



**HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS  
 NEW YEAR 2007  
 TO  
 ALL EPOS MEMBERS**

**ISSUE No. 32 – December 2006**

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**MESSAGE FROM THE EPOS PRESIDENT, Prof. Shlomo Wientroub, MD**



**EPOS Presidency Acceptance**

**Professor Bollini, Professor Günter, Fellow Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen**

I stand before you today, truly humbled by the faith you have shown in me by electing me to the position of President of the European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society. When I joined this organization over 20 years ago, I was proud to be in the company of the visionaries who founded this society — the pioneers of pediatric orthopedic medicine. The reputation EPOS enjoys as a leading society of our field was earned by their hard work, by their determination, and by their dedication to establish and maintain the highest standards of medicine in Europe and worldwide. We must be careful not to take their efforts for granted: research projects do not sprout like mushrooms after the rain – they require ideas, planning and funding. Thanks to the driving force of its leadership, EPOS has sponsored research projects that have changed the way we practitioners in the field think and work. This translates directly into ever-improving quality of patient care and ever-expanding opportunities to solve problems that had seemed insurmountable when our profession was in its infancy.

As much as we have achieved, our work is far from being done. The more technology expands and the more skilled we become, the higher we set the bar, and that is the essence of my mission as president of this organization: I want to exploit to the fullest the cutting-edge technology and the enormous growth of knowledge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and challenge the word “impossible”. Taking on new challenges requires a new

type of dynamism on the part of our organization – more than ever, we must connect with one another and establish a global laboratory and research center. The advances in telecommunication mean that there are no regions too remote for the exchange of knowledge. Connecting medical centers, both large and small, within Europe and outside of it, is no longer wishful thinking. Problem solving could be a matter of pooling the finest minds in our membership and, indeed, those of our colleagues on other continents by means of state-of-the-art conference calls. Training both young and experienced doctors could be a matter of having the appropriate equipment available to the best qualified instructors on one end of a camera and a TV screen on the other end. These advances will change the meaning of the word “underdeveloped” when we think of the medical opportunities available to various countries.

I also believe that we need to readjust our concept of the words “local” and “regional”. The technological journey from Reykjavik to Tel Aviv is now a matter of seconds. We are truly one big village and EPOS should be at the forefront of neighborly sharing of medical knowledge and skills. EPOS cannot solve all the ills of the world, but we can and should do more to alleviate the suffering of the children in our care. Let geography not make the difference in whether or not a child receives the best possible medical care from us.

Exploiting super technology is, however, only one side of the coin. I have long been concerned about the general trend to focus upon fragmentation and super-specialization and an academic orientation that teaches young doctors how to be competent solely in the *medical* aspect of the problem at hand, losing sight of the patient as a little boy or girl who seeks our help in living as normal a life as possible. I want to teach them to ask first what the child’s name is and look into his eyes before looking at the X-ray. Woe to us if we don’t get a grip on ourselves and maintain our sense of humanity as we get caught up in cutting edge technology and treat “the leg” or “the back”. I am a staunch supporter of the master/pupil teaching approach – no less important than providing them with the skills of the trade is our responsibility to pass on the legacy of compassion to the younger generations of doctors.

The time has come to thank my father and mother of blessed memory. My parents were born in small villages near Lodz, Poland. They both survived the concentration camps and were liberated by the Allied forces. They arrived to Israel and built a new life, instilling in us, their children, the sanctity of life and the blessing of good health. They would have been so very proud to see their son receive the honor you are bestowing upon me today. I also want to thank my own family, my wife and daughters, whose support and understanding allowed me to invest so much time and effort in my professional career.

This brings me to my mentors. I wish to extend my thanks and deep gratitude to Prof. Samuel Wiessman, Prof. Raphael Salame, Prof. Zvi Spirer and Mr. George Lloyd Roberts, each a master of the art of healing and kindler of the flame of excellence to which I can only aspire.

And, finally, my thanks to you all. I hope that I will be worthy of your trust.  
Thank you for your attention!

Prof. Shlomo Wientroub  
EPOS President

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## **Welcome to the EPOS|IFPOS Combined Meeting and EPOS Pre-meeting Course, Sorrento, Italy, 11-14 April 2007**

We are delighted to invite you to Sorrento for the EPOS/IFPOS Combined Meeting and the EPOS Pre-meeting course. It will be an exciting opportunity for us, pediatric orthopaedic surgeons from all over the world, to gather for an outstanding scientific event which is blended with a taste of the *Grand Tour* in Italy that many artists, poets and travelers of all times undertook in this land with endless beauties.

