



EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC
ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY

E.P.O.S.

newsletter

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EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY

25th EPOS Meeting, Dresden

„The Paediatric Knee“, April 5-8, 2006

www.epos.efort.org/Dresden2006

Deadline September 15 th, 2005

Message from the President

Twenty five countries separated by historical events are now united under the European flag. Some other countries show interest in joining this great democratic union to share some common values such as peace, economic and social well-being.

This construction has not been made without difficulty. The health related politics of the European countries are not uniform in terms of wide-spread health care availability, health care quality and medical team education.

EPOS should play a role in the prevention and treatment of the musculo-skeletal disorders by making propositions to the political authorities and being a scientific reference to the health care professionals.

EPOS ought to take part in the education of the Paediatric Orthopaedic surgeons.

Different seminars and educational courses have already been held by the national society of each country. In addition international courses are organized all over Europe by famous colleagues of EPOS but with a lack of coordination between these different events.

EPOS is willing to build an European continuous educational cycle which could be a future educational model for an orthopaedic paediatric surgeon. In the same way the EPOS board is also working to put on the EPOS web site, the framework of topics to be known by every Paediatric Orthopaedic surgeon in the future.

To improve education we have now travelling fellows exchanges organized between Europe and North America on an annual basis; one year Europe - U.S.A and the following year U.S.A. - Europe.

This year I organized the travel of three fellows from Germany, Switzerland and Spain to North America and I would like to thank Dr James Kasser for his help.



In parallel to the education turned toward young colleagues, I have been invited by the president of the Orthopaedic section of UEMS, Dr Wallenstein to attend their meeting in Copenhagen and to present the EPOS plans for Paediatric Orthopaedic surgery in the future. Our claim for being an individualized entity yet under the umbrella of “general Orthopaedics” has been accepted by UEMS with the creation in progress of a sub section of Paediatric Orthopaedic within the section of general Orthopaedics.

A working group constituted By Frantz Grill and myself for EPOS together with Hanne Hedin and Hugo De Boeck for UEMS has been set up.

The objectives of this working group are to define the content of this sub section, trying to delineate the educational program of the European residents, setting the criteria for the institution to get accreditation for training residents and, finally, participate in the examination board providing questions and examiners.

EPOS should also participate in developing clinical and basic research in its field in terms of quality and quantities.

The scientific committee chaired by Fritz Hefti should support cooperative research projects and ideally in a near future, offer an open forum of exchanging research positions and projects on the web site.

Although our annual meetings are yet of good standards, we shall improve it so that it will reflect the continuous improvement of our research.

The increasing number of submitted abstracts makes difficult the duty of our reading committee . That is the reason why I proposed that, under the supervision of the new chairman Jiri Chomiak, the numbers of colleagues working in the reading committee increase from five to twelve to create four groups of three readers to reduce the number of papers each reader has to review and to get the papers read according to the reader’s field of interest.

This new way of selection will be considered for selection of the papers for the Dresden congress.

I would like to thank all the colleagues of the reading committee for the tremendous job they are doing.

The number of prospective randomized studies must increase in our publication to become part of the “evidence based medicine” recommendation in the future and the reading committee must be aware of that. However, we must keep in mind our European specificity and let “politically incorrect” papers be presented during the meeting if these papers bring some new or even “iconoclast” ideas.

It is also one of our goals to strengthen the power of our European Journal of Paediatric Orthopaedics. Despite JPOB is currently of a high standards, it will oriented towards more and more expert scientific papers, so that it will continue to compete with the best journals of orthopaedics.

All these actions need also financial support. If we want to carry on the travelling fellowship every year with new cooperation with Asia-Pacific or South America in the future, if we want to offer prize for the best poster, grants for research fellows, support for multicenter studies and cooperation with underdeveloped countries, we need money. We will have to think about setting up a foundation to develop fund raising from individuals as well as institutional sources.

We need also to improve our organization by setting up a better general assembly. The applicants for membership must be present at the beginning of our business meeting before voting in such a way that just after voting they can participate in the whole general assembly.

The agenda of the board meeting must be known in advance by all the participants with the names of the candidates for the different positions available in the board.

With the help of the two past presidents, Frantz Grill and Pavel Dungal, and the two forthcoming ones, Shlomo Wientroub and Ernesto Ippolito and with the support of the whole board I will try to do my best for the society.

Thank you for the honour and opportunity to be your president.

Gerard Bollini

EPOS President

Message from the Congress-Chairman

Dear EPOS members, dear friends and colleagues,

The upcoming EPOS-meeting 2006 will be organized by the German Pediatric Orthopaedic Association in Dresden/Germany from April 5 to 8, 2006.



Due to still very challenging clinical problems in spite of emerging new treatment options the „Paediatric Knee“ as the main topic of the meeting will be covered by Clinical Symposia, State-of-the-Art lectures and Basic Research presentations. Abstract submissions to all other pediatric orthopaedic topics are also very welcome, however.

There will be an additional pre-meeting course „Athletic Child“, covering aspects of overuse injuries and systemic problems in professional sports as well as aspects of disabled athletes.

For further scientific program information and abstract submission (only online-submission is possible) please visit our website:

www.epos.efort.org/Dresden2006/index.asp

Please be aware, that deadline for abstract submission is September 15, 2005.

