



Dear colleagues, dear friends,

The next ESPR congress will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, Oct. 23-26, 2010. This is the third joint congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies.

There was a council meeting in Geneva on the first June weekend, and the program of the meeting is in progress. In a short time, please visit <http://www2.kenes.com/paediatrics/Pages/Home.aspx> for the program and further details.

Minutes from Hamburg, 2009:

The section presented a pre-meeting teaching course "Circulatory Assessment in the Newborn: Methodology and Clinical Application" organized very efficiently by Topun Austin and Martin Wolf. Thanks! The course was well attended (50 participants) and greatly appreciated. Thanks to the speakers as well (Gorm Greisen, Martin Wolf, Heike Rabe, Alan Groves, Ajay Sinha, Gerhard Pichler, Flora Wong, Gunnar Nauelaers).

During the meeting, we had a workshop on cerebral NIRS, organized by Gerhard Pichler and Martin Wolf. There were 40 participants, and we had an interesting and fruitful discussion.

During our section meeting (45 participants) Axel Franz (Tübingen, Germany) presented an upcoming study on "Effects of transfusion thresholds on neurocognitive outcome of extremely low birth weight infants (ETTNO) - a multicenter randomized controlled trial in Europe". This topic – haematology – further broadens the contents of our section which during the last years was dominated by microcirculation themes.

Furthermore, my term as the section secretary and council member of the ESPR will come to an end this year, and that therefore, elections will be held for a new section secretary during the section meeting in Copenhagen. According to our constitution (see homepage of the ESPR), "Nomination of candidates for the secretary should be made 3 months before the business meeting. Postal votes will be accepted before the meeting from all members who can not attend the annual meeting."

Please, send your nominations to my email-address until July 22nd. You might propose yourself or anybody whom you think suitable for the job. Please, in case of nomination of someone else, make sure in advance that the person you propose is willing to accept the nomination. Please note that the section secretary has to attend the two council meetings and has an active role in designing the contents of the annual conference (includes organisation of abstract scorings related to the section topics) as well as organising at least biannual pre-conference teaching courses. Also, please make sure that the candidate is an ESPR member. Only members of the ESPR can be elected for the position. Only members are also allowed to vote – by mail or in person during the section meeting. In the past and in future, we are happy to welcome everybody interested in the work of the section to attend our section meeting, however, only members of the ESPR will be able to participate in the voting process. After July 22nd, I will send a list of the nominees together with the agenda of our section meeting in July. Please, feel free to make any proposals for the agenda. Looking forward to meet you in Copenhagen!

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