



# ESPN Newsletter



## Dear Members!

The snow is slowly starting to melt with the first signs of spring, but still the sea is covered with ice. The ESPN council met in Helsinki in December and I managed to arrange some ice and snow to keep up with our exotic image. However, no ice-bears were around. You have probably already seen the minutes on our home-page ( <http://espn.uwcm.uk> ).

Although we have money on the Swiss and U.K. account we need to be somewhat more economical right now as the Bilbao meeting not brought any profit and the Berlin one caused some deficit because of the not very well attended dinner organised by ESPN only. However, all planned activities can well proceed. New members are joining all the time and according to the constitution everybody resident in Europe and working in countries which border the Mediterranean Sea are eligible. Affiliate members from other countries may not exceed 10% of the full membership. One problem discussed at the last council meeting is the statement in the appendix ( ii ) that new members " ... should have presented a *paper or poster* to the Society before their election ". This excludes many clinicians with a long experience in paediatric nephrology from membership in our Society. Thus, as stated in the minutes, the council feels that the sentence should be changed to " .... have *at least two years full time training in paediatric nephrology or paediatric nephrology related research* ". This, change in the appendix of our constitution will be voted on in Adelaide. I welcome all comments on this matter. Suggestions about new honorary members are also welcome.

The council also discussed the possibility to approach pharmaceutical companies and suggest a partnership with ESPN. They would support training and training programs with an annual sum of 10.000 € The Treasurer is investigating if there is

interest for such partnerships.

As Europe is getting more united and growing it will become more common to move from one country to another. Among others CESP has been active in creating training programs and is supporting visitations which would guarantee a qualitatively high and comparable training in tertiary care specialities in Europe. Peter Hoyer is discussing this in the newsletter.

A group working under the chairmanship of Patrick Niaudet has met once to suggest the first ESPN collaborative study. It will present a preliminary report in Adelaide.

The ESPN teaching course i Saint-Petersburg, June 2-4, 2004 organised by Nadezda Savenkova is proceeding well. The IPNA/ESPN teaching course in Lviv, June 2-5, 2004 is co-ordinated by the IPNA Secretary General Mathias Brandis and Ernst Leumann and György Reusz from our Society will participate as teachers.

Four candidates from Europe for the IPNA council have been suggested by national societies and members of our Society and will be forwarded to the IPNA council for consideration. The ESPN Secretary General is on the committee suggesting a new Secretary General after Mathias Brandis in 2007.

The next ESPN General Assembly will be in Adelaide (August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004, 12.30 – 14.00) and I hope that many members will be present. The scientific program and the location are excellent ([www.ipna2004.com](http://www.ipna2004.com)). Many important matters will be discussed and the Agenda for the ESPN General Assembly can be studied on our home page prior to the meeting. Five ESPN travel grants for young investigators with an accepted presentation and coming from ESPN member-countries with limited funds will be granted by the local organisers.

*Christer Holmberg*

I/2004

March 2004

### Inside this issue:

Dear Members	1
Upcoming meetings	2
Teaching and training courses	2
Important news from the CESP	3
ESPN-council	4
ESPN-Membership - Fee 2004	4

### ESPN Web site:

<http://espn.uwcm.ac.uk/>

## Upcoming meetings

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Course on "Genetics and Renal Diseases" 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June, 2004, Genova, Italy ([www.geneandkidney.it](http://www.geneandkidney.it))
- Renal Developmental Workshop 26-28<sup>th</sup> August, 2004, Barossa Walley, Australia ([lisa.satlin@mssm.edu](mailto:lisa.satlin@mssm.edu))
- 13<sup>th</sup> IPNA Congress 29<sup>th</sup> August – 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2004, Adelaide, Australia ([www.ipna2004.com](http://www.ipna2004.com)). *A limited number of ESPN grants for young east European participants with abstracts will be available.*
- International Pediatric Transplant Association 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress 6-10<sup>th</sup> August, 2005, Innsbruck, Austria ([www.IPTAonline.org](http://www.IPTAonline.org))
- 39<sup>th</sup> ESPN Congress 10-13<sup>th</sup> September, 2005, Istanbul, Turkey ([www.espn2005.org](http://www.espn2005.org))
- 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Congress of Pediatric Nephrology 28-30<sup>th</sup> October, 2005, Beijing, China
- 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Pediatric Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (PCCRT) 2006 24-25<sup>th</sup> February, 2006, Zürich, Switzerland ([www.pccrt.com](http://www.pccrt.com))
- 40<sup>th</sup> ESPN Congress 2006, Palermo, Italy, (Congress President Silvio Maringhini)

## Teaching and training courses arranged by ESPN or IPNA + ESPN

This year two courses will take place:

### 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2004, St-Petersburg, Russia

Local organisers: Nadezda Savenkova and Alexey Tsygin

ESPN speakers: J. Ehrich, C. Holmberg, J. Vande Walle, A. Watson

Additional speakers: N. Savenkova, A. Tsygin, M. Ignatova and J. Rodrigues- Soriano