We invite you to the native city of Torquato Tasso, to follow the steps of Byron, Keats, Scott, Goethe, Dickens, Goethe, Ibsen and Nietzsche in "nu paese 'ncantatore" in which there is so much to see and experience. April

is a wonderful time in the Sorrentine Peninsula, an enchanting land of colors and scents, of orange and lemon groves, and with a most beautiful coast, where Ulysses met the Sirens. I am sure that all of you will desire to stay longer and to come back to *Surriento* again and again.

*Professor Shlomo Wientroub*  
*EPOS President*

In the amazing surroundings of the bay of Napoli, Sorrento will host both the 26th EPOS Meeting and the 4th IFPOS Meeting, providing to many specialists coming from all over the world, the opportunity to create a great scientific event.

During this important congress, attendees will have the chance to participate in a pre-meeting course on "Lower limb deficiencies". The main congress topics will focus on: "Treatment of malignant tumours in children", "Musculoskeletal infection in children" and "Spine pathology in children".

Many papers and posters will be presented, the first best three ones will be awarded. Presentations by esteemed Specialists and Colleagues and the discussion that will follow will represent a valuable resource for scientific updates.

Sorrento, Capri, Amalfi, Positano, Pompei and Napoli will provide a wonderful opportunity to enjoy insuperable, natural, artistic and archaeological treasures that only the extraordinary history of this land is able to offer.

It will be a great pleasure for me to welcome you in Sorrento.

*Nando de Sanctis*  
*Chairman of the Meeting*

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## **EPOS/POSNA Partnership Agreement on Instructional Courses in Pediatric Orthopaedics**

Within the framework of a full partnership, EPOS and POSNA have decided to cooperate in setting up instructional courses in paediatric orthopaedics with the aim to advance the knowledge in pediatric orthopaedics and to strengthen their collaboration based on mutual respect and equality with the worldwide community of pediatric orthopaedic surgeons. Our Societies will unite the efforts and create a common education task force of pediatric orthopaedists who volunteer to travel all over the world and to join the specialists from the host/inviting countries in conducting teaching activities.

The agreement was reached following a sustained dialogue on the core educational missions of both Societies, between EPOS representatives, Prof. Franz Grill (Head of the Education Committee) and Prof. Shlomo Wientroub (President), and the representatives of POSNA, Prof. Kaye Wilkins (chairman of the COUR Committee) and Prof. Perry Schoenecker (President). The first EPOS/POSNA instructional course is going to be held in Bratislava, January 2007, and the local host will be Prof. Milan Kokavec.



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The winner of the **2006 Poster Award** was Dr. M. Mickel for "3D Kinematic Analysis of Upper Extremity Function in Children". Dr. Mickel will receive his prize during the 2007 EPOS meeting in Sorrento.

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**EPOS and EFORT** are intensifying their scientific collaboration. At the coming 2007 EFORT meeting in Florence, EPOS representatives are invited to organize four instructional courses (Henri Bensahel – Vertical Talus, Franz Grill – Clubfoot, Fritz Hefti – Back Pain, Shlomo Wientroub – DDH), in addition to the lectures to be delivered by Prof. Ippolito and Prof. Cassiano Neves. Our representatives are also part of the Reading Committee for the review of abstracts in pediatric orthopaedics.

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### **Journal of Children's Orthopaedics (JCOR)**

The new official journal of the EPOS aims to provide a forum for the advancement of the knowledge and education in pediatric orthopaedics and traumatology across geographical borders and advocates an increased worldwide involvement in preventing and treating musculoskeletal diseases in children and adolescents.

JCOR publishes high quality, peer-reviewed articles that focus on clinical practice, diagnosis and treatment of disorders unique to pediatric orthopaedics, as well as on basic and applied research that help physicians to stay abreast of the latest and ever-changing developments in the field of pediatric orthopaedics and traumatology. Original contributions which are submitted exclusively for review are welcome, the *Journal* featuring original articles, review articles, editorials and letters to the editor. The authors are invited to submit online the electronic version of their manuscripts via the Editorial Manager (<http://https://www.editorialmanager.com/jcor/>).

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### **NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES:**

#### **Belgian Orthopaedic Pediatric Society (BAPO)**

The Spring meeting of the Belgian Orthopaedic Pediatric Society ( BAPO ) was held with the Pellenberg symposium on May 19 and May 20, 2006. The main topic was “Joints, muscles and bones in children , what is it about ?” orthopaedics”. The guest lecturer was Dr Carlos Rosé.

