



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF NEURORADIOLOGY
DIAGNOSTIC AND INTERVENTIONAL

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2

Welcome to the spring issue of the ESNR Newsletter

Welcome to the second ESNR Newsletter. Our first Newsletter was very well received by ESNR members, as feedback suggests that it was considered a useful way to communicate relevant Society information and updates on both recent and future activities.

In this second Newsletter I would like to especially invite all ESNR members to attend the 40th ESNR Annual Meeting, which will take place in Malmö, Sweden, under the presidency of Professor Pia M. Sundgren who, together with the Congress Scientific Committee, has created a very attractive scientific programme.

Our Newsletters are archived on the ESNR website under the 'ESNR Publications' section to ensure that all information is readily and permanently available.

The Social Media Committee hopes that you will find all the information included here both interesting and useful.

Núria Bargalló

Chair of the Social Media Committee.

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Dr Alex Rovira Cañellas

President's Letter

ESNR is working hard in many areas and making good progress with many different projects. In some cases, these are long-running initiatives that are the best of their kind in the world, such as our outstanding educational programme, which is included in the European School of Neuroradiology (ESoNR).

The European Course of Neuroradiology (ECNR), the most well-known and successful activity included in this programme, is now under the direction of Prof. Majda M. Thurnher and Prof. Johan Van Goethem who will together organize the 2nd module of its 14th cycle, with the topic 'CNS Tumours' in Antwerp, Belgium, from 7–11 May 2017.

Other courses included in Level III of the ESoNR have also been organized for 2017. These advanced courses included the second module of the 8th cycle of the European Course of Paediatric Neuroradiology in Genoa, Italy, under the direction of Prof. Andrea Rossi between 21–25 January 2017, and the 3rd Module (Aneurysm) of the 6th Cycle in Endovascular Interventional Neuroradiology in Hamburg, Germany, between 27 February and 1 March under the direction of Prof. Jens Fiehler and Prof. Jan-Hendrik Buhk. In the coming months the 8th Diagnostic and Interventional Spine Course will take place in Catania, Italy, between 28 June and 1 July, under the direction of Prof. Luigi Manfrè and Prof. Mario Muto, and finally the First Advanced Courses in Diagnostic Neuroradiology on Brain Tumour Imaging will take place in Milan, Italy, between 8–10 November under the direction of Prof. Andrea Fallini.

ESNR has also extended its educational programme to Latin America, and successfully organized the 1st module of the 1st Cycle (Anatomy and Embryology) of the LATAM-ECNR in São Paulo from 8–11 February 2017 with the collaboration of the Paulista Society of Radiology and the Brazilian Society of Neuroradiology.

ESNR also signed an agreement with the Colombian Association of Radiology for organizing two cycles of the Latin-American European Course of Paediatric Neuroradiology in Colombia, and another with the American Society of Neuroradiology, to organize a joint session at the Annual Congresses of both Societies for the next five years. This joint session started this year at the ASNR 55th Annual Meeting which took place at Long Beach, California, from 22–27 April, and will be repeated at the 40th ESNR Annual Meeting in Malmö, Sweden, which will take place between 13–17 September 2017. These agreements are in line with ESNR's mission to be actively involved in co-ordinating initiatives in education and research, and to promote liaison with other related organizations on a worldwide scale.

Finally, this year ESNR is offering for the first time a 12-month Research Fellowship in Diagnostic Neuroradiology with a stipend of 25.000€, to ESNR junior or full members up to the age of 40 years. This fellowship programme has been created in addition to the existing Exchange Programme for Neuroradiology Fellowships organized in partnership with the European School of Radiology (ESoR).

'These agreements are in line with ESNR's mission to be actively involved in co-ordinating initiatives in education and research, and to promote liaison with other related organizations on a worldwide scale.'



This programme offers five grants for three months of intense sub-specialisation training in Neuroradiology to recently board-certified radiologists, who are members of ESR and ESNR.

