

# Annual Report 2021



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

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## EPNS President's Overview

Despite the disruptions caused by the Covid-19 global pandemic, I can report that 2021 has been a busy and productive year for the EPNS. We have adapted to ensure we meet the Society's commitment to our members. Whilst there have been challenges, thanks to our EPNS Board members, EPNS members and EPNS partners we have continued to play an important role in and beyond Europe by delivering a platform for advocacy, education, training, and science in the field of Paediatric Neurology. Our membership numbers continue to increase, with more than 400 new members welcomed to the EPNS this year.



Photo: Sameer Zuberi  
EPNS President

The impact of the pandemic has been particularly severe for children with neurological disorders. Losing access to education also meant reduced access to ongoing specialist therapy so critical for children with chronic diseases. Families and children faced isolation with care for medical and behavioural problems falling almost exclusively on them. Paediatric neurologists have changed practices embracing innovations to deliver the best possible care and we have advocated for our patient group. In 2021 we have strengthened our partnerships with many societies acknowledging that by working together we can achieve so much more.

During 2021 the EPNS reflected on the experience of 2020, addressing which activities need to be restored, adapted, and renewed. It has been an opportunity to consider sustainable development, the environment and how we can reduce our impact on climate change. Consequently, this year we introduced an EPNS Green Policy, which is a recurring agenda item at all EPNS Board meetings.

This annual report is a snapshot of our resilience as a Society and details our achievements this year and our future plans.

The Education & Training Committee report on the continued success of the monthly EPNS educational webinars, the virtual EPNS Latvian hosted training courses, EPNS fellowships, EPNS Visiting Teachers and on online training courses. I eagerly await more news about the roll-out of the EPNS Training Guide and EPNS Exam in the forthcoming months.

The report from the Scientific & Research Committee details the virtual EPNS Research Meeting in 2021. which provided a highly successful forum for exchanging scientific ideas of the highest standard and developing new collaborations. Please accept our invitation on page 6 of this report to join us for the 14<sup>th</sup> EPNS Hybrid Congress taking place from 28 April until 2 May 2022. I hope to have the opportunity to welcome many of you to Glasgow. The planning for future congresses is also well underway with an inspiring programme taking shape for our EPNS Congress 2023 in Prague, Czech Republic. I can take this opportunity to extend congratulations to the team in Munich, Germany on their successful bid to host EPNS Congress 2025.

Please take a moment to read the report from the Young EPNS (YEPNS) on page 28.. This highly motivated and enthusiastic group brings together younger members of the EPNS to learn, collaborate and network. These future leaders of our specialty have already made a significant contribution to EPNS activities. The YEPNS will have dedicated events at EPNS Congress 2022 and are playing a vital role in the recently established Guidelines Committee.

During my tenure as EPNS President, the role of the EPNS as an advocate for paediatric neurology through strengthened partnerships and new connections at a European level and beyond has become increasingly important. The EPNS has developed formal, strong and fruitful relationships with many other societies; below are some of the organisations we have been collaborating with to raise the voice of child neurology:

- European Brain Council (EBC): as a full member, we continue to lobby for high quality patient management to prevent and treat childhood onset neurological disorders at the European level. We have representatives on all significant working groups.
- OneNeurology: the EPNS is now a Partner and represented on the Steering Committee of this evolving organisation with a goal to unite neurology-related groups and seek collaborative advocacy worldwide.
- European Academy of Neurology (EAN): a society for our adult neurology colleagues. The EPNS has a representative on all the relevant EAN scientific panels and actively participates in EAN congresses.
- European Reference Networks (ERNs): we are in close contact with the ERNs, including ERN-RND, ERN\_NMD and EpicCare. Projects include joint educational initiatives
- European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (ESCAP): the EPNS has recently linked up with this umbrella community of national association members.
- International child neurology societies: recently the Presidents from the EPNS, African Child Neurology Association (ACNA), Asian and Oceanian Child Neurology Association (AOCNA), Child Neurology Society (CNS), International Child Neurology Association (ICNA), and the Iberoamerican Academy of Paediatric Neurology started to meet 6 monthly to discuss our joint goals, ways in which we can work together and to ensure we complement rather than duplicate our activities.
- Committee of National Advisers (CNA): our valuable link to the European national paediatric neurology associations, please read the report from Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets on page 15.

This year the EPNS was invited to contribute to a consultation by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on an Intersectoral Global Action Plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders (IGAP) to address challenges and gaps in providing care and services for people with neurological disorders. We ensured that our comments were closely coordinated with our partner international child neurology societies. I am pleased to report that the most recently published consolidated comments by the WHO is more child neurology focused, with a strong message about the concept of lifelong neurological disorders and antenatal/maternal health influencing neurological

disorders. I hope that our efforts contributed to these important changes. The WHO will present the paper to the World Health Assembly in 2022 and we hope the outcome will be that neurology as a whole will be raised as a global public priority.

In addition, acknowledging the vital role played by patient groups as representatives for children with neurological disorders, we have been reaching out to European level groups including the following who we are delighted will be participating in EPNS Congress 2022:

- European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA): Representing neurology patient groups.
- EURORDIS: Representing rare disease patient groups.

Next year we welcome a new EPNS Board for the term 2022-2026, see page 7. I extend my congratulations to all successful candidates and my commiserations to those who stood as candidates but were not elected. In February 2022 the existing EPNS Board hands over to the new Board. During this meeting the new EPNS Executive Committee will be ratified, and additional co-opted members will be invited to join the EPNS Board in the summer to fulfil specific roles. Several existing EPNS Board members will continue to serve for the next term, including myself.

I express my sincerest thanks to the 2018-2022 EPNS Board members who will no longer serve on the EPNS Board; their energy and contributions have been invaluable, and I hope they will continue to share their experience and knowledge with the EPNS in the future.

Serving as EPNS President for the last 4 years has been a privilege. Whilst the impact of Covid-19 certainly restricted some plans, it has been my honour to be part of this exceptional Society. From the outset of my presidency my aim was to see the EPNS continue to deliver the highest quality educational programmes, forge scientific collaborations, advocate for our members, and raise the profile of child neurology through advocacy and strategic partnerships.

My term is approaching its end and a new EPNS President will soon be ratified. I am delighted to still be part of the EPNS Board, and excited to work with our newly elected executive committee team. My report began with the ways in which the EPNS has adapted to the recent global challenges. Your continued support is vital; thank you to all parties involved in the EPNS; by reading this Annual Report you will appreciate how agile the Society is and the breadth of work that is being undertaken. Together we can help the paediatric neurology community provide better care for our patients. The EPNS remains your partner, your advocate, and your professional family.

Wishing you all the best in 2022 and I hope to see you in Glasgow for our 14th EPNS Congress taking place 28 April to 2 May 2022!

