Festive Christmas season to all!

Welcome to the eighth newsletter from the EFIM Executive Team and Young Internists. We would like to extend a very warm greeting to all of the EFIM members. This newsletter will be produced every quarter to update you on events and activities from 2015 and into 2016.

The European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) is a scientific organisation founded in 1996 and dedicated to the progression and development of Internal Medicine across Europe.

More EFIM info

We welcome contributions from all of the EFIM member countries and from individual members who would like to share ideas opportunities and pictures from EFIM events that you have attended. Please contact us via e-mail at comms@EFIM.org

Moscow General Assembly News

A warm thank-you to those of you who joined us during the EFIM General Assembly and Administrative Council meeting that took place at the Aquarium Hotel in Moscow. We would like to thank our hosts for their gracious hospitality throughout the Congress. 56 attendees from 29 EFIM member societies attended the EFIM meetings. Frank Bosch, EFIM President welcomed the participants to Moscow congratulating our hosts and expressing his contentment on the number of countries participating in the EFIM meeting and attending the European Congress in Moscow.

The General Assembly started off with Frank Bosch and an overview of EFIM current activities. EFIM Treasurer, Dr. Antonio Martins Baptista, presented EFIM 2014 accounts and current financial state. Dr. Pedro Conthe was unanimously re-elected to the position of Secretary General for a further 2 years. The draft EFIM statutes were discussed and comments invited prior to voting in 2016 at the 2nd EFIM Day meeting in Brussels. The new AC membership structure was approved and will be launched in 2016. Frank Bosch presented a new Fellowship structure introducing EFIM Junior Fellowship, EFIM Fellowship and EFIM Honorary Fellowships.

Prof. Mannucci presented the progress of the European Journal of Internal Medicine with impact factor of 2.8 and ranking 26th of the 153 journals in Medicine, General & Internal. Sylvia Malosio presented strong progress in the European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine.

The Dutch Society of Internal Medicine was voted to host ESIM Summer 2017–2019 with Portugal and Slovakia invited to send their proposal for the next host selection opening.

Numerous items were discussed and presented including the progress of the European Curriculum for Internal Medicine project by Rijk Gans and the announcement of the meeting in Brussels on December 11th 2015 to discuss this important topic.

Mark Kramer gave a short overview on the progress made for the next European Congress of Internal Medicine - 2016 in Amsterdam, presenting a strong programme and inviting the members to encourage attendance at the congress through their societies. Nica announced ECIM 2017, which will take place in Milan under her leadership.

Participants joined the Opening Ceremony of the Congress and attended many of the high level scientific sessions organised at the congress while also experiencing some of the local opportunities of beautiful Moscow.
Report of the 14th Congress of EFIM

For the first time in history the 14th European Congress of Internal Medicine (ECIM) took place in Moscow, Russian Federation in the International Exhibition Center “Crocus Expo” October 14th through 16th, 2015. The 14th ECIM was organized by the European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) together with the Russian Scientific Medical Society of Internal Medicine (RSMSIM) with support of the Ministry of Health Care. Co-chairmen of the Congress were the President of RSMSIM Anatoly Martynov and the President of EFIM Frank Bosch (the Netherlands). The ECIM was organized jointly with the National Congress of Russian Internists.

6138 doctors from 363 cities of the Russian Federation and 1504 foreign specialists from 72 countries participated at the joint Congress. The largest number of international participants came from Turkey (297), Portugal (250), Spain (185), Greece (66) and Israel (41). The opening ceremony was marked by the welcome speeches of Anatoly Martynov, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the President of RSMSIM, Veronika Skvortsova, the Minister of Health care of the Russian Federation, Frank Bosch (the Netherlands), the President of EFIM and Daniel Sereni (France), the Chairman of the Foundation for the Development of Internal Medicine in Europe. Dmitry Medvedev, the Prime Minister of Russian Federation, Valentina Matveenko, the Chairman of the Federation Council, Sergey Naryshkin, the Chairman of the State Duma, Alexander Brechalov, Secretary of the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation and Oleg Yanushevich, the President of the Society of doctors in Russia sent the greetings to the participants of the 14th ECIM and National Congress of Internists.

The scientific program of the congress fully reflected its slogan "Internal medicine - without borders". The program included all the main areas of internal medicine as well as therapeutic forums questions related to neurology, oncology, occupational diseases, orphan diseases and emergency medicine. The important role of internal medicine in the modern health care system was discussed as well as the perspectives of development of therapy as a profession, comorbid and multimorbidity, pathology, overdiagnosis and overtreatment, management of elderly patients. The Honorary lectures at the Congress were entrusted to read to Evgeny Chazov, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Nobel prize laureate, and Oleg Atkov, Professor, pilot-cosmonaut, first internist in space. The topics of their lectures were "Ways of improving of cardiac care" and "Space as a new human environment. Medical risks." At a joint plenary session of the RSMSIM, EFIM, International Society of Internal Medicine (ISIM) and Eurasian Association of Therapists, the problems and prospects of internal medicine in the 21st century were discussed. ISIM was represented by Hans Peter Kohler (Switzerland), the Secretary General, and Rolf Streuli (Switzerland), Honorary President of ISIM, whose presence made it possible to discuss further cooperation and to coordinate the largest international professional therapeutic societies for the development of internal medicine. The rest of the plenary sessions of the Congress were devoted to overdiagnosis and medical errors, rare diseases and new models of organization of inpatient and outpatient care in Europe. Eight workshops on topical issues such as acute situations in internal medicine, management of patients with atrial fibrillation, writing of medical articles, syncope, ultrasound examination for internists, drug induced liver disease, differential diagnosis of the most common syndromes and clinical ECG were held.