The most important activity of ESNR is the Annual Congress that will take place in Malmö, Sweden, from 13–17 September 2017, under the Presidency of Prof. Pia M. Sundgren. The Scientific Committee has developed an interesting educational and scientific programme, with strong focus on new advances in Neuroradiology.

ESNR has been working on the development of the 'Training Charter on Interventional Neuroradiology' in close collaboration with the UEMS Division of Neuroradiology, now under the presidency of Prof. Marek Sasiadek. A version of this 'Training Charter' has been recently approved by the ESNR Executive Committee and submitted to the UEMS Division of Neuroradiology. Also, a document on 'Standards of Practice in Interventional Neuroradiology' was approved by the ESNR/ESMINT/UEMS working group, and will be published in 'Neuroradiology'. This consensus document is an important achievement, and its main purpose is to provide optimal conditions for the safe practice of Interventional Neuroradiology in Europe.

I cannot finish this Presidential Address without expressing my sorrow on behalf of all ESNR Board members at the sad news of the deaths of three European Neuroradiologists who dedicated their entire professional lives to this radiological specialty. They are Professors Jacqueline Vignaud, Othmar Schubiger and Marco Leonardi. I would like to offer my deepest gratitude to all of them for the important contributions they made to the development of ESNR. Professors Schubiger and Marco Leonardi also held relevant positions as officers within ESNR (Prof. Othmar Schubiger, ESNR Treasurer; Prof. Marco Leonardi, Secretary General and President), always fulfilling these duties with a high sense of responsibility and dedication.

Dr Alex Rovira Cañellas



Letter from the President of the 40th ESNR Annual Meeting

An advance welcome to the 40th ESNR Annual Meeting and 8th Advanced Course in Endovascular and Interventional Neuroradiology in Malmö, Sweden, on 13–17 September 2017.

I look forward to welcoming you all to this Annual Meeting which will take place in the south of Sweden in Malmö, the third largest city in the country, located on the seashore. Malmö is a vibrant, multicultural city that is constantly growing. Famous for its many parks and often called the 'green city', it features interesting architecture such as the 'Turning Torso' and attractive newly built areas at the former docks in the harbour, as well as galleries, pubs and award-winning restaurants. For those who enjoy the outdoor life, Malmö enjoys a great location by the sea with the beach just minutes from the city centre. Malmö is a young, inquisitive and creative city characterized by innovative thinking. It is just 20 minutes from Scandinavia's largest airport – Copenhagen Airport – and between them Malmö Airport and Copenhagen Airport offer direct flights to 142 destinations throughout the world. Once you land, onward travel is easy too – trains from Copenhagen Airport to Malmö run every 20 minutes, and buses run continuously from Malmö Airport, stopping at numerous points in central Malmö. The city's location not far from Copenhagen, with easy access by train, car or bus over the famous bridge, is inviting for tourists, as well as the many inhabitants in the Malmö and Copenhagen who commute daily over the bridge to work.

Malmö has thirteenth-century origins and it subsequently grew during the sixteenth century to be one of the biggest cities in Scandinavia. Half-timbered houses, chemists and trading

stores from that period are still to be found lining the cobbled streets and squares in the oldest parts of Malmö.

I hope you will find the educational and scientific programme appealing. This year there will be a stronger focus on scientific and new advances in Neuroradiology. We will have keynote lectures by Prof. Anne Osborn, Prof. Mauricio Castillo, Prof. Staffan Holmin and Prof. Mark van Buchem, and the yearly SFNR Torgny Greiz lecture will be given by Ric Harnsberger. Several other well-known national and international speakers will also present interesting lectures.

We have received a significant number of abstracts this year, and authors will be notified about acceptance in the coming weeks.

We will, for the first time in the course of Annual Meetings, start one day earlier than usual with a half-day pre-course session on 'CSF Diseases: The neuroradiological impact in diagnosis and treatment of idiopathic normal pressure hydrocephalus (iNPH) – is there a need for neuroradiology?' Do not forget to register for this activity, which is included in the congress fee and on offer without any extra cost.

