



European Society of Neonatology (ESN) and European Society for Pediatric Research (ESPR)

EUROPEAN COURSES IN NEONATOLOGY

European Training in Neonatal Medicine “The Evidence and Beyond”

Invitation to the European Courses in Neonatology (ECN)

It has been a long-standing tradition of ESPR to organize educational courses in conjunction with the annual meeting of the society. Since 2 years ago these courses became more structured, and topics were selected such to be in line with the main themes of the scientific meeting. With such interaction between courses and the ESPR congress, junior doctors attending the event had the possibility of being trained from a more clinical and practical point during the courses and also to be exposed to the more scientific oriented issues during the ESPR meeting. Furthermore such structure offers the benefit of having distinguished speakers who come for the ESPR who can also teach at the courses and share their experience with junior doctors.

ESN has decided to organize these courses in 3-year cycles. A two-day course for 3 consecutive years will offer enough time to cover the most important topics in Neonatal Medicine, however the major aim of the courses is to stimulate interest in Clinical Neonatology with a lot of time dedicated to speculations and discussions. The motto of the courses is “Evidence in Neonatology and Beyond”. The attendees, who successfully complete a 3-year cycle will receive a certificate of “COMPLETION OF HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING IN NEONATAL MEDICINE”. This certificate would be endorsed by ESPR-ESN and CESP and will give European CME points.

Objectives:

- 1) To offer the junior doctor interested in developing a career in Neonatal Medicine state of the art interactive teaching on key areas of Neonatology and Perinatology. Teaching will be of the highest level, evidence based, and more importantly it will be "inspiring"
- 2) To establish close relationship between trainers and trainees and between trainees. This should provide the basis for future clinical and scientific collaborations in Europe.
- 3) To facilitate the trainees to develop their own scientific work. Trainees may become in due time "Affiliate Members of the ESPR" and subsequently "Full ESPR-ESN" members.

Main topics of the courses: Six main groups of topics have been identified (2 topics will be covered each year):

- Central Nervous System & Neurology of the Newborn and of the Foetus
- Neonatal Pulmonology, Mechanical Ventilation and Respiratory Care and ENT
- Cardiovascular, Circulation (Macro Micro) Cardiology of the Foetus and of the Newborn
- Nutrition & Growth, Neonatal Gastroenterology, Neonatal Metabolism
- Perinatal and Neonatal Infections, Pharmacology & Immunology
- Renal Water Electrolytes, Endocrine and Inborn Error of Metabolism

Number of trainees and requirements:

1. Courses will be limited to 50 trainees.
2. Age below 40 at the time of application
3. Complete application form
4. Curriculum Vitae including the list of publications
5. Written commitment to attend the courses for the 3-year cycle.

Applications should be sent to:
Virgilio Carnielli
Secretary ESN and Secretary for the ESN educational program
Director of Neonatal Medicine
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Acceptance: The Secretary for the ESN educational program in collaboration with the ESN Council will decide the acceptance of each applicant. Acceptance will be based on clinical and scientific merit and on a good distribution between countries of origin. Two thirds of the trainees will be from EU Member states and the rest from Non EU Countries. A minimum of 10% of the trainees will be chosen from underprivileged nations.

Course Structure: The two day course (12 to 16 hours of teaching) will normally take place before the ESPR-ESN Annual Meeting. One third of the time will be spent in discussions and speculations. One third of the time will be dedicated to practical work including the discussion of videos, patient simulations, medical instruments learning, and animal work when possible.
The course will have at least 8 teachers per year (24 teachers in 3 years)

European CME points: The program will give to participants **European CME points**, which can be converted into **Individual Nation CME points** where applicable.

Trainees Evaluation: Trainee evaluation will be done at the end of each course by administering multiple choice questionnaires and by an independent evaluation of the teachers. Teachers will be evaluated by trainees.

Certificate: Upon completion of the 3 year cycle a certificate will be issued by ESN and endorsed by CESP. The certificate will state that the individual has successfully completed the European Course in Neonatal Medicine

Miscellaneous considerations: Accepted students/trainees will be invited to participate at the ESPR/ESN Meeting at a reduced fee and to present scientific work at ESPR. Upon completion of the courses the candidates will be eligible to become Affiliate Members to ESPR/ESN

Registration Fee: 750 € per year. Registration will be reduced to 500 € for individuals who are already Affiliate Members of the ESPR. Trainees will be able to register to the ESPR meeting at the young investigator fee.

Sponsorship: Main Sponsor of the ECN is Chiesi Farmaceutici S.p.a.

Date of Start: August 30 and 31 2005 in Siena, Italy. Topics for 2005 will be

- a) Central Nervous System/Neurology of the Newborn and of the Foetus and
- b) Nutrition & Growth, Neonatal Gastroenterology, Neonatal Metabolism. Program requests to Virgilio Carnielli (Secretary ESN and Secretary for the ESN educational program) or Giuseppe Buonocore (President of ESPR 2005)

Young doctors who are seeking a career in Neonatal Medicine are cordially invited to join this exciting initiative!