház és Észak-Budai Egyesített Kórházak, Budapest, Hungary to Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, UK

EPNS Visiting Teacher 2019

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 EPNS as WB123 or WB4B 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 2019, the following successfully applied for the EPNS Visiting Teacher scheme.**

Kazakhstan: Mrs Van der Louw from the Netherlands visited the National Research Center for Maternal and Child Health, Pediatric Neurology Department, Turan 32, Astana in May 2019 and conducted a training seminar on the topic “Ketogenic diet in the treatment of children with severe epilepsy” which was very well received.



Bulgaria: Professor Leena Haataja from Finland visited the Department of Paediatrics and Medical Genetics, Medical University-Plovdiv at the end of 2019. The objectives of the visit were to discuss early intervention diagnostic assessment of children, screening and diagnostic tools for autism, language delay, other developmental delays or deviations at 0-5yrs, functional assessment, treatment interventions and assessment of effect of treatment.

EPNS Education & Training Committee Plans for the future

EPNS Training Courses: 3-year cycle

2018-2020 Alicante, Spain: Local organiser: Francisco Carratala, Spain

- 10-11 March 2020: Neuromuscular diseases (moderator Thomas Sejerson)
- 12-13 March 2020: Neonatal neurology (moderator Leena Hataaja)

2021-2023: Jurmala, Latvia. Local Organiser: Jurgis Strautmanis

2024-2026: Ferrara, Italy: Local organiser: Agnese Suppiej

EPNS Masterclass: Cambridge, UK: 10-12 September 2020

Organisers: Rob Forsyth and Florian Heinen

Instituted to address some of the practical dilemmas of clinical practice in the 21st Century. this is a small, interactive meeting with delegates attending in "couples" of a senior mentoring clinician and the leaders of tomorrow. The topic for 2020 is 'Evidence and Emotion'.

EPNS Central Eurasia Workshop: Almaty, Kazakhstan: 15–17 October 2020

Local Organiser: Marzan Lepessova, Kazakhstan

Workshop on assessment tools in neonates and young children

4th Caucasus Teaching Course: Tbilisi, Georgi: 13 and 14 November 2020

Local Organisers: Sophia Bakhtadze, Georgia and Biayna Sukhudy, Armenia

EPNS Fellowships 2020

The application period for EPNS Fellowship 2020 opened in April 2019 and announcements made at the end of 2019. In 2020 we are delighted to offer an extra award called the 'Aicardi Fellowship because Professor Lieven Lagae, who was presented with the Aicardi Award 2019, has kindly donated the prize fund to the EPNS fellowship scheme.

This very special award will be given to an application which is of extreme quality and the placement may lead to a publication.

EPNS Visiting Teacher 2020

The application period for EPNS Visiting Teacher 2020 also took place in 2019 and announcements made at the end of the year.

EPNS supporting an educational event

More applications are welcome in 2020 and beyond.

Best wishes

Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair EPNS Education and Training Committee

EPNS Membership & Public Relations Report

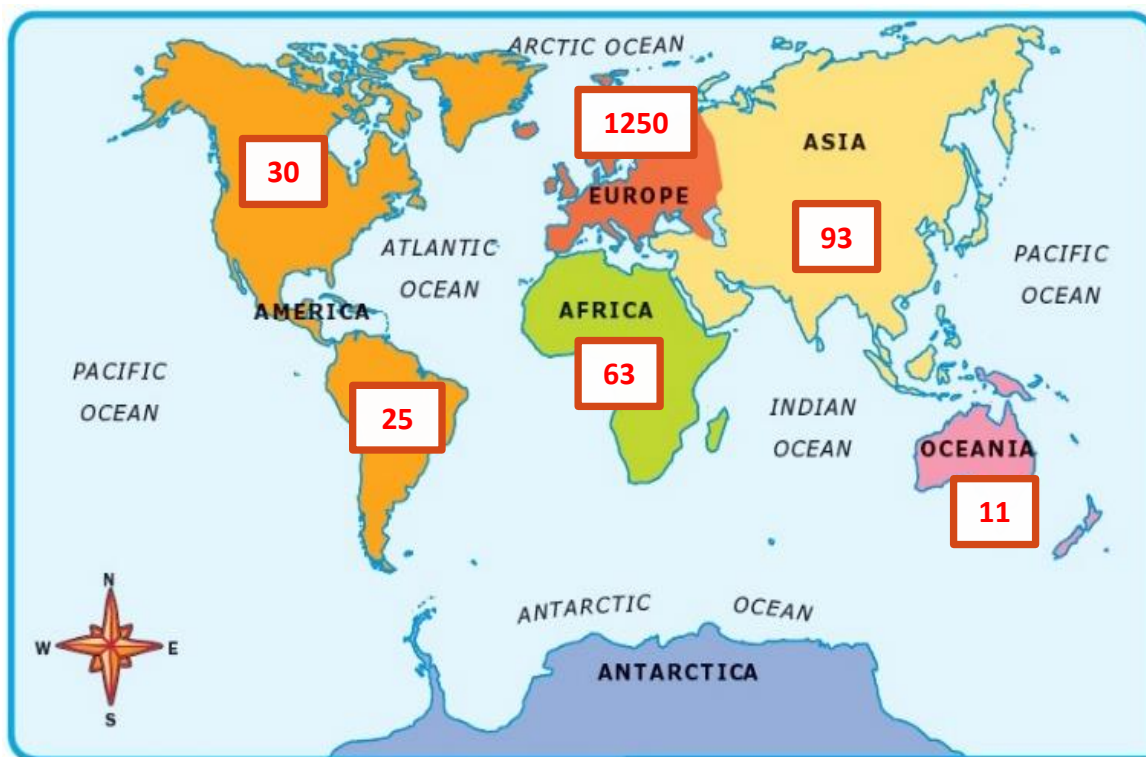
I am delighted to report that the EPNS continues to have the privilege of serving many members from across the world. Our total number of members has slightly dropped since the 2018 annual report and this is because in October 2019 we contacted all members who had not recently paid their EPNS membership fees, and if no action was taken, their details were removed from the EPNS membership database. This exercise was undertaken in order to comply with our Society's Constitution and to ensure our records were up to date and relevant. At 31 December 2019, we have a significant **total of 1,472 EPNS members.**