The meeting and course will be held at Malmö Live, located in the middle of the city just a few minutes' walk from Malmö railway station. The Clarion Congress Hotel is directly adjoined to the Congress Centre, and several other hotels are less than five minutes' walk from the Congress Centre.

Prof. Pia C Maly Sundgren
40th ESNR Congress President



ESNR extends its educational programme to Latin America

European Course of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology in Latin America – 1st Cycle, Module 1: Anatomy and Embryology

The European Society of Neuroradiology (ESNR) and the European Board of Neuroradiology (EBNR) have taken their main course, the European Course of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology (ECNR), to Latin America. The 'Module 1: Anatomy and Embryology' was presented between 8–11 February 2017 at the Maksoud Plaza Hotel in São Paulo, with the assistance of the Radiological Society of São Paulo (SPR) and the Brazilian Society of Neuroradiology (SBNR).

This LATAM-ECNR was a great opportunity for Latin-American attendees to receive a complete and well-structured educational programme in Neuroradiology, which will facilitate the harmonization of training and practice of Neuroradiology in LATAM, and which will also offer the attendees the opportunity to sit for the final examination of the European Diploma in Neuroradiology (EDiNR), organized on a yearly basis during the Annual Congress of ESNR by the EBNR. The event registered 260 attendees, coming from many different Latin American countries.

In the opening session, Antônio Rocha, President of the SBNR and the SPR Board, welcomed and formally thanked ESNR, all European lecturers and SPR, who together made this dream possible because, as he explained, it would be impracticable to organize this course via SBNR due to the costs and structure required. Antônio Soares, President of SPR, said that the societies involved worked hard to make the course viable in São Paulo: "I'm sure you all will have and see great opportunities for everything that will be taught here". Then, Àlex Rovira, President of ESNR, said it was a great honour and pleasure to be in São Paulo: "We want to extend our educational programme and consider that Latin America is the ideal place to take this idea forward".

The great success of this first LATAM-ECNR cycle would be impossible without the excellent hard work of our SPR colleagues, in particular Dr. Antonio Soares Souza, President, and Dr. Renato Adam Mendonça, Chairman of the 1st cycle of the LATAM-ECNR.

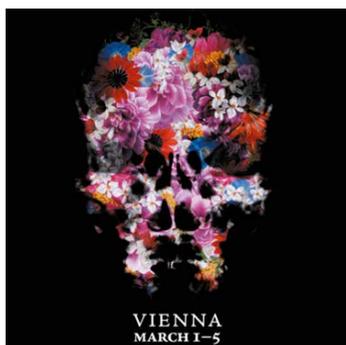
The 2nd module of the course has been scheduled for 21–24 February 2018 at the Maksoud Plaza Hotel, and the theme will be 'CNS Tumours'.

'I'm sure you all will have and see great opportunities for everything that will be taught here.'

*Dr Antônio Soares
President of SPR*



Report of the Neuroradiology Section at ECR 2017



Excellent participation in Neuroradiology topics at the last ECR in March 2017

The 2017 European Congress of Radiology, which took place on 1–5 March 2017, was a complete success with a record participation of 21,000 attendees. Our esteemed colleague, Chairperson of the ESR Board of Directors and President of this edition of the ECR, Prof. Paul M. Parizel, had prepared a radiology meeting where our Neuroradiology specialty has played a prominent role. When asking Prof. Paul M. Parizel why he had chosen a ‘skull with flowers’ as the icon of ECR 2017, he replied: “Because it is a symbol for Neuroradiology (the skull), as well as for youth and positive energy (the flowers). I wanted to bring with ECR 2017 a message of hope and self-confidence for our colleagues, now and in the future”.



The Chair of the Scientific Sub-committee on Neuroradiology this year was Prof. Zulema Merhemic from Bosnia-Herzegovina. She, working together with the Scientific Neuro Sub-committee and the ECR Programme Committee, had prepared an excellent programme, covering basic topics for the residents and young radiologists, as well as topics on advances and highlights, such as functional brain connectivity, or gadolinium deposition in the brain. There were ten ‘ECR Academies’ lectures, one ‘ECR Masterclass’, two ‘Rising Stars’ lectures, seven refresher courses, 16 scientific sessions, two special focus sessions, and four ‘Voice of the EPOS’ sessions dedicated to Neuroradiology, with a total of approximately 6660 attendees.