**Best wishes**

**Sameer Zuberi, EPNS President**



### Invitation to 14th EPNS HYBRID Congress 28 April – 2 May 2022: Glasgow, United Kingdom

I invite you to the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) taking place on 28 April – 2 May 2022. We had previously planned for this meeting to take place in June 2021; however, it was postponed due to the Covid19 pandemic. Our Congress in 2022 will be a hybrid event taking place in person at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) in Glasgow, United Kingdom and on a virtual platform. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us in Glasgow and we are planning an exciting and interactive online experience. We wish our Congress to respect both the needs for face-to-face scientific discourse and the needs of the planet. We will provide delegates with the [tools](#) to consider and mitigate the impact on climate change of their attendance.

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 delivering the best possible care for children with neurological disorders. The Congress will take place in the welcoming, vibrant city of Glasgow, which is well served by rail and air.

We look forward to seeing you in Glasgow and online!

**Best wishes**  
**Sameer Zuberi**  
**EPNS President**



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

### EPNS Board Members 2018-2022

<b>President</b>	Sameer Zuberi, Glasgow, UK
<b>Past President</b>	Lieven Lagae, Leuven, Belgium
<b>Secretaries</b>	Dana Craiu, Bucharest, Romania Rob Forsyth, Newcastle, UK
<b>Treasurer</b>	Michel Willemsen, Nijmegen, Netherlands
<b>Chair Scientific &amp; Research Committee</b>	Barbara Plecko, Graz, Austria
<b>Chair Education &amp; Training Committee</b>	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Rotterdam, Netherlands
<b>Chair Finance Committee</b>	Florian Heinen, Munich, Germany
<b>Chair of the Membership /Public Relations / Website Committee</b>	Finbar O'Callaghan, London, UK
<b>Webmaster</b>	Francisco Carratala, Alicante, Spain
<b>Chair Committee of National Advisors (CNA)</b>	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Rotterdam, Netherlands
<b>Members</b>	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 Rener-Primec, Ljubijana, 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 Board Members 2022-2026

The following 20 EPNS Board member 2022-2026 candidates (in alphabetical order) received the highest number of votes in the recent election. They will be joining the EPNS Board for the term 2022-2026. Congratulations to all the successful candidates and commiserations to those who stood as candidates but received a fewer number of votes. The new EPNS Board will be meeting in Leuven, Belgium in February 2022, together with the existing Board. At this meeting, the appointment of the roles in the new Board will be ratified and the options available for co-opting more members onto the Board will be discussed.

First Name	Last Name	Country
Nadia	Bahi-Buisson	France
Dewi	Bakker	Netherlands
Sandra	Bigi	Switzerland
Maria Roberta	Cilio	Belgium
Dana	Craiu	Romania
Rob	Forsyth	United Kingdom
Kathleen Mary	Gorman	Ireland
Anna	Jansen	Belgium
Lieven	Lagae	Belgium
Ming	Lim	United Kingdom
Jean-Pierre	Lin	United Kingdom
Francesco	Muntoni	United Kingdom
Finbar	O'Callaghan	United Kingdom
Barbara	Plecko	Austria
Kevin	Rostasy	Germany
Thomas	Sejersen	Sweden
Federico	Vigevano	Italy
Michel	Willemsen	Netherlands
Dimitrios	Zafeiriou	Greece
Sameer	Zuberi	United Kingdom



## EPNS Treasurer & Finance Report

The COVID-19 pandemic is still evolving and has acted as a catalyst for the EPNS to focus on what needs to be restored, changed, and renewed. As the world begins to remobilise, we are considering how we can contribute towards a sustainable greener society whilst still offering valuable educational, research and networking opportunities for paediatric neurologists around the world.

2021 has been a year of virtual events. Our planned EPNS Training courses in Latvia transitioned to a fully virtual event, as did the postponed EPNS Research Meeting which should have taken place in Sweden in 2020. Whilst it is impossible to replace the benefits of face-to-face interaction, these major virtual events received positive feedback and offered EPNS members good value without the additional costs which come with travelling to an in-person event. Funds continue to be invested in new innovative ways for the EPNS to provide educational opportunities for our members, such as the virtual platforms for our Monthly Webinars, Online Training Courses, Journal Clubs, Case Discussions, etc.

Several activities have been postponed from 2020 and 2021 until 2022, for example EPNS Fellowships, EPNS Eurasia workshop, EPNS Masterclass etc. and funds have been set aside to ensure these activities resume when it is safe to do so.

Alongside funding our traditional activities in 2022, funds have been invested to introduce a new EPNS Exam and we are excited to see this evolve in the coming months.

We are grateful every day for the continued financial support of our members, and the EPNS has demonstrated through this pandemic era that it is a resilient and agile Society. It is with pleasure we can report the Society's healthy financial situation continues, with adequate EPNS funds domiciled in a safe bank account at a Private Bank in Germany where all monies are guaranteed.

Our system for detailed budgeting for our four main committees continues to be strictly monitored, giving us close management of expenditure. Administrative costs are kept to a minimum, including the costs associated with the biannual EPNS board meetings which take place either virtually or, when possible, in low-cost, easily accessible locations. Whilst we are reassured by the healthy EPNS financial situation, we will not become complacent and EPNS finances continue to be monitored closely.

We are confident that the EPNS is well-placed to continue funding its goal to provide enhanced training and scientific research in the field of Paediatric Neurology.

### Best wishes

**Michel Willemsen, EPNS Treasurer and Florian Heinen, Chair EPNS Finance Committee**



Photo: Michel Willemsen  
EPNS Treasurer



Photo: Florian Heinen  
Chair EPNS Finance

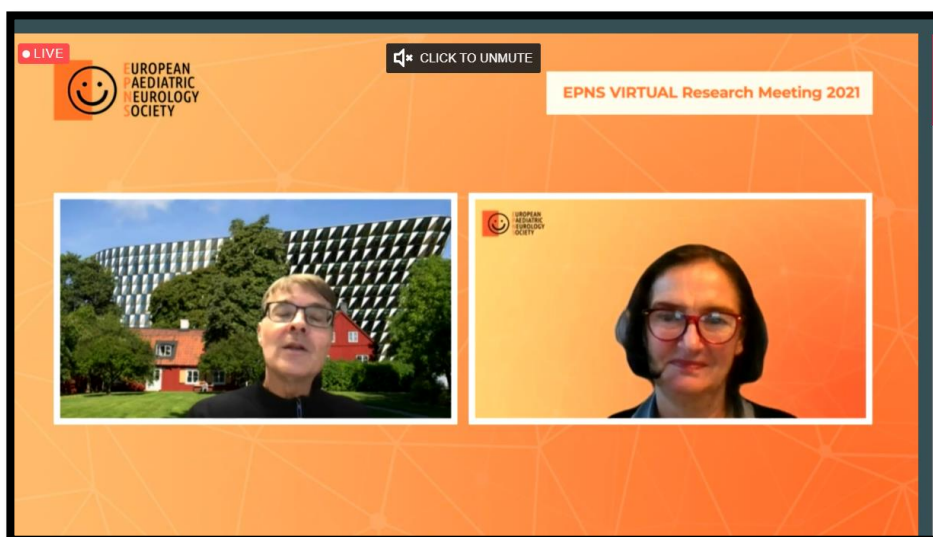
## EPNS Scientific & Research Report

The Scientific and Research Committee had a virtual meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February and on the 1st of October of 2021 and another five meetings with Working Group Chairs to plan for the Research Meeting of 2021 and its new challenging virtual format.