Photo: Finbar O'Callaghan
Chair EPNS Membership,
PR & Website Committee

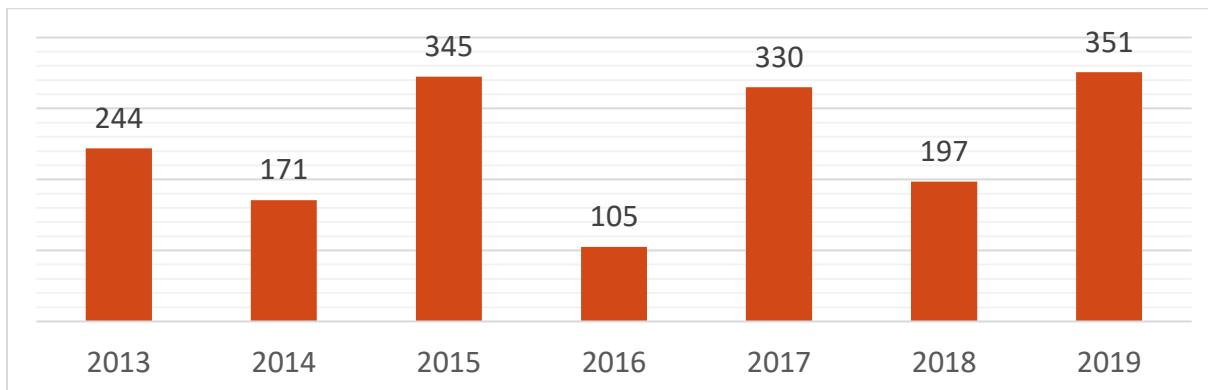
Membership Geography

85% of our members are in Europe. 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 2019 it has been a pleasure to welcome a record breaking **351 new members**. As can be seen in the table below, it is usual for more new members to join the EPNS in a congress biennial year.



In summary the Reasons for joining in 2019:

- 29% National Training Adviser/President National Association encouraged
- 25% Through a Scientific conference
- 16% Through a Training course
- 15% At EPNS desk in Congress Athens
- 4% Saw an advert in the EPNS Journal
- 12% Other reasons/no reason given

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 24 June 2017 in Lyon and the new members were approved by the general assembly on 21 September 2019 in Athens.

EPNS Videos

The EPNS is proud to present a 6-minute programme demonstrating the value of the EPNS network, which was premiered at the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) congress in Oslo in June 2019. The video details the clinical journey of a two-year-old girl with a rare genetic disorder and the collaboration of paediatric neurologists who provided her with innovative treatment.

Click here to view: ***'Youngest child ever has deep brain stimulation to limit erratic and painful movement'***: <https://itnproductions.wistia.com/medias/rztm7t5blm>

During the forthcoming weeks more videos about the operation and goals of the EPNS will be available on the EPNS website.

EPNS Collaborating

The Society continues to advertise appropriate meetings on behalf of other organisations on the EPNS website and in return the organisation reciprocates. The EPNS is fortunate to enjoy a close working relationship with most the national paediatric associations in Europe via the Committee of National Training Advisors (C N A) which channels communications on behalf of the EPNS to all interested parties. In addition, the EPNS continues to value and develop collaborative connections with other national and international related organisations to our mutual benefit, including the ICNA, CNS, EAN, EACD, ERNs, EBC, ILAE, etc. In 2020 the EPNS is delighted to have been able to organise an exhibition desk at the BPNA Conference in Belfast and the ICNA/CNS Congress in San Diego, and the Society welcomes future opportunities.