The Autumn meeting will be held on December 9, 2006 in Brussels and hosted by Dr Hutsebaut and Lokietek. The main topic will be “Idiopathic Scoliosis” and several guest speakers are expected.

N.Allington  
President-Secretary

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#### **British Society for Children´s Orthopaedic Surgery (BSCOS)**

"Current concepts in Paediatric Orthopaedics" Course will be held in the RIBA Building in London on February 28 – March 2, 2007. Guest speakers include: David Skaggs from the Children´s Hospital of Los Angeles, USA, and Anthony Catterall of RNOH, London. Provisional Cost: 650 Euros.

For further information and a programme please contact:

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#### **Croatian Pediatric Orthopaedic Society (CPOS)**

Croatian Pediatric Orthopaedic Society (CPOS) had the Spring Annual Meeting on the topic “Surgery of the Growth Plate”. The meeting took place on 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2006. in the town of Osijek – the largest town in Slavonia, which is the most eastern Croatian province. This meeting was well attended by 32 pediatric orthopaedic surgeons, orthopaedic residents and paediatricians. The introductory lecture entitled “Clinical Significance of Growth Plate Imaging by Magnetic Resonance” was given by Igor Boric, MD., radiologist from

Zagreb Children Hospital. This was followed by four clinical lectures covering various growth plate problems e.g. slipped capital femoral epiphysis (K. Leko, MD. and B Zulj MD. from Osijek); sequelae of growth plate infections (T. Djapic, MD. from Zagreb); subacute osteomyelitis of the growth plate (S. Roth MD. and A. Stosic MD. from Rijeka); role of epiphyseodesis and bone bar resection in the surgery of the growth plate (D. Anticevic MD. from Zagreb). In the following pro-con discussions different conditions and injuries of the growth plate that would benefit from MR imaging were pointed out.

The Autumn Annual Meeting of CPOS was held in town of Rijeka in Children Hospital "Kantrida" on 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2006. Local organizers were pediatric orthopaedic surgeons from hospital "Kantrida" with the chief of staff Aleksandar Stosic, MD. This meeting with the main topic "Benign bone tumours in childhood and adolescence" was attended by 62 participants including orthopedic surgeons and pediatric orthopaedic surgeons. There were six lectures in the main topic section. Two introductory lectures were "Incidence of benign bone tumours in children and adolescents" (D. Orlic, MD. and M. Bergovec, MD. from Zagreb) and "The treatment of simple bone cysts – 16 years experience" (S. Roth, MD. A. Stosic, MD. et al. from "Kantrida" Hospital). Four lectures were aimed to unusual problems related to the main topic e.g. "Is the simple bone cyst always simple?" (D. Anticevic MD. D.Orlic, MD.); "What it could be hidden by surgically treated osteoid-osteoma?" (I. Bajok, MD. A. Stosic, MD. et. al.); "Osteoid-osteoma and osteoblastoma of the spine" (T. Djapic, MD. from Zagreb) and "Osteochondroma of the scapula – a case report" (A. Antabak, MD. from Zagreb). In the free topic section two lectures were given: "Non-operative treatment of idiopathic scoliosis – evidence based recommendations" (A. Stosic, MD.) and "Measuring for the spine orthosis by laser scanner and computer programming" (A. Bekavac, MD. D. Tripalo, MD. and R. Prete, MD. from Split). In the discussion some points were clarified and some remained not completely resolved. Next meeting will be dedicated to part two of the same main topic and will be held in spring of the year 2007.

Respectfully yours,  
Darko Anticevic  
President of the Croatian Pediatric Orthopaedic Society

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### **The Pediatric Orthopaedic Section of the Czech Society for Orthopaedics and Traumatology (CSOT)**

The Pediatric Orthopaedic Section was established on June 1, 2002 in the city of Brno as part of the CSOT on the initiative of the EPOS members from the Czech Republic. It is a voluntary association of pediatric orthopaedic surgeons and the membership is free of charge.

The section is aimed at associating orthopaedic surgeons with an interest in pediatric orthopaedics because a sub-specialization in pediatric orthopaedics has not been established in the Czech Republic up to the present. The individual goals of the Section are as follows:

1. To present the state-of-art in pediatric orthopaedics and traumatology based on the experience and skills gained at international congresses (EPOS, POSNA, IFPOS, AACPDM) and from expert publications.
2. To raise the interest of young colleagues in pediatric orthopaedics and therefore, to establish an expert base in pediatric orthopaedics throughout the Czech Republic.
3. To exchange experience in the treatment of pediatric orthopaedic problems– during regular conferences, held at least on an annual basis.
4. To join the process of postgraduate education in pediatric orthopaedics.
5. To present itself in international forum as a fully active section officially representing the Czech Republic.
6. To assist in incorporating new colleagues into EPOS and other international expert pediatric societies.