Photo: Barbara Plecko  
Chair EPNS Scientific &  
Research Committee

### EPNS Virtual Research Meeting: 25-26 November 2021



EPNS Research Meetings are traditionally held biennially, in alternate years to the EPNS biennial Congresses. Following the cancellation of the EPNS Research Meeting planned to take place in Stockholm in 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were very lucky, that Thomas Sejersen from the Karolinska Institute was still willing to host the meeting in 2021, which for the safety of our participants and faculty was scheduled as a fully virtual event. We allowed for 40 participants per working group and consecutive attendance of two different workshops on a first come first serve basis to fully paid EPNS members. The registration fee was 50 Euros for delegates who practice in WB123 & WB4B countries and 100 Euros for delegates who practice in WB4A countries. Abstracts were invited a few months before the meeting and all candidates who met criteria for the abstract submission were offered free priority registration. Out of the 83 submitted, 77 were selected by the respective working group chairs and had the opportunity to present during the related break-out room sessions.

All talks by participants were live and we are happy to say, that the platform provided by Winglet worked out extremely well. A data protection sheet had been signed by all participants to keep confidentiality on patient information and project details. On the second day all participants had the chance to hear the best presentation out of each working group, selected by their working group chairs. Thomas Sejersen together with the working group chairs moderated the discussion and we are proud to say, that the breadth and quality of science presented at the Research Meeting was of the highest quality. Also following feedback from many sources, we are delighted to report that the

virtual Research Meeting was a great success with several projects calling for international collaboration. Attendance was accredited with 9 European CME credits.

The three plenary invited plenary lectures were freely available. **Anna Lindstrand** from Stockholm introduced her excellent work on Zebrafish models to delineate the functional effects of variants in novel disease genes. **Nadia Bahi-Buisson** from Paris gave most valuable information on do's and don'ts for EU grant applications. **Peter Brodin** from London /Stockholm gave a fascinating insight into the brain gut axis and the neuroimmune interface.

#### Band A Working Groups

EPNS Working group	Chairs
Autoimmune inflammatory diseases	Martin Häusler & Kevin Rostasy
Movement Disorders	Jean-Pierre Lin & <i>Michel Willemsen</i>
Neonatal Neurology & Developmental Neurology	Nadia Bahi-Buisson & Regina Trollmann
Paediatric Stroke	Lucia Gerstl & Finbar O'Callaghan

#### Band B Working Groups

EPNS Working group	Chairs
Ataxia	Deborah Sival & Maja Steinlin
Epilepsy	Alexis Arzimanoglou & Floor Jansen & Lieven Lagae
Neurometabolics	Barbara Plecko & Dimitrios Zafeiriou
Neuromuscular	Guenther Bernert & Thomas Sejersen

Selected abstracts for presentation on day 2:

Working Group	first name	last name	country
Autoimmune & Infectious Diseases	Gemma	Olivé-Cirera	Spain
Movement Disorders	Apostolos	Papandreou	UK
Neonatal Neurology	Andreea	Nissenkorn	Israel
Stroke	Liene	Thys	Belgium
Ataxia	Suus	van Noort	Netherlands
Epilepsy	Theodor	Rüber	Germany
Neurometabolic	Juliana	Constante	Spain
Neuromuscular	David	Gómez Andrés	Spain

From the 8 abstract presenters on day 2, using a scoring system, the Working Group Chairs awarded 2 EPNS Research prizes of 2,500 Euros each. May I extend my sincerest congratulations to all selected presenters and to the following who were awarded the **EPNS Research Prizes** for their inspirational presentations:



From the Movement Disorders Working Group, **Apostolos Papandreou** (left) presented 'Midbrain dopaminergic neurons derived from patients with autophagy-related monogenic parkinsonism are utilised for identification of disease-specific therapies'.

From the Neuromuscular Working Group, **David Gómez Andrés** (right) presented 'Pattern Recognition Muscle MRI in Early Onset Muscle Disorders: From Previous Works to Future Plans'.



To bring a social element to the event, there was a **pub quiz**, organised by representatives from the Young EPNS (YEPNS). Sincere thanks to Jelte Helfferich, Giacomo Garone, Marietta Papadopoulou and Esra Serdaroglu for facilitating such a fun event, and to Thomas Sejersen for providing the traditional Swedish-Glogg recipe ☺.



Attended by 120 participants, the feedback received has been excellent. Thank you to all involved, especially Thomas Sejersen, the Plenary Speakers, Working Group Chairs and Abstract presenters.

## EPNS Research Meeting 2024

Congratulations to Slovenia who will host the EPNS Research Meeting in 2024, organised by Zvonka Renner Primerc from Ljubljana.

## 14<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress Glasgow, UK 28 April – 2 May 2022



The 14<sup>th</sup> EPNS congress will take place as a hybrid virtual and physical gathering in Glasgow, United Kingdom on 28 April – 2 May 2022. The theme will be ‘Precision therapies in child neurology looking at networks, systems and technology.’ The organising committee has put together a stimulating programme with invited speakers from a broad range of countries.

The Aicardi lecture has been awarded to Professor Marjo van der Knaap and promises to be a particular highlight during the opening ceremony. We are looking forward to the final day of the congress when the EPNS Academy 2022 will take place, entitled ‘Progress in paediatric neuroimaging’ and this will be followed by the ‘EPNS Highlights’ session during which 6 topics will be reviewed by EPNS Board members on relevant papers from the last 3 years in the main fields of child neurology.

More details about EPNS Congress 2022 can be found at <https://epns-congress.com/> and on page 5 of this annual report.

On behalf of Sameer Zuberi, chair of the 14<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress, we look forward to welcoming you to our EPNS Congress next year in Glasgow.

## 15<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress 2023

The 15<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress will take place at the Prague Conference Centre, Prague, Czech Republic on 20-24 June 2023, hosted by Pavel Kršek. The theme will be: ‘from genome and connectome to cure.’ The programme is being developed with innovative platform sessions and distinguished invited speakers.

## 16<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress 2025

Congratulations to Munich and the GNP, Germany, who submitted a successful bid and will be the host of the 16th EPNS Congress in 2025.