EPNS Annual Subscription fees

The 2019 annual subscription fees offered great value and appropriate discounts for certain members. **The annual subscription fees will remain the same for 2020:**

	Online EJPEN	Printed EJPEN
WB4A: Members from World Bank Class 4 nations not in WB4B	130 Euros	160 Euros
WB4B: Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain	65 Euros	95 Euros
WB123: Members from World Bank Class 1, 2 or 3 nations	30 Euros	60 Euros
Trainee: Trainee members from any nation	20 Euros	50 Euros

'WB' = 'World Bank Classification. Here is the up to date list of countries which the World Bank have classified as Class 4 nations [World Bank list of high income economies 2020](#) If a country does not appear on this list, it is part of the category WB123.

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

Communication

EPNS Flyers: play an important role in advertising the EPNS, and in 2019 approximately 2,500 flyers were distributed at events around the world.

Twitter: @EPNSnews Now with approx. 1,200 followers.

EPNS Website: The EPNS website has a new look and there have been enhancements to the EPNS database as part of our ongoing drive to continuously improve and keep up to date with the latest security and technology.

Best wishes

Finbar O'Callaghan, Chair EPNS Membership & Public Relations Committee

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.



Photo: Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
Chair C N A

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 C N A meets biennially just before the EPNS Congress, and consequently a successful meeting took place on Tuesday 17 September 2019 in Athens. It was a wonderful opportunity for representatives from each European country to get together and discuss mutual information and debate on matters relevant to paediatric neurology.

During 2019 a central database has been finalised relating to paediatric neurology in each European country with the assistance of members of the C N A. This is being used to produce an interesting paper relating to European training which will be available in 2020.

The primary focus of a CNA working group in 2019 has been to update the European Paediatric Neurology Syllabus, which was accepted by the General Board of EPNS and in this meeting by the CNA

Best wishes

Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets

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 subspecialty of Paediatrics and of Neurology. In the process of defining the specialty, 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.



Photo: Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
Chair TAB

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 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

Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets

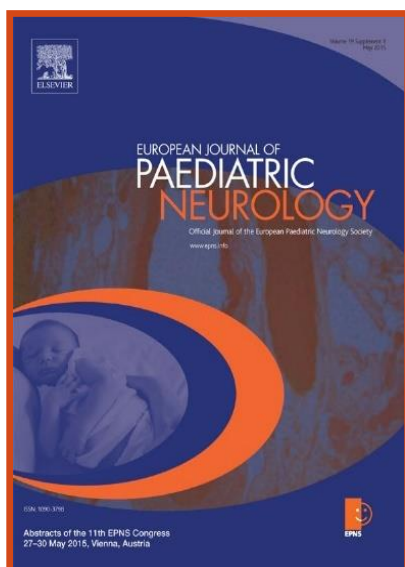
Chair Training Advisory Board (TAB)

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 plus 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. The journal is owned by the society and contributes to the income of the EPNS through royalty payments.



Photo: Sameer Zuberi
EPNS Editor-in-Chief



With an Impact Factor which has increased by 5.7% to 2.5, the quality of submissions remains high. We will be publishing Special Issues in the forthcoming months including one on Epilepsy & Neurodevelopment in January 2020.

The EPNS EJPN contract with Elsevier, the publishers, has been favourably renewed this year and we continue to offer our EPNS members either online only access to the Journal, or if preferred EPNS members can opt to receive printed issues too.

We are delighted that the Gesellschaft für Neuropädiatrie (GNP) have decided that EJPN will become an official journal of their society. All GNP members will receive electronic access to EJPN increasing our readership base.

The journal has a distinguished international Editorial Board of specialists in the field who advise on the direction of the journal, special issues and review papers. Our Associate Editor team comprises Prof Alexis Arzimanoglou (Lyon), Dr Lucia Gerstl (Munich), Dr Deborah Sival (Groningen) and Prof Dimitrios Zafeiriou (Thessaloniki).

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.

EPNS Annual Subscription Fees for 2020

The fee paid for 2020 depends on 3 factors:

1. The World Bank income category your country belongs to:
 - Class 4 nations [World Bank list of high income economies 2020](#)
 - If your country **does not** appear on this list, this means, you will pay the discounted World Bank Class 1,2,3 nation fee (**Category WB123**)
 - If your country **does** appear on this list, this means you will pay the **Category WB4A** fee, EXCEPT the members who practice in the following countries, who will pay the **Category WB4B** fee: Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain
2. If you opt for online only access to the Journal or receive a printed copy too.
3. Whether you are a trainee. Trainees from all nations pay the **Category Trainee** fee.

Below is a table of the 2020 subscription fees:

	electronic-only Journal	printed copy of Journal
Category WB4A	130 Euros	160 Euros
Category WB4B	65 Euros	95 Euros
Category WB123	30 Euros	60 Euros
Category Trainee	20 Euros	50 Euros

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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 on-line through our website <http://www.epns.info/> On the home page click the **'BECOME A MEMBER'** 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.