Dresden has recently been acknowledged as world cultural heritage with its unique combination of traditional architecture and naturally maintained Elbe meadows and slopes. In the year 2006, when Dresden is celebrating its 800th anniversary, numerous cultural events in museums, theatres and the famous Semper Opera are waiting for you to be enjoyed.

A „Walk through History“ will be offered as our traditional afternoon tour, where the spirit of tradition and innovation – resembling the success of EPOS as well – can be experienced. As it will be the 25th Symposium of EPOS, we are preparing some very special events.

On behalf of the co-Chairmen Rüdiger Krauspe, Fritz Niethard and Franz Grill I would like to invite you personally to join this meeting and spend some beautiful days with friends and colleagues in a fascinating place. If you have any additional questions, please contact me directly (Klaus-peter.guenther@uniklinikum-dresden.de).

With my kindest regards,.

Klaus-Peter Guenther, Scientific Chairman EPOS Congress 2006



The famous Dresden

“Frauenkirche” over the centuries

Report from the Reading Committee

First of all I want to thank the other four friends, Members of the Reading Committee, who have shared with me the hard work of reviewing an enormous number of abstracts in a very short period of time.

The five Members have this year reviewed 378 abstracts. This is indeed a very large number of abstracts. From this year's review, it was possible to manage a very intensive 3 days meeting, considering also that, beside the usual number of 80 papers that have been presented orally, we decided to increase to 120 the number of posters accepted for presentation. And for that I would like to thank Ignatio Sampera for his help.

Most of the Authors preferred to present their papers orally (71%) and 13% didn't tell in their abstracts how they would prefer to present their papers.

This year we had contribution from 44 countries and more than 40% of the abstracts were submitted from non European countries. We have therefore had the privilege of listening not only to colleagues from Europe but also to a large number of papers submitted from countries outside Europe. The highest number of papers submitted for presentation from one country came from USA followed by Turkey, France, Germany, Poland and so on.

Topics: Cerebral palsy was the most common topic addressed in the abstracts, followed by fractures and club foot. These three topics accounted for almost 40% of the abstracts.

More than one abstract have been submitted by 72 authors.

When reviewing the abstracts, a scale from 1 to 5 was used both for assessing “the originality value” and “the scientific value”; 5 more points could be then assessed by each Member of the RC, 1 point for each of the following items: new data, sufficient cases, statistic analysis, conclusion that brings something new and conclusion that is reliable. So, a total score for each abstract was calculated as the sum of : the originality value (up to 5), the scientific value (up to 5) and the presence of new data, sufficient cases, statistic analysis, new and reliable conclusion , as assessed by the five members of the RC, for a maximum total score of 75 (15X5).

The abstracts with the highest total score were selected for presentation. Each author was only allowed to present one paper, either orally or as a poster. As some authors had more than one paper with a total score above the border score, only the paper with the highest total score was selected for presentation.

Out of the 378 abstracts sent this year, 293 (77.5%) were submitted by non-members, and out of the 200 papers accepted for presentation 148 (74%) came from non-members. In Istanbul, in 2002, 31% of the selected papers came from members (Dr. Hanson's report)). So we should encourage members as well as young colleagues to submit papers.

We are grateful to all colleagues who have sent us papers for presentation at the meeting in Palma de Majorca.

Unfortunately, as observed by some member of the Reading Committee, we have noticed a lower scientific level of the abstracts this year.

It has become very difficult for the Members of the Reading Committee to review this increasing number of abstracts (378) in about one month of time. One of the Members of the Reading Committee, just elected, refused to finish his reviewing process this year and he was replaced.

If, in the future, the number of abstracts is the same or more important, I suggest to distribute the abstracts to five or more groups according to topics. Each member would receive part of the total amount of abstracts according to the topics he is the most experienced in. This way, we could use the same methodology as the one used in the scientific journals who have many different reviewers with different specific fields of interest and professional skills.

I express my sincere thanks to the Organizing Committee, to Dr Sampera, Mrs Asun Marzo and our Spanish friends for their very stimulating collaboration in the Organization of this Congress.

This year I am leaving the Reading Committee. As the past Chairman of the RC, I want to thank all the friends that have helped me during these years, all the EPOS Presidents and General Secretaries and all the EPOS Boards I have worked with during these years.

I hope my contribution has been useful to the European Pediatric Orthopedic Society and I will remain at your complete disposal for any further contribution.

Cosimo Tudisco
Past President of the Reading Committee

From the national societies

Croatia

Dear colleague,
we would like to inform you that CROATIA/POSNA (Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America) OUTREACH COURSE will be held in Cavtat/Dubrovnik, Croatia, from September 18-21, 2005.

The focus of the Course is evaluation and treatment of bone and joint diseases among children and adolescents, with participation of EPOS and POSNA members as invited key-note speakers.

For more information on topics and speakers please be so kind and visit our web site:

www.hddo.mef.hr

or contact Technical Organizer:

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Contact person: Ana Lovric

Deadline for reduced fee July 15, 2005.

Please be so kind and pass this information to anyone you think might have interest in attending the Course.

Looking forward seeing you in Cavtat/Dubrovnik this September

Sincerely yours

Darko Anticevic