## EPNS Guidelines Committee

Led by Dana Craiu, the EPNS Guidelines Committee has undertaken a project to develop a library of EPNS approved Guidelines in the field of Paediatric Neurology. Not wanting to 're-invent the wheel', the first phase of the project has started by collecting and reviewing existing guidelines from across Europe. In addition, the committee will focus, in partnership with the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), on developing a Transition Guideline/good practice document.

## European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD)

### EACD meeting 2021

The EPNS was honoured to organise and co-chair a joint parallel session entitled "Autoimmune encephalitis" with EPNS representatives Kevin Rostasy from Datteln, Germany and Margherita Nosadini, Padova, Italy.



### EACD Barcelona: 18-21 May 2022

The EPNS is pleased to be invited to once again take part in a joint EACD and EPNS session which will focus on an update on anticonvulsants (new drugs, AED and cognition, precision medicine in childhood epilepsy).

## European Academy of Neurology (EAN)

The EPNS is delighted to be working with the EAN, and EPNS representatives are now serving on all the key EAN Scientific panels.



### EAN Congress VIRTUAL 19-22 June 2021

The EPNS was honoured to participate in a joint virtual EAN/EPNS session on 21 June 2021 with the heading „Neurometabolic Disease“. The EPNS representatives were Barbara Plecko, Alessandro Simonati and Nicole Wolf.

In addition, on 19 June 2021 the EPNS participated in a session entitled „Epilepsy: Etiology-driven Therapy in Epilepsy: From Bedside to Bench: Genetics in epilepsy: not only abnormal channels“, with EPNS Speakers Sameer Zuberi, Carla Marini and Rikke S Møller.

### EAN Congress Vienna: 25-28 June 2022

Proposals have been submitted to the Congress team for joint EAN and EPNS sessions.

## International Child Neurology Association (ICNA)

### ICNA Congress Antalya, Turkey 3-7 October 2022

The EPNS is looking forward to the joint EPNS/ICNA session on 5 October 2022 which will have the following programme:

#### Delineation of Novel Disease Entities in Child Neurology

10+5 minutes „How can scientific societies enhance research ?“	<i>Barbara Plecko</i>
10+5 minutes „EPNS training activities for child neurology“	<i>Coriene Catsman</i>
20+10 Strategies to build up selected study cohorts	<i>Angels Cazorla</i>
20+10 Potential and limits of next generation sequencing	<i>Lisenka Vissers</i>
20+10 From candidate genes to proof of pathogenicity	<i>Manju Kurian</i>



## European Academy of Paediatric Societies (EAPS)

### EAPS Barcelona, Spain: 7-11 October 2022:

The EPNS will be participating with the following presentations:

Extension of the field of Paediatrics to Fetal life – fetal neurology as a paradigm: Tally Lerman Sagie, Tel Aviv

Clues for recognising metabolic diseases mimicking cerebral palsy:

Barbara Plecko, Graz.

Early diagnosis of autoimmune encephalitis – what a paediatrician should know: Dana Craiu, Bucharest.



### EPNS Journal Club

During the EPNS board meeting in February of 2021 the Scientific and Research Committee agreed to introduce a new format, the EPNS Journal Club, to stimulate scientific activities and research among our young members during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The Journal Club was launched in May of 2021 and takes place on the 4th Wednesday in alternate months to the EPNS Webinars. Among other activities, the JC is very successfully organised by the YEPNS, and a full account will be given in the YEPNS section of this Annual Report.

Whilst the Covid-19 pandemic continues to throw uncertainty in the path forward, the members EPNS Scientific and Research Committee are optimistic for the future, and we look forward to more fruitful and inspiring activities in our paediatric neurology field.

See you in Glasgow!

**Best wishes**

**Barbara Plecko, Chair EPNS Research & Scientific Committee**



## EPNS Education & Training Report

I decided not to stand for the latest EPNS Board election and therefore my term on the EPNS Board and as Chair of the EPNS Education & Training Committee is sadly coming to an end.

First, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow EPNS Board members for all their support, help and friendship, especially in shaping the EPNS education and training initiatives. The EPNS has come a long way in recent years, and this would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the members of this committee.

It has been a pleasure for me to be involved in shaping the EPNS Education & Training Committee goals and activities.

In recent times, whilst the global pandemic caused so much devastation around the world, on a positive note it gave us focus to find new innovative ways to quench our EPNS members' thirst for education and training. Here is a summary of what happened in 2021 for the EPNS Education and Training Committee, followed by the plans for 2022:



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

## EPNS Education & Training Committee what happened in 2021

### EPNS Training Guide

An EPNS Teaching Concepts Committee formed in 2021, led by myself, Maja Steinlin and Alasdair Parker, to take an overview of the EPNS training activities. The first project undertaken was to design an EPNS Training Guide which follows the EPNS syllabus blueprint with a dedicated chapter to each topic. Each chapter lists what a European trainee in paediatric neurology should have knowledge of by the end of their training, with a section at the end giving 'essential' and 'desirable' activities. To complement the EPNS Training Guide there will be a 3-year cycle of EPNS teaching covering the relevant topics using the EPNS webinars and all EPNS training courses. The draft EPNS Training Guide in its final stages and will be available to EPNS members soon.

### EPNS Exam

Maja Steinlin has actively worked on this huge task to implement an EPNS Exam and set a standard for general level of knowledge for Paediatric Neurologists. It will be an evaluation of Learning Objectives and Training Conditions as stated in the new EPNS Training Guide. The first formative EPNS Exam was held during the EPNS VIRTUAL Training Course Jurmala (Latvia) in April 2021. This was a very important exercise in developing the exam, with many lessons learned and may I extend my sincere thanks to all involved. More work is now being carried out to create the catalogue of multiple-choice questions, with plans to hold a final trial during the EPNS Congress in Glasgow 2022, and to roll-out the first summative examination in 2023.

## EPNS VIRTUAL Training Course Jurmala (Latvia) 2021

The aim of the 3-year rolling EPNS training programme is to cover most main topics in the EPNS Training Guide over the cycle, promote contact between paediatric neurology trainees and for qualified paediatric neurologists to refresh their knowledge.

Jurmala, Latvia is the venue for the training courses from 2021-2023.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the decision was taken to host the 2021 course in a fully virtual format. The topics from the cancelled 2020 Alicante course were carried forward as follows:

**12-13 April 2021:**



**Neuromuscular Diseases**

Moderator:

Thomas Sejersen

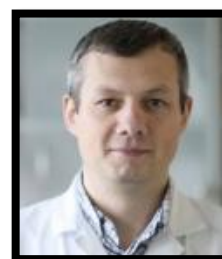
**14-15 April 2021:**

**Neonatal Neurology**



Moderator:

Leena Haataja



Local Organiser:

Jurgis Strautmanis

The event was accredited with 12 European CME credits (ECMEC®s) per 2-day course and was available to EPNS Members Only with a small registration fee payable. We successfully used 5 Breakout rooms per course for limited number of participants for case presentation discussions. 2 Prizes were awarded to the following for the best presentations, and I send my sincere congratulations to:

- Neuromuscular Diseases Course: Ulrich Pfeiffer from Germany
- Neonatal Neurology: Rebecca Finnegan from Ireland



The event was not recorded, and PDFs of presentations have been uploaded to the member only section of the EPNS website.