Within the Congress a traditional Day of Young Internists and the best clinical case contest, organized jointly by the ECIM-2015 organising committee and the European Journal of case reports in internal medicine (EJCRIM), took place. 10 best clinical cases were selected among 366 submitted to the Congress for the final tour. First place was awarded to the work of Ludi Koenig and co-authors (Rotterdam, the Netherlands) "The chicken or the egg: a patient with rapidly progressive renal and heart failure". Second place was taken by Pablo Demelo Rodriguez and co-authors (Madrid, Spain), presented the case report "An unusual case of acute meningitis", the third – by Ewelina Biskup and Yang Xiao-Yu (Shanghai, China) with the case of "Purulent abscess of the caudate lobe of the liver". In addition to diplomas and valuable prizes, all participants got the opportunity to publish their papers in EJCRIM.

In total, the program of the Congress includes 4 plenary sessions, 22 scientific and 1 satellite symposiums, 7 sessions of oral presentations and 8 workshops. 203 presentations from 24 countries, including 99 presentations made by domestic internists were presented at the Congress. The poster session was one of the largest in the history of the European Congress of Internal Medicine and consisted of 696 posters. The abstract book of the Congress was published as an electronic appendix to the official RSMSIM journal "Therapy". 946 abstracts from 43 countries were included, accepted from 1235 submitted papers. The internists from Portugal, Russia and Spain submitted the largest number of abstracts. 56 abstracts were chosen for oral presentations at the Congress.

The Congress was granted by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) with up to 13 CME credits.

Chairman of the ECIM-2015, President of RSMSIM Anatoly I. Martynov Co-chairman of the ECIM-2015, President of EFIM Frank Bosch Member of ECIM-2015 Steering committee, Scientific Secretary of RSMSIM Valentin A. Kokorin
EFIM Young Internists – Moscow YI day Report

Our annual Young Internists Day took place on Friday 16th October in the Crocus Expo Centre in Moscow, Russia. It has become a well-established feature of the European Congresses of Internal Medicine.

The Young Internists (YI) Day was chaired by YI Secretary Ieva Ruza (Latvia) and YI Chair Frauke Weidanz (UK). The sessions were opened by one of the group founders and past chair Mine Durusu-Tanriover (Turkey) who briefly told about the start of YI group 10 years ago. Our keynote speaker professor Arnaud Perrier (Switzerland) reviewed a very engaging and important clinical topic - "Choosing wisely". Mine Durusu-Tanriover, Frauke Weidanz and Alberto Marra (Italy) presented a case based on a patient with hyponatraemia, discussing the pro’s and con’s of protocolised care and guidelines in medicine with active audience participation.

During the interactive Clinical Gymnasium session, three engaging cases prepared by Young Internists Catia Cabral (Portugal), Imanta Ozola-Zalite (Latvia) and Radim Spacek (Czech Republic) were presented. Monique Slee-Valentijn (The Netherlands), Ieva Ruza and Shirley Rigby (UK) moderated the discussion as the audience endeavored to discover the final diagnosis.

Young Internist Vasily Chulkov, who was representing the Russian host society, introduced the activities of young physicians in his country. We would like to thank everyone who took part in the Young Internists Day and made it happen by being there and joining the discussions. Our sincere thanks go also to the scientific secretary of Russian Society of Internal Medicine Valentin Kokorin for his great support.

Thank you all and if you did not make it this year see you next time in Amsterdam 2016!

Young Internists Secretary Ieva Ruza (Latvia)

EFIM Exchange programme

Phase 1 applications starting 1st October - deadline 1st January
All applications can be submitted online via EFIM website.
This program serves to strengthen the opportunities of the educational experience for Young internists taking part.
EFIM Exchange programme is supported by Amgen Europe and FDIME sponsoring 20 scholarships of 600€.
To find more information on how to apply please follow the Exchange programme page.

Remember to visit the European Journal of Internal Medicine – the official journal of EFIM with free access to selected papers here.
For the diary!

The 15th European Congress of Internal Medicine will be held at the Beurs van Berlage in Amsterdam, from 2 - 3 September 2016. The congress will offer plenty of attractive opportunities for learning, sharing and networking in the field of Internal Medicine. This will be a great opportunity to meet internists from all over Europe and beyond sharing their experience of Internal Medicine – the cornerstone of every national health care system.

Download the 1st Announcement flyer for ECIM 2016! Look forward to meeting you in Amsterdam.

The European Curriculum

11th December 2016 – Brussels Headquarters – 10h30
Important meeting of the European Board of Internal Medicine to discuss the European Curriculum. National representatives invited.
More information here

Save the Date - 2016

ESIM - Winter School
February 7th – 13th 2016
ESIM 3rd winter school to be held in Riga, Latvia.
Information here

ESIM – Summer School
June 12th – 18th 2016
ESIM summer school to be held in Sardinia, Italy
Information will follow.

2nd EFIM Day - Brussels
March 11th 2016
Following on from successful 1st EFIM Day will incorporate key EFIM matters.

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