



European Society for Paediatric
Anaesthesiology

www.euroespa.org

ESPA President's Report 2014

Dear members of ESPA,

I am delighted to present the ESPA President's report summarizing the activities of the Society over the past year. After a highly successful 4th Annual Congress in Geneva in 2013, with a record number of delegates, the ESPA Congress has firmly established itself as THE meeting to attend for its scientific and educational content and its friendly atmosphere.

PROFESSIONAL CONGRESS ORGANISOR

We have been very fortunate to secure the services of Guarant International as our Professional Congress Organisor and we have had excellent service from them over the past year. As well as providing a comprehensive congress service, they are helping us develop our membership services and website.

ESPA ELECTION 2014 (Chair: Nigel Turner)

I am very pleased to announce that Ehrenfried Schindler has been elected as ESPA President from September 2015 and will thus become Vice-President in September 2014 when Nigel Turner demits that official role. Fredi has been an outstanding Honorary Treasurer and we are pleased to welcome Michael Brackhahn as his successor. Nigel Turner has had a most distinguished record in steering and guiding ESPA through its early years and his wise counsel will be sorely missed. Torsten Lauritsen continues as Honorary Secretary and Tom Hansen, PA Lonnqvist, Riku Aanta and Marzena Zielenska are re-elected to the Executive Board. We thank Karin Becke for her great contributions to the scientific work of ESPA and Peter Crean for his excellent work on guidelines over the last 4 years. Their elected replacements on EXBO are Pervin Bozkurt and Maria Vittinghoff. Thanks to all who took part in the election as candidates and voters.

COMMITTEES:

Scientific Committee (Chair: Tom Hansen)

Under the leadership of Tom Hansen, the scientific committee has worked hard to develop an interesting programme for ESPA Prague 2014 and has coordinated the assessment of over 130 abstracts for this year's congress. Over the past year the committee has worked with ESPNIC and the ESA on joint sessions at their congresses and also to produce a programme for a special two day meeting in Athens on *Peri-Operative Medicine: The Paediatric Patient* 14-15 November 2014. Through Tom, we also have input to the Eurostar and SmartTots projects and research groups on neurotoxicity and the developing brain.



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Pain Network (Chair: P-A Lonnqvist)

We now have an ESPA Pain Network with named representatives from most countries and we now need to energise this with specific projects. Anyone with ideas for international collaborative working should contact PA. There are excellent resources and good practice guidance on the ESPA website <http://www.euroespa.org/index.php/education-centre/specialized-sections/pain-section>

The QUIPSI project continues to collate and benchmark performance data on paediatric post-operative pain under the guidance of Winfried Meissner. The EPSA QUIPSI group is currently standardizing the data collection system for use throughout Europe and recently a collaboration with the UK Paediatric Pain Travelling Club Network to validate the English version of the system has started with a number of pilot sites ready to contribute to this important step. ESPA hopes to facilitate the expansion of QUIPSI across all European countries. <http://pain-out.med.uni-jena.de/node/82>

Regional Anaesthesia Group (Chair: Steve Roberts)

This subcommittee has been working hard to produce excellent high quality educational material for our website covering the whole range of paediatric regional anaesthesia techniques <http://www.euroespa.org/index.php/education-centre/specialized-sections/us-regional-anaesthesia> You can find almost everything you need to know about paediatric regional anaesthesia on this section of our website.

Task force on competent paediatric anaesthetic services (Chair: Karin Becke)

The aim of this task force is to provide guidance on the essential and desirable components of a modern paediatric anaesthesiology and pain management service. After considering a range of source documents and to provide practical tools for ESPA members, the group has decided to produce a series of checklists to allow departments to assess themselves against current standards and guidance. This should highlight areas of good practice for sharing across Europe and areas where quality improvement initiatives should be focused.

Education committee (Chair: Riku Aanta)

The main tasks of this committee have been to collate competencies for paediatric anaesthesia, guidance from UEMS, and draft a curriculum for a paediatric anaesthesiology fellowship. Riku has also worked extremely hard to keyword our video lecture archive from previous congresses so this may be more readily searchable. The lectures from all ESPA Congresses are available now to members and provide a fantastic training and CME resource. We are also discussing a European version of the UK Royal College of Anaesthetist's CPD matrix that provides a framework for keeping knowledge, skills and competences up to date over a five-year cycle.



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Guidelines Committee (Chair: Peter Crean)

The ESPA Guideline Committee has collated several guidelines for the ESPA website and has produced very useful downloadable action cards for use wherever children are anaesthetised.

<http://www.euroespa.org/index.php/education-centre/specialized-sections/espa-guidelines>

CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS

We are looking forward to the 5th Annual Congress of Paediatric Anaesthesiology ESPA Prague in 2014 and then Istanbul in 2015 and Belgrade in 2016. Bids to host the 2017 Congress have been invited and are to be considered by the Executive Board shortly. We are taking part in the joint ESA-ESPA-ESPNIC meeting in Athens noted above in November 2014 and hope to collaborate with colleagues in ADARPEF for a joint meeting in France in the Spring of 2015.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Although we feel the benefits of becoming a specialist society member of the ESA do not justify the costs, we have a good working relationship with the ESA through the APRICOT study, Eurostar project and joint educational meetings. The Orphananesthesia (OA) group continues its important work with significant contributions from ESPA members.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'NSMorton'.

Neil S Morton,
President of ESPA

Glasgow, August 2014