Whilst we missed out on experiencing the face-to-face hospitality, there was a

Latvian theme to the courses including a quiz and tour.

Each of the 2-day courses was attended by about 240 delegates from 50 different countries, and I am delighted to report that the feedback was excellent, and we have taken a note of the constructive ideas for improvement in the future.

## EPNS Monthly Webinars

In October 2020, the EPNS was delighted to offer FREE 60–90-minute webinars on topics of key interest to Child Neurologists on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 17:00h CET.



The webinars have continued throughout 2021 and have proved to be a useful and appreciated teaching tool. Each webinar has been broadcast live on Zoom and available for FREE to anyone who would like to register, and those who attend for the full broadcast receive a certificate of attendance. Fully paid up EPNS members can

access a recording of the full session via the EPNS website after the event, together with a list of recommended references from the guest speaker.

The following EPNS Webinars have taken place in 2021 and have been well attended, with an average of 420 participants per webinar from about 60 different countries each time:

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER	Chair
13-Jan-21	Status Epilepticus in Children	Federico Vigevano	Dilek Yalnizoglu
10-Feb-21	Paediatric Haemorrhagic Stroke	Maja Steinlin	Sophia Bakhtadze
10-Mar-21	Non- Epileptic Paroxysmal disorders	Nicola Specchio	Kevin Rostasy
14-Apr-21	Neuromuscular Diseases in Childhood: an update.	Thomas Sejersen	Dilek Yalnizoglu
12-May-21	Psychiatry and Motor Manifestations in Autoimmune Encephalitis	Tiziana Granata	Federico Vigevano
09-Jun-21	Metabolic diseases with (sub)acute behavioral disturbances as main initial symptom	Clara Van Karnebeek	Dilek Yalnizoglu
Jul-21	Holiday break	Holiday break	Holiday break
Aug-21	Holiday break	Holiday break	Holiday break
08-Sep-21	Approach to a sleepy child	Oliviero Bruni	Maja Steinlin
13-Oct-21	Genetic Background of Cerebral Migration Disorders	Gracia Mancini	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
10-Nov-21	Neonatal presentations of Neuromuscular disorders	Goknur Haliloglu	Sophia Bakhtadze
08-Dec-21	Approach to child with suspicion of MS	Rinze Neuteboom	Kevin Rostasy

## Child Neurology in Infancy Online Courses

As a result of a collaboration project, the EPNS and Mac Keith Press are offering interactive online learning courses based on the 2nd edition of the Professor Colin Kennedy book *Principles and Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy*.

**Free trial available**  
**Discount for EPNS members**  
10 European CME credits for course 1  
11 European CME credits for course 2

**TWO Child Neurology In Infancy ACCREDITED Online Courses**

**Principles of Child Neurology in Infancy Course**  
**Clinical Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy Course**

<https://www.epns.info/child-neurology-in-infancy-online-courses/>

There are 2 courses, and each has been accredited:

**Course 1:** Principles of Child Neurology in Infancy: 10 EACCME® accreditation points  
Sets out in a succinct format the description of basic definitions used in classification of paediatric neurologic diseases, principles of working with families, of clinical assessment, of screening, vaccination, use of investigations and treatments, and of evidence-based medicine.

**Course 2:** Clinical Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy: 11 EACCME® accreditation points

An up-to-date summary of current clinical practice in paediatric neurology, covers a wide range of clinical scenarios, and provides authoritative advice from distinguished experts who present an accessible, symptom-based approach to clinical problems and their management.

Payment is for 12 months access with the option to renew access at 50% discount. Fully paid EPNS members are entitled to significant discounts and the fee paid depends on the EPNS membership fee category system, based on the World Bank classification. In October 2021, a further discount was made available to all EPNS trainee members from all nations.

## EPNS Fellowships 2021

**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 for 2021 was 5,500 Euros.

**Congratulations to the following in 2021 who received EPNS Fellowships**, and whilst it is sad to say that some of the visits were unable to take place in 2021 due to the Covid-19 situation, the EPNS has remained in close contact with all our Fellows and will be providing support in 2022 instead where necessary:



Anna Fetta from DIMEC, Università di Bologna, Italy to IDIBAPS- Hospital Clínic- Hospital Sant Joan de Déu (Barcelona) Spain. Completed.



Barbora Hermanovska from Charles University in Prague and Motol University Hospital, Czech Republic to the Paris Brain Institute, France. Completed.



Mihaela-Roxana Ioghen from Dr Victor Gomoiu Children's Clinical Hospital, Romania to the Institute of Myology Paris, France



Dominika Slawinska from The Children's Memorial Health Institute, Warsaw, Poland to the Sant Joan de Déu Hospital, Barcelona, Spain



Meriem Amina Touil from The University Hospital Center Mustapha, Algiers, Algeria. to the Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium



Ketevan Vanadze from 12 Krtsanisi str., 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London, UK



## EPNS Visiting Teacher 2021

**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. Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, this scheme was suspended in 2021

## EPNS Educational Online Tools & Video Library

The EPNS library of already existing online educational videos and tools from reliable sources to help all our EPNS members access learning material as an addition to the topics covered in the Training Courses continues to be available.



## EPNS supporting an educational event

The EPNS offers to support national educational events. Applications are considered on a first come first served basis. Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, this scheme was suspended in 2021.

## EPNS Endorsing Events

The EPNS has an application process for endorsing events organised by other associations or non-profit/ government/ EU organisations that enhance the field of paediatric neurology. The EPNS accepts such requests on an ongoing basis. As a condition of approval, organisers agree to acknowledge and promote the EPNS. In turn, the EPNS lists and promotes the event as an “EPNS Endorsed”. Because of the global pandemic, there were no requests for EPNS endorsement in 2021.

## EPNS Education & Training Committee Plans for the future

### EPNS Training Guide

The draft EPNS Training Guide is in its final stages and will be available to EPNS members soon.

### EPNS Exam

There are plans to hold a final trial during the EPNS Congress in Glasgow 2022, and to roll-out the first summative examination in 2023.

## The Moodle

Work is being carried out to implement an easily accessible EPNS Moodle to support EPNS training and education with resources stored to support the EPNS Exam and Training Guide, such as EPNS training course recordings, etc

## ERN Rare Neurological Disorders (ERN-RND) collaboration 2022

Originally planned for 2021, due to the COVID situation the EPNS/ERN-RND Winter school will take place on 20-22 January 2022. This will be a hybrid event available both on a virtual platform and 12 places allocated to the EPNS for in person participation in Budapest, Hungary.

