

Dear EPNS member

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A message from Professor Lieven Lagae, EPNS President

Dear Colleagues

It has been a great pleasure to watch the EPNS grow and develop further over the last 12 months. We now have about 1,050 EPNS members! Thank you for all your support.

Last weekend we held our winter EPNS Board meeting, and it was a busy couple of days covering many agenda items – there's lots planned for the next 12 months and beyond here at the EPNS! Please read the following update to learn more about all our forthcoming exciting EPNS events and initiatives. I would especially draw your attention to our EPNS Budapest 2016 training courses, EPNS Fellowships 2016, EPNS Research Meeting 2016 in Essen and of course our 12th EPNS Congress in Lyon in 2017.

On behalf of the EPNS Board, I extend our warmest wishes for the Holiday Season and our best wishes for a prosperous and peaceful New Year.

Lieven.

EPNS 2016 annual subscription fee *payments now being taken!*

Last month the EPNS was delighted to announce the 2016 annual subscription fee payments. Fees for members in countries classified by the World Bank in income groups 1,2 and 3 have been reduced further, World Bank income group 4 remains the same and it has been possible to continue to offer the hugely discounted fee for on-line only access to the Journal to all trainees members. Visit <http://www.epns.jmre.es/epns-subscription-fees/> for more information.

Payments are being taken now – so don't delay – why not pay today?

The easiest way to pay is online by logging onto the EPNS website <http://www.epns.info/> The correct schedule of fees for 2016 for the country where you practice will have been automatically applied. You will need to click on the orange 'I'm a member' button on the right hand side of the screen, and you will be taken to the login screen. Your login name is your last name. Once you have logged in please select 'Subscription', then 'Make new payment', select your preferred membership type, add to cart, then check-out. There is a 'forgotten your password' facility if you need a password reminder.

EPNS Training Courses 2015-2017: Budapest, Hungary *look out for an announcement very soon!*

A announcement about the programmes for both courses, registration fees and bursaries will be uploaded onto the EPNS website and shared with you by email very soon. Registration is planned to open at the beginning of January 2016.

- 8-9 March 2016 'Epilepsy and other paroxysmal disorders'
- 10-11 March 2016 'Behavioural, psychological and psychiatric aspects of neurology, including autism and learning difficulties'

EPNS Fellowship 2016 *timescales!*

In 2016 the EPNS is thrilled to be able to offer 6 fellowships. For the first time, the EPNS will introduce 2 types of fellowship in 2016:

§ **Clinical elective** (e.g. attending clinics, developing skills in EEG, EMG etc.)

§ **Research project** (May be part of a thesis; basic or patient orientated research Learning a specific skill/ technique)

The opportunity to apply for EPNS Fellowship will open during the first 2 weeks of January 2016. All EPNS members will be sent an email to announce that the application process is open. The closing date will be 29 February 2016. The EPNS Fellowship committee will consider all applications during March 2016 and applicants will be informed of the outcome. More details can be found by visiting the EPNS website <http://www.epns.jmre.es/epns-fellowship-2015/>

EPNS Fellowship 2015 *feedback*

Dr Diana Barca from Dr Alexandru Obregia Hospital in Romania has now completed her fellowship in Belgium, and we are delighted to share the following update from Dr Barca with you:

I have joined Professor Linda De Meirleir and her team in the Free University Hospital of Brussels for 4 months, an extraordinary period in which I enriched my medical knowledge, I met wonderful people and have established close professional and friendship relations. During time spent at VUB, I joined the consultations, both general pediatric neurology and metabolic diseases clinic, seeing a wide range of genetic, metabolic pathology and thus completing the theoretical knowledge with practical clues. In this way I managed to set algorithms depending on each case presentation reason (hypotonia, epilepsy, movement disorders, systemic involvement, dysmorphism), diagnostic schemes for various metabolic diseases depending on the clinical picture. Also starting from cases seen and followed up in the VUB clinic I understood the importance of the neonatal screening and the organization of the system which applies it in Belgium, collecting valuable information that I will try to apply in my country - following premature babies and newborns at risk being a field of high interest for me. I witnessed a very well developed system of cooperation between various national and international centers, Professor De Meirleir mediating for me and through me for all my colleagues the establishing of a network. This will facilitate the diagnosis of metabolic disorders in our little patients with suspicion of lysosomal diseases, disorders of