### 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2004, Lviv, Ukraine

Local organisers: Derkatich / Kvit / Korzynsky

IPNA speakers: M. Brandis, W. Proesmans

ESPN speakers: E. Leumann, G. Reusz



Giuliana Lama, Necla Buyan, Jean Claude Davin and Pierre Cochat at the ESPN council meeting in Helsinki in December 2003

## Important news from the **CESP: EUROPEAN TRAINING CENTRE VISITATION PROGRAM FOR TERTIARY CARE PAEDIATRIC SPECIALITIES**

**In the last decade, CESP (Confederation of European Specialists in Paediatrics), i.e. the Paediatric section of UEMS (Union of European Medical Specialists), has responded to the development of various Paediatric tertiary care specialities in Europe by setting up a spectrum of subsections. Via these subsections, CESP liaises with those scientific societies, formations or groups that represent tertiary care Paediatric specialities on a European level. Paediatric Nephrology is a subsection within CESP.**

Within the framework of this co-operation, various tertiary care specialities have produced their European training syllabus (usually structured in modules), which have been published, are available on the web, and serve as guidelines for the development of national training programs. In addition, some tertiary care groups have produced a European list of training centres. Such lists define the training capacities of a centre by the training modules this specific centre can offer. Thus, they serve as important tools for orientation and information of potential trainees. Furthermore, it is hoped that this will stimulate the development of better structured training centres in various countries and locations. The inherent weakness of such lists lies in the fact that they rely exclusively on self-reporting. In order to produce more objective evidence of training capacity, UEMS has recommended that a centre visitation program is set up.

### **Interaction with national centre visitation programs:**

In countries, where a national training program, roughly compatible with the European program in terms of dimension and content, exists, visitations by an international task force of CESP are redundant where the national program is compatible to and of the European standard. It follows that the described international visitation program of CESP is of more interest to centres in countries where a national visitation program is not available.

- **In conducting visits, four steps were identified:**
  - i. identification of centre to be visited
  - ii. provision of basic information prior to visit
  - iii. the visit
  - iv. report and recommendation of visiting committee

- **Two models for visitation were considered**
  - i. through a national body. Where there is already in existence a well validated system of visitation and accreditation then 'European accreditation' could occur without visitation of individual centres.
  - ii. where there is not in existence such a system, particularly in smaller countries with few subspecialists, individual units might wish that an individual visit for European accreditation is carried out.

Some centres in countries with a national program might develop interest in acquiring international on top of national accreditation. It might be feasible to satisfy such special demands by maintaining availability of the international visitation program even for countries with established and running national programs. In such cases, the international visitation will usually follow the national one. If it is deemed necessary, the results of the national visitation should be available to the visitation task force members well in advance.

In addition to clearly identifying those centres that have been visited by the international program of CESP, the training centre list collected and maintained by each subsection, should also designate those centres visited within the frame of a national program, provided the latter is compatible with the standards of the international program.

***Since this is work in progress the ESPN should take the opportunity to give active input into these important developments.***

The visitation program is outlined in the **Charter on Visitation of UEMS**. For further information visit the UEMS website: [www.UEMS.be](http://www.UEMS.be)

The paediatric nephrology training syllabus as well as prerequisites for training centres are published in *Pediatr Nephrol 2001;16:192-195*: Recommendations for the training of European Pediatric Nephrologists by the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology. An outline of the minimal requirements for accreditation in the European Economic Community.

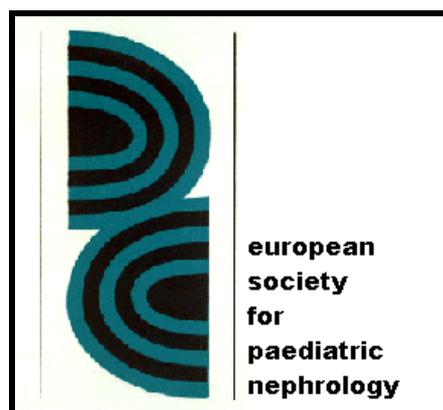
In a recent query about 100 European Paediatric nephrologists have expressed an interest in becoming recognised paediatric nephrologists according to the definitions of the subsection Paediatric Nephrology of the CESP.

For detailed information you might contact [peter.hoyer@uni.essen.de](mailto:peter.hoyer@uni.essen.de)

***Peter F. Hoyer***

**ESPN-Membership - Fee 2003**

The annual membership fee is **50 €** and if you have not paid it yet, you can ask for instructions and/or forms to pay by Eurocard/Mastercard or Visa from Peter Hoyer's secretary Monika Hoehnke (monika.hoehnke@medizin.uni-essen.de).



ESPN is on the Web  
<http://espn.uwcm.ac.uk/>

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