The winter school will be dedicated to rehabilitation issues in patients with symptoms of a rare neurological disease. In hands-on sessions in small groups, different therapeutic techniques will be demonstrated. All participants are invited to contribute to the Winter school programme by submitting an appropriate case.



## EPNS Training Courses: 3-year cycle

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

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

## EPNS Central Eurasia Workshop 2022

An in-person only event in Almaty, Kazakhstan: 2 – 4 March 2022 (postponed from 2020)



Local Organisers: Marzan Lepessova and Altynshash Jaxybayeva, Kazakhstan

Workshop on assessment tools in neonates and young children.

Course Moderators: Leena Haataja and Altynshash Jaxybayeva

Following the cancellation of the Workshop, the 2022 Eurasia workshop will adopt the programme planned for 2020. The main themes will be structured neurodevelopmental assessments, and intervention in early infancy: evidence and integration into clinical practice.



## EPNS Training Course: Jurmala, Latvia 2022

Local Organiser: Jurgis Strautmanis

24-25 March 2022: Acute Paediatric Neurological Diseases course moderated by Maja Steinlin.

30-31 March 2022: Immune Mediated Diseases and Infections course moderated by Banu Anlar and Kevin Rostasy.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> in the series in the Latvian training course cycle will once again be fully virtual.

Plans are in progress to make this a memorable interactive event.

## 4th EPNS Cambridge Masterclass 2022

15 - 17 September 2022 (postponed from 2020) taking place in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, UK. Local Organisers: Rob Forsyth and Florian Heinen. With the topic "Inflamed minds; inflamed people" this will be a small event with approx. 40 delegates, will be face to face to enable interaction with small groups and the mentoring model with junior and senior partners. Following tradition, it is not just a scientific meeting, but it has a multi-perspective element including a humanities perspective (literature, art, philosophy), which has worked well in the past.

## 5th Biennial Caucasus Teaching Course 2022

Plans are in progress for a proposed hybrid course in November 2022 covering the topic Neurological aspects of behavioural, neuropsychological, and psychiatric childhood problems including learning difficulties. More information will be shared with EPNS members as plans develop.

## EPNS Monthly Webinars The programme for 2022 so far:

Date	Topic	Speaker	Chair
12-Jan-22	Approach to Children with Speech Problems	Peter Weber	Jurgis Strautmanis
09-Feb-22	Approach to seizures in the neonate	Roberta Cilio	Federico Vigevano
09-Mar-22	Approach to Cerebral Palsy	Dimitrios Zafeiriou	Sophia Bakhtadze
13-Apr-22	Arterial Ischemic Stroke	Maja Steinlin	Dilek Yalmozoglu
11-May-22	Headache in children: classification, diagnostic approach and new therapeutic options	Massimiliano Valeriani	Jasna Orazem
08-Jun-22	Angelman syndrome: clinical characteristics and the promise of antisense oligonucleotide (ASO) treatment	Ype Elgersma & Marie Claire de Wit	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets
July	Holiday break	Holiday break	Holiday break
August	Holiday break	Holiday break	Holiday break
14-Sep-22	Neurofibromatosis type 1; Clinical presentation and new insights	Eric Legius	to be confirmed
12-Oct-22	Neuropathies in Children	Imelda Hughes	to be confirmed
09-Nov-22	Childhood Brain Tumors and Sequelae of Treatment	Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets	to be confirmed
14-Dec-22	Traumatic Brain Injury	Rob Forsyth	to be confirmed

## Clinical Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy Online Course

The online courses will continue to be supported by the EPNS.

## EPNS Fellowships 2022

The application period for EPNS Fellowship 2022 opened in May 2021.

**Congratulations to the following who have been awarded an EPNS Fellowship to take place in 2022:**



Hatice Bektas from Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey to Southampton Children's Hospital United Kingdom.



Renata Paolilo from Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil will be going to St Thomas' Hospital, London, United Kingdom.



Veronica Pegoraro from IRCCS Istituto delle Scienze Neurologiche, Bologna, Italy will be going to Université catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium.



Armenuhi Asatryan from Arabkir Medical Center, Yerevan, Armenia will be going to Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, United Kingdom



Ine Hoogwijs from UZ Brussels, Belgium will be going to UMC Utrecht, The Netherlands



Raluca-Anca Tudorache from "Prof. Dr. Alexandru Obregia" Clinical Hospital, Bucharest, Romania will be going to Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, Paris, France

Since 2014 when the scheme started 46 Fellowships have been awarded. In 2022 there will be another call to submit applications for EPNS Fellowship 2023.

**EPNS Visiting Teacher 2022**

The application period for EPNS Visiting Teacher 2022 opened in May 2021, and with pleasure has been awarded to Kazakhstan. Professor Rudy Van Coster from Belgium will be visiting Nursultan City Multidisciplinary Children's Hospital, Kazakhstan. This programme will continue in 2022.

**EPNS supporting an educational event.**

The EPNS offers to support national educational events. Applications are considered on a first come first served basis, with usually 3 available per year. So far in 2022, one event has been awarded support: the 54th Annual Meeting of Czech and Slovak Society of Paediatric Neurology: postponed from 2020 taking place on 27 May 2022. The EPNS is pleased to be providing finance to support the travel of Professor Kevin Rostasy who has been invited to speak at the event.

And last but not least, I thank Sue Hargreaves for her expert and always friendly support. Without her the work for this E&T committee programme would never get done.

**Best wishes**

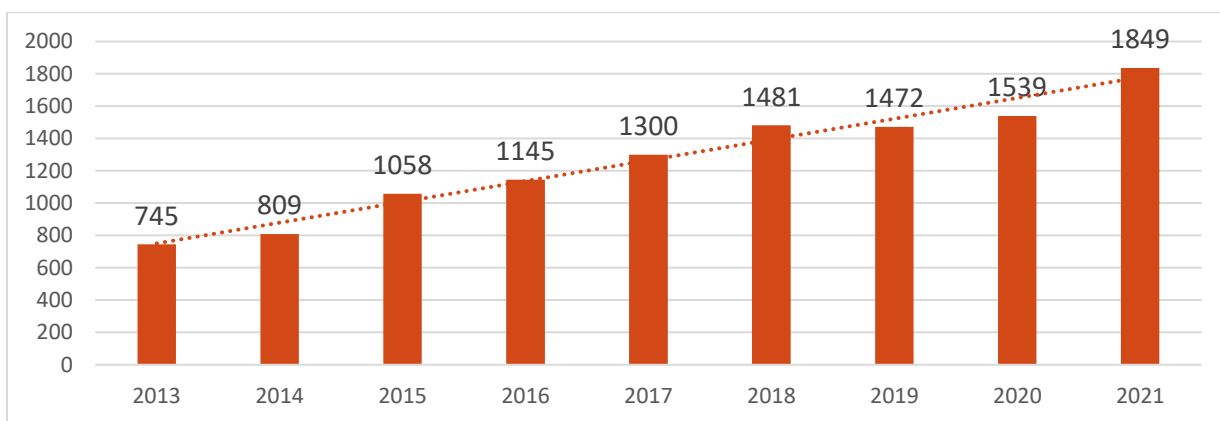
**Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair EPNS Education and Training Committee**

## EPNS Membership, PR & Website Report

Our EPNS Members are at the heart of the EPNS, and we are thankful to all those who are part of our unique Society. Like every organisation, we have contended with the impact of the global pandemic, and whilst this has had its challenges, it has also been a time of success and innovation. Reflecting on this I am delighted to report that the number of EPNS members over the last year has increased, and we now have a significant total of 1,849 EPNS members. In recent years there has been gradual increase in our membership numbers, enabling more colleagues in our field to engage in EPNS education, research and networking opportunities plus strengthening the Society's ability to advocate for paediatric neurology at the highest level.