neurotransmitters, aminoacidopathies , organic acidurias, mitochondriopathies . A number of severe cases from our clinic have already been investigated while I was at VUB and precious help was offered in order to reach a diagnosis and offer a better quality of life. The basis for a permanent collaboration between VUB and the clinic I come from (Alexandru Obregia Hospital, Carol Davila University, Bucharest) was established and we hope to start it from 2016 as a tutorship program, focused on metabolic disorders (Professor De Meirleir) and also on brain malformations (Professor An Jansen). A very important achievement in a completely different field was networking with IPG (Institut De Pathologie et Genetique) Gosselies related to epileptic encephalopathies cases, hoping in a further close collaboration through an official research project with the similar center in Bucharest. The time spent in Belgium meant more than just a wonderful, exciting professional experience - it added new meanings to the notion of human values : I was warmly welcomed by Professor De Meirleir, integrated as a colleague with equal rights in her team, meeting not only highly skilled doctors, but also wonderful people and friends. I am grateful to everybody for turning this 4 months into life to remember experience and I am thankful to the EPNS for offering me this extraordinary opportunity.

EPNS Research Meeting *save the date!*

28-29 October 2016: Essen, Germany

The programme is now being worked on, and will be available in the new year.

12th EPNS Congress: week commencing 20-24 June 2017, Lyon, France *save the date!*

Please visit www.epns2017.com

13th EPNS Congress: 18-21 September 2019, Athens, Greece *save the date!*

EPNS Certificate of Membership

This can now be requested by an EPNS member who has paid their 2016 annual subscription fee. Please email Sue on info@epns.info to request a certificate.

New EPNS membership

Please continue to encourage your colleagues to join us. A convenient on-line application form is available on our website <http://www.epns.jmre.es/become-an-epns-member/> For more information email Sue on info@epns.info . Many thanks.

EPNS on Twitter!

Please follow us. Our Twitter name is **@EPNSnews**

EPNS website: Job vacancy section <http://www.epns.jmre.es/job-vacancies/>

If you would like to advertise a vacancy for a paediatric neurologist role, please email info@epns.info with the following information: Link to the official job advertising site, name, email address and phone number of the person to contact regarding the role together with deadline for applications.

ICNC2016: 1-5 May 2016: Amsterdam, The Netherlands

www.icnc2016.org

15 February 2016: deadline for early bird registration fee

BPNA Distance Learning in Paediatric Neurology

<http://www.bpna.org.uk/distancelearning/index.php>

EPNS website: Job vacancy section <http://www.epns.jmre.es/job-vacancies/>

If you would like to advertise a vacancy for a paediatric neurologist role, please email info@epns.info with the following information: Link to the official job advertising site, name, email address and phone number of the person to contact regarding the role together with deadline for applications.

Below, please visit <http://www.epns.jmre.es/job-vacancies/> to find more details about the following vacancy currently being advertised:

- **Hereditary Neuropathy Fellowship: UCL London**

- **Secondment opportunity for a senior physiotherapist to work in Complex Motor Disorders Service at Evelina Children's Hospital, Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London, United Kingdom** <http://jobs.gstt.nhs.uk/job/v429482>

Please visit the 'meetings' page of our EPNS website <http://www.epns.info/> for a list of other meetings which might be of interest to you, here are some meetings which have been added recently:

- 27-29 January 2016, **42nd BPNA Annual Conference**, Sheffield, United Kingdom <http://www.bpna.org.uk/conference/2016/>
- 25-27 August 2016, **36th Nordic Neuropediatric Congress**, Helsinki, Finland <http://www.nnps2016.org/>

And finally... here is a summary of some important EPNS meeting dates for your diaries:

EPNS Training Courses 2016: Budapest, Hungary:

- 8-9 March 2016 'Epilepsy and other paroxysmal disorders'
- 10-11 March 2016 'Behavioural, psychological and psychiatric aspects of neurology'

EPNS Research Meeting 2016: Essen, Germany: 28-29 October 2016

EPNS Training Courses 2017: Budapest, Hungary

12th EPNS Congress: Lyon, France: 20-24 June 2017

EPNS Research Meeting 2018: Alicante, Spain

13th EPNS Congress: Athens, Greece: 18-21 September 2019

EPNS Training Courses 2018-2020: Spain

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact me at info@epns.info if you have any queries about your EPNS membership.

With kind regards

Sue Hargreaves (Mrs)

Membership Secretary

European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS)
The Coach House

Rear of 22 Chorley New Road

Bolton

BL1 4AP

UNITED KINGDOM

Email : info@epns.info

Twitter: @EPNSnews