This year, in recognition of his significant contribution to the field of Neuroradiology, Prof. Mauricio Castillo from Chapel Hill, USA, was invited to give the Conrad Wilhelm Röntgen Honorary Lecture, with the topic ‘Dissatisfaction, burnout, and inequality: three major challenges in radiology’, a hot topic that unfortunately affects many radiologists.

The ESNR wants to congratulate Prof. Paul M. Parizel for the success of the ECR 2017, which has been an extraordinary congress. Reflecting this, I would like to finish this report using the comment that AuntMinnies.com published about this meeting: “ECR for years languished in the shadow of the larger RSNA meeting in Chicago, but apparently no more”. Prof. Paul M. Parizel had undoubtedly greatly contributed to this advancement.

Nuria Bargalló
Chair of Social Media Committee



Report of the European Course in Paediatric Neuroradiology – 8th Cycle



The European Course in Paediatric Neuroradiology – 8th Cycle, Module 2, took place in Genoa, Italy, on 21–25 January 2017. The course is a joint effort

between ESNR and the European Society of Paediatric Radiology (ESPR). It is the most traditional and comprehensive teaching course in the field of paediatric neuroradiology with a 25-year history and more than 1000 participants overall. In 2015, it was decided to modify the course structure from a single comprehensive course into a cycle of two annual courses, which effectively doubled the teaching offering while at the same time retaining the traditional, highly interactive structure in which 50% of the teaching time is devoted to interactive workshops in small groups.



This year, there were 182 paying participants from 39 countries and 25 invited speakers, for a global teaching activity of 18 hours of lectures and 12 hours of workshops. The scientific programme consisted of sessions primarily focusing on CNS tumours, malformations, genetic (metabolic/neurocutaneous) diseases, epilepsy, and head and neck disorders. On the final day, a written multiple-choice examination was administered which is part of the examination structure of the European Diploma in Paediatric

Neuroradiology (EDiPNR), organized by the European Board of Neuroradiology (EBNR).

The next course is Module 1 of the 9th Cycle, and will take place in Athens, Greece, on 20–24 January 2018. Registrations are open at www.ecpnr.org





The European Medicine Agency announcement on gadolinium agents

PRAC concludes assessment of gadolinium agents used in body scans and recommends regulatory actions, including suspension for some marketing authorisations

EMA's Pharmacovigilance and Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) has recently recommended, through a press release dated 10 March 2017, the suspension of the marketing authorisations for four linear gadolinium contrast agents, because of evidence that small amounts of the gadolinium they contain are deposited in the brain.

The agents concerned are intravenous injections of gadobenic acid, gadodiamide, gadopentetic acid and gadoversetamide. The PRAC's review of gadolinium agents found convincing evidence of accumulation of gadolinium in the brain from studies directly measuring gadolinium in brain tissues and areas of increased signal intensity seen on MRI scan images many months after the last injection of a gadolinium contrast agent. The companies affected by this review have the right to request the PRAC to re-examine its recommendations. The PRAC's final recommendations will be sent to the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) for its opinion. Further details will be published at the time of the CHMP opinion.

Although no symptoms or diseases linked to gadolinium in the brain have been reported, the PRAC took a precautionary approach, noting that data on the long-term effects in the brain are limited.

The four agents recommended for suspension are referred to as linear agents. Linear agents have a structure more likely to release gadolinium, which can build up in body tissues. Other agents, known as macrocyclic agents, are more stable and have a much lower propensity to release gadolinium. The PRAC recommends that macrocyclic agents be used at the lowest dose that enhances images sufficiently to make diagnoses, and only when unenhanced body scans are not suitable. Some linear agents will remain available: gadoxetic acid, a linear agent used at a low dose for liver scans, can remain on the market as it meets an important diagnostic need in patients with few alternatives. In addition, a formulation of gadopentetic acid injected directly into joints is to remain available because its gadolinium concentration is very low – around 200 times lower than those of intravenous products. Both agents should be used at the lowest dose that enhances images sufficiently to make diagnoses, and only if unenhanced scans are not suitable. For those marketing authorisations recommended for suspension, the suspensions can be lifted if the respective companies provide evidence of new benefits in an identified patient group that outweigh its risks, or show that their product (modified or not) does not release gadolinium significantly (dechelation) or lead to its retention in tissues.