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



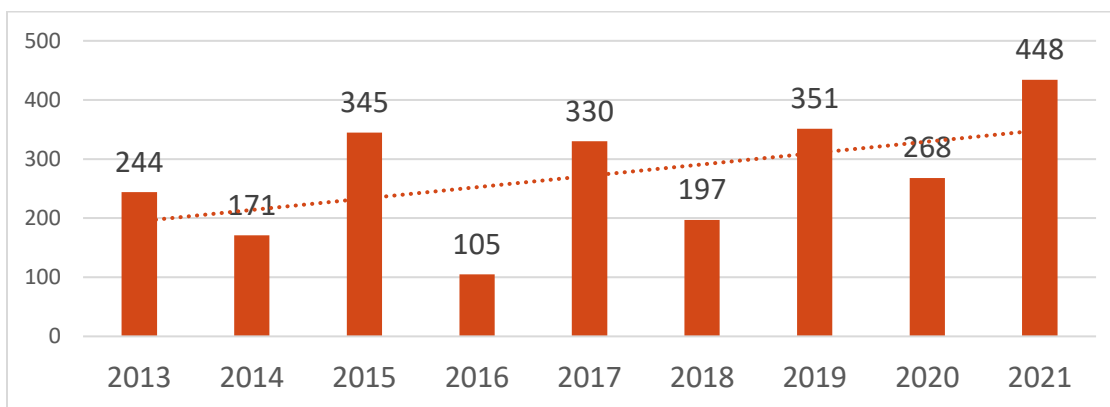
### Membership Geography

86% of our members practice 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 2021 it has been a pleasure to welcome 448 new members. The comparison with previous years below shows that it is usual for less EPNS members to join the Society in a 'non-Congress year' however I am pleased that despite our congress being postponed from 2021 to 2022, many colleagues have become new members and can enjoy the benefits of the EPNS.



In summary the main reasons for joining in 2021:

- EPNS Training Course/event
- EPNS Congress or EPNS Research Meeting
- National Training Adviser/President National Association encouraged

## EPNS General Meeting 4 June 2021

During the virtual 2021 General Meeting approval was given to the 259-qualifying new EPNS members to move from Associate Membership to Ordinary EPNS Membership.

## EPNS New Membership Categories

It is a pleasure to announce that from 2022 two new membership categories will be introduced and both will be eligible to pay the same discounted EPNS membership fee already offered to EPNS trainee paediatricians and paediatric neurologists:

- Scientists who are not physicians: details of the role will need to be provided before the discounted rate is approved.
- Medical Students: a supporting tutor letter/email will need to be provided before the discounted rate is approved.

## EPNS Collaborating

The Society enjoys a close working relationship with most of 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. In 2022 it is hoped the EPNS will have the opportunity to exhibit at several associated congresses.

### EPNS Annual Subscription fees

The fee paid in 2022 depends on TWO factors; the World Bank income category a member practices in and whether a printed copy of the Journal (plus online access) or online only access is requested.

Below is a table of the membership fees for 2022

Category	2022 online only Journal	2022 printed + online Journal
WB4A	150 Euros	210 Euros
WB4B	75 Euros	135 Euros
WB123	35 Euros	95 Euros
Trainee/Medical Student/ Scientists who are not physicians	20 Euros	80 Euros
GNP	130 Euros	210 Euros

### EPNS Website

The EPNS website <https://www.epns.info/> continues to evolve 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. In 2022 there are plans to introduce an EPNS Moodle to store educational materials for EPNS members on an easily accessible platform.

### Best wishes

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

## Young EPNS (YEPNS)

Young EPNS committee was formally established in November 2020, chair election took place in December 2020 (Jasna Orazem Mrak). First months of 2021 were thus spent setting up the structure of the committee, analysing the primary goals and putting the first major projects in motion.

Three working groups were formed.

Education & Career WG (led by Jelte Helfferich) oversaw the setting up a Journal Club webinar, together with EPNS's scientific and research committee, who gave the original initiative. The first Journal Club 'Paediatric Autoimmune Encephalitis' took place on May 26 on Zoom, with Jelte presenting on YEPNS's behalf and prof. Ming Lim acting as a senior discussant. Following Journal Club webinars were: '2021 European Guideline on the Management of Narcolepsy in Adults and Children' (Tessa Wassenberg, Sameer Zuberi) on September 22 and 'New-born screening for spinal muscular atrophy in Germany: clinical results after 2 years' (Filipe Palavra, Thomas Sejersen) on November 24.

Clinical & Research WG (led by Lelde Liepina) took on the formation of Case Discussions webinar, since this was seen as one of the most requested activities by the members of YEPNS committee. The first Case Discussions 'Clinical Improvement of Fulminant Form Subacute Sclerosing Pan-Encephalitis Patient After Experimental Treatment with Remdesivir' took place on June 30 on Zoom, with Lelde presenting the case and prof. Banu Anlar discussing it as a senior mentor. Following Case Discussions were: 'Treatment challenges in Opsoclonus-Myoclonus-Ataxia Syndrome' (Dace Seile, Rinze Neuteboom) on October 27 and 'Hyperacute stroke therapies in childhood' (Karina Kersbergen, Lucia Gerstl) on December 15.

Social media & Networking WG was in charge of setting up YEPNS's social media profiles. The committee now has a Facebook page (YEPNS), Instagram profile (Young EPNS) and a formal email address: [yepns@epns.info](mailto:yepns@epns.info)

YEPNS environmental initiative is coordinated by Thomas Foiadelli.

YEPNS committee members are actively involved in several other EPNS's initiatives (ie. EPNS guidelines (Marietta Papadopoulou as YEPNS coordinator), EPNS teaching concepts,...). They are currently appointed as public reviewers of the Child Neurology in Infancy online courses (Lelde Liepina, Elena Michurina). They oversaw organisation of the EPNS's research meeting online social event (Jelte Helfferich, Giacomo Garone, Esra Serdaroglu, Marietta Papadopoulou).

