

“Union of European Neonatal and Perinatal Societies”(UENPS) União das Sociedades de Neonatologia e Perinatologia

www.uenps2008.eu

The UENPS, founded July 1, 2006, in Vienna, is a confederation of Societies i.e. an organisation integrating national European Neonatal or Perinatal Societies under one organisational roof, without impinging on national society's interests or needs. The UENPS to date comprises 23 societies, 300,000,000 inhabitants and 3,500,000 births each year.

Our aims:

- 1) Form a society with excellent scientists, teachers and clinicians. UENPS invites excellent scientists, either Europeans, Americans or elsewhere and young talented European neonatologists or perinatologists to join as members and to identify with this Europe based society and
- 2) Enabling UENPS members to disseminate information to factually all colleagues, within the UENPS countries and beyond UENPS.

Executive committee

President	Portuguese Neonatal Society Hercília Guimarães hguimaraes@netcabo.pt
Vice- President	Italian Neonatal Society Giuseppe Buonocore buonocore@unisit.it
G secretary	Spanish Neonatal Society Manuel Sanchez Luna secretariasen@hotmail.com ; msanchezl@hgugm@madrid.org
Treasurer	Bulgarian Neonatal Association Nelly Jekova nellyjekova@hotmail.com

5 members	Hellenic Neonatal Society Antatolitou Fani fanatolit@yahoo.gr
	Slowakian Neonatal Pediatric Society Peter Krcho Krcho@upjs.sk
	Turkish Neonatal Society Murat Yurdakok muratyurdakok@yahoo.com
	Lithuanian Neonatology Association Egle Markuniene egle.markuniene@kmuk.lt
	Serbian Perinatal Society Georgios Konstantinidis vladako@nadlanu.com

Supervisory Committee

3 members	Macedonian Neonatal Society Katica Piperkova kpiperkova@yahoo.com
	Polish Neonatal Society Jerzy Szczapa jszczapa@gpsk.am.poznan.pl
	Estonian Perinatal Society Heili Varendi Heili.Varendi@kliinikum.ee

3 members:

In the next 2 years:

Research

1. Creation of a Europe-wide RESEARCH network, which will allow UENPS members to investigate issues in form of multicenter large trials and acquire the data within few months.
2. Recruitment and distribution Office for Postdoctoral fellows from within and outside the UENPS and founding of RESEARCH CAMPUS for young European scientists (< 38 years) to spend one week together to exchange of ideas, protocols in an informal way

Education

Coordination of Educational meetings at regional and European wide level in order to avoid auto-competition and instead foster meaningful cooperation in sharing regional programs and professors from abroad:

3. Planning an excellent European Congress "Global Neonatology & Perinatology", every 2 years, with World Top scientists/lecturers for Europeans and for the rest of the world. **Istanbul 2010. Porto 2012.** Further congresses will be decided on HOST societies.
4. Planning every year a meeting of the council, during a workshop to be held and organised by the society members of UENPS.
5. Arranging the TEACH-THE-TEACHERS program in Europe.

Survey network

6. Creation of a Europe-wide DATA & QUALITY survey network, which will allow UENPS members - in analogy to the Vermont-Oxford network - to compare their performance within Europe, to use it as a research tool, but at lower costs and if a NICU wishes, it can in addition use it as data input for Vermont Oxford.

All efforts must be done, with the experience of some networks of European countries, to unite their existing networks into one EUROPEAN network in 2009.

Collaboration with other societies and organisations

7. Continuation of the close link and responsibility of UENPS as main partner organisation of the largest EUROPEAN parent organisation, the EFCNI (European Foundation for Care of Newborn Infants), a very

dynamic and powerful foundation, which will also support improvement in neonatal care, establishing guidelines and information systems, and research

- 8) Elaboration of European Guidelines/Consensus under the supervision of World Experts
- 9) Establish Contacts and Visibility of UENPS outside Europe such as in Asia South-East and Africa, Arabia, China, India, Latin America, Russian-Turkmenistan countries, since Europeans are NOT present in these countries, most of the cooperation contracts go to USA.
- 10) Opinion and decision on collective ordering of equipment and drugs, promoting improvement of perinatal care.

A task force will be necessary to secure EU-funding for projects of UENPS and its members and recruit industrial sponsors, since this society will be a key-player in its field in Europe and beyond.

In summary

This Union represents the countries and the governing bodies are always the representatives (president or delegate) of each national society and want to work with all scientific societies. Our goals, as a Union of Neonatal and Perinatal European Societies, are to integrate, coordinate and add efforts to improve the knowledge of the real situation in our European Union Countries in Neonatal and Perinatal care.

So this is not a "new" society in Europe but "the" Society of the European Union understood as an integration of all societies, not for the single members of the community, and with this feeling concentrate in a single organization all of the European Societies.

UENPS must be different to any other medical society in terms of we have to be over them, offering not only scientific activities but helping to the European Community about standards of Neonatal Care, rights of the newborns in our countries. Our dream is to achieve a common management of the newborn to accomplish the right of the newborn to receive the best care independently where is was born.

We do not want to compete but we want to collaborate in all fields; education, research, guidelines and improve quality in perinatal assistance (better practices). We want to collaborate with all European and International Society of Neonatology and Perinatology i.e. EAPM, ESN, ESPR, AAP, PSANZ, SIBEN FAOPS; they are the welcome as partner societies or Scientific Associate Member, among others.

Hercília Guimarães

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