EMA/157486/2017
Media and Public Relations



ESNR Announcements

Applications for the Presidency of the 43rd ESNR Annual Meeting

ESNR announces the opening of a call for applications to the Presidency of the 43rd ESNR Annual Meeting, 27th Advanced Course on Diagnostic Neuroradiology and 12th Advanced Course in Endovascular and Interventional Neuroradiology that will take place in September 2020.

Candidates must refer to the ESNR rules for the organization of the Annual Congress, and submit their applications for the attention of the ESNR Secretary General (info@esnr.org; cc. andrearossi@gaslini.org) within the non-negotiable deadline of 31 May 2017.

Applicants fulfilling the prerequisites stated in the rules will be invited to present their candidature to the ESNR Executive Committee during a special meeting that will take place during the 40th ESNR Annual Congress in Malmö, Sweden.

More information at www.esnr.org

Elections to the ESNR Executive Committee

The following positions of the ESNR Executive Committee will become vacant as from 17 September 2017, the day after the General Assembly during the ESNR Annual Meeting 2017 in Malmö, Sweden:

The Secretary-General

The Chairperson of the Sub-specialty Committee Diagnostic Neuroradiology

The Chairperson of the Sub-specialty Committee Interventional Neuroradiology

The Chairperson of the Sub-specialty Committee Paediatric Neuroradiology

The Chairperson of the Sub-specialty Committee Head and Neck Neuroradiology

The Chairperson of the Sub-specialty Committee Spine Neuroradiology

If you are interested in one of these positions, please apply by email for the attention of the ESNR Secretary General (info@esnr.org; cc. andrearossi@gaslini.org) before 16 June 2017, mentioning the position for which you wish to apply, and the names of two other full members acting as sponsors. Please include a personal letter explaining your motivation and intentions to the members of the ESNR. This letter will be included in the invitation to the General Assembly.



ESNR News

The ESNR is pleased to announce:

- Prof. Andrea Rossi, the Secretary of the Executive Committee of ESNR, will be the President of the International Paediatric Radiology (IPR) in May 2021, Rome, Italy.
- Prof. Mario Muto, the Chairperson of the Sub-specialty Committee Spine Neuroradiology, Diagnostic and Interventional, will organize the World Federation Interventional & Therapeutic Neuroradiology (WFITN) meeting from 21–24 October 2019 in Napoli, Italy.

Upcoming ESNR Courses

ESNR is pleased to announce the following upcoming ESNR courses:

EUROPEAN COURSE IN NEURORADIOLOGY (ECNR)

European Course in Neuroradiology, Diagnostic and Interventional 14th Cycle, Module 2: CNS Tumours

7–11 MAY 2017 ANTWERP, BELGIUM

European Course in Neuroradiology, Diagnostic and Interventional 14th Cycle, Module 3: Vascular

15–19 OCTOBER 2017 DUBROVNIK, CROATIA
Registration opens soon at www.esnr.org

ADVANCED COURSES – HIGHER QUALIFICATION ESNR COURSES

8th ESNR Diagnostic and Interventional Spine Course

28 JUNE–1 JULY 2017 CATANIA, ITALY
Registration at www.esnr.org

New Advanced Course in Diagnostic Neuroradiology: Glioma Imaging

8–10 NOVEMBER 2017 MILAN, ITALY
Registration opens soon at www.esnr.org

More information on all these courses and others can be found at www.esnr.org, or by emailing ESNR at info@esnr.org

If you have any feedback you would like to offer on this newsletter, or suggestions for future topics, please e-mail info@esnr.org