The YEPNS (Jasna Orazem Mrak, Thomas Foiadelli, Esra Serdaroglu) also became a part of an International Collaboration of the Young Representatives, where the chairs of the World's paediatric neurology societies 'younger' sections (EPNS, ICNA, ACNA, AOCNA,



Photo:  
Jasna Orazem Mrak  
Chair Young EPNS



CNS) meet on a regular basis, to discuss the position and possible improvements for juniors in the field.

YEPNS is looking forward to 2022 and continuation of the beforementioned activities as well as many new ones that are still being shaped. To start of the year the major focus is going to be a preparation for EPNS Congress and all the YEPNS related programme there – with a big New year's wish, that the committee members do get to finally meet in person, since Covid did not allow it thus far.

**Best wishes**

**Jasna Oražem Mrak**

**Chair Young EPNS**

## 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.



Photo: Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets  
Chair C N A

### C N A Virtual Meeting 1 June 2021

The C N A meet biennially just before the EPNS Congress. Due to the postponement of the EPNS Congress, a virtual meeting of the C N A took place on 1 June 2021. With representatives from 40 different countries this was a special event. The meeting was split into 3 sections. First participants were asked to introduce themselves and give one key fact either positive or negative about their national training programme. Secondly, Sameer Zuberi EPNS President addressed the meeting attendees followed by an update about key EPNS activities including an introduction to the EPNS Exam. Finally, there was a brainstorming session and attendees were separated into 6 break-out rooms.

3 teams were asked to discuss identifying solutions to improve paediatric neurology training reflecting practice in 2021 (which would include the pandemic et cetera but not exclusively so) and the position of PN is as an independent (sub) specialty secured in all countries. The 3 other teams were asked to discuss if PN is a specialty which attracts new/ young PNists to secure the future and implementing the European exam.

It was incredible to hear from everyone and many valuable ideas were shared. Subsequently a C N A Working Group of volunteers has been formed who will be working on some of the points raised.

### C N A Election

The C N A election takes place every 4 years to appoint the Executive Committee roles: Chair, Secretary and 2 Members Executive Committee Each elected person serves for 4 years and can serve 2 times in that position. The next C N A election will take place during C N A meeting, which is due to take place in Glasgow, UK, prior to the EPNS Congress on 28 April 2022.

### Best wishes

Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair C N A

## Training Advisory Board (TAB)

In 2002 Paediatric neurology was accepted at the European level as a sub-specialty 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. 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. Up to now the training system was evaluated 12 countries. In 2021 a 13<sup>th</sup> TAB visit was completed to Ukraine.



Photo: Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets  
Chair TAB

### Ukraine TAB Visit: October 2021

Dana Craiu (Bucharest, Romania) and Coriene Catsman (Rotterdam, the Netherlands) performed a TAB visit to Ukraine on 25-26<sup>th</sup> of October. During this visit, they were the guests of Ass. Prof.dr Volodymyr Martynyuk, (head of dept of Child neurology and social rehabilitation, Shupik National University of health, Kiev), dr Oxana Nazar and dr Alla Nechay, paediatric neurologists at the Neurology department of Kiev City Paediatric Hospital No1. Dr Alla Nechay who is Ukraine CNN representative provided the pre-visit data sheets and also acted as interpreter. The report of this TAB visit will be presented at the next EPNS board meeting and at the 2022 meeting of the Committee of National Advisors to EPNS. The approved report will be published on the EPNS website.

### Best wishes

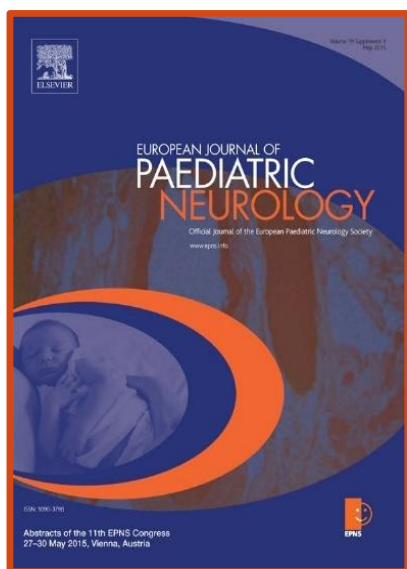
Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, Chair TAB

## 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 high-quality papers primarily of a clinical research 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: Dimitrios Zafeiriou  
Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of  
Paediatric Neurology (EJPN)



With an Impact Factor which has increased to 3.1 mainly due to the work of the previous Editor Professor Sameer Zuberi and the previous Editorial

Team, the number and quality of submissions remains high, despite the difficulties posed by the pandemic. In 2021 we published three special issues, one on Neuromodulation in Children, one on Malformations of Cortical Development and another one on Immunisation and Neurological Disease, with many world-leading basic and clinical neuroscientists contributing articles.

In accordance with the educational nature of EPNS, the Editorial team decided to publish high-quality “Teaching Papers” on specific topics presented in the EPNS monthly Webinars.

The journal has a distinguished international Editorial Board of specialists who advise on the direction of the journal, special issues and review papers, superbly moderated by the four Associated Editors, Deborah Sival, Lucia Gerstl, Alexis Arzimanoglou and Anna Jansen (who recently joined the Editorial Team), and who are world-renowned experts in their field.

### Best wishes

**Dimitrios Zafeiriou, MD, PhD**

**Professor of Paediatric Neurology & Developmental Paediatrics  
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 2022

The fee paid in 2022 depends on TWO factors:

1. The World Bank income category your country belongs to.  
Here is the **list** of World Bank Classification 4 high income nations [CLICK HERE](#)  
**WB4A** = Class 4 high income nations on the above list not highlighted.  
**WB4B** = Class 4 high income nations on the above list highlighted in blue.  
**WB123** = countries not Class 4 high income nations, i.e. not on the list above.  
**Trainee** = trainees from **ALL nations regardless of classification**  
**GNP** = mutual members of the Gesellschaft für Neuropädiatrie (GNP) and the EPNS
2. Whether you would like to opt to receive a printed copy of the Journal (plus online access) or online only access.

Below is a table of the membership fees for 2022

Category (see above for explanation)	2022 online only Journal	2022 printed + online Journal
<b>WB4A</b>	150 Euros	210 Euros
<b>WB4B</b>	75 Euros	135 Euros
<b>WB123</b>	35 Euros	95 Euros
<b>Trainee</b>	20 Euros	80 Euros
<b>GNP</b>	130 Euros	210 Euros

## Contacting the EPNS



Email [info@epns.info](mailto:info@epns.info)



Twitter [@EPNSnews](https://twitter.com/EPNSnews)



Website <http://www.epns.info/>

## Joining the EPNS

### New members are welcome!

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 <http://www.epns.info/>. On the home page click the **'How to Join EPNS'** 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.