At its establishment in 2002, the Pediatric Orthopaedics Section had 49 members. At present, the number is 65. Moreover, 12 members of the Slovak Pediatric Orthopaedic Society have joined the Section as guests. The number of members is increasing annually by 5 to 10 orthopaedic surgeons.

The constituent seminar in 2002 elected the Section's Board and decided on the principles of rotation (alternation). According to the Statutes, the Section's Chairman is in office for 2 years followed by his/her function on the Board. The first Chairman was Assoc. Prof. Jan Poul, M.D. from Brno (2002-2003), followed by Assoc. Prof. Jiří Chomiak, MD (2004-2005). The current Chairman is Prof. Pavel Dungal, M.D. (2006-2007). The new chairman and the committee members will be elected during the following session in 2007.

#### Activities and Results of the Section:

The Section has organized 5 expert conferences in different university cities in the Czech Republic. Its members have participated in the Polish-Czech-Slovak pediatric orthopaedic conference in Warsaw in 2004 and in 2006, in the East European and Mediterranean American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine. Both professional contacts and friendly relations have been established among pediatric orthopaedic surgeons in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, thanks to the fact that the Section has been working on a very friendly and informal basis. The Czech Section of Pediatric Orthopaedics is an internationally-renowned organization both within EPOS, IFPOS and POSNA. This was evidenced by a visit earlier in 2006 in the Orthopaedic Clinic Bulovka in Prague by the former POSNA President, Prof. David Aronsson, and also by Prof. Ivan Bialik, Dr. David Roye, Dr. Carl and Deborah Stanitski. Five members of the Section are EPOS members. Prof. Pavel Dungal is a member of the EPOS Board, Assoc. Prof. Jan Poul is a member of the reading committee, Prof. Pavel Dungal and Assoc. Prof. Jiri Chomiak are members of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Children's Orthopaedics, the official journal of EPOS.

The upcoming tasks of the Section are: a) to encourage its members towards making expert presentations during the upcoming EPOS congresses and thus, preparing the ground for accepting more Czech pediatric orthopaedic surgeons to become the EPOS members, and  
b) to work towards recognizing the Czech Section of Pediatric Orthopaedics as an alliance society by POSNA.

Assoc. Prof. Jiří Chomiak, MD

Past President, Pediatric Orthopaedic Section of the Czech Society for Orthopaedics and Traumatology (CSOT)

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#### **Danish Orthopaedic Society (DOS)**

October 26-27, 2006 DOS Annual Meeting was held in Copenhagen, Hotel SAS Radisson. The agenda included five scientific sessions, two symposia a Guildal Lecturer: Prof. Sandro Giannini, President of International Federation of Foot and Ankle Society.

May 10-11, 2007 Spring Meeting Aarhus Scandinavian Congress Centre will be held to include four scientific sessions, General Assembly, Honorary Lecturer and symposia.

B.Moller-Madsen, MD

Secretary DOS

General Secretary NOF

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#### **Egyptian Group of Paediatric Orthopaedic Society (EGPOS)**

EGPOS, founded in 1998, is a division of the Egyptian Orthopaedic Association (EOA). The EGPOS is also a member of IFPOS. It consists of 68 members of whom 30 are active members. The EGPOS holds three meetings per year. The autumn meeting was held in Menya in September 2005.

The winter meeting will be held in February 2007 in Mansoura. The format of the meeting would be a training course on the current concepts in the management of clubfoot. This course is designed to provide orthopaedic surgeons an update in the the state-of-the-art management for clubfoot, the most common congenital disorder of foot. Although surgery became more popular than manipulation and serial casting, there is now a growing demand for non-surgical techniques, particularly the Ponseti Method . In addition to instructive lectures on the different topics of clubfoot, the Ponseti method and the Ilizarov method are taught in hands-on workshops.

The course faculty includes highly recognised foreign experts in addition to eminent pediatric orthopaedic professors from Egypt. Among the guest faculty, Prof. Henri Bensahel from the University of Paris, France, the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Paediatric Orthopaedics and a Founder and Chairman of many international

Pediatric Orthopaedic Societies, is famous for his long experience in the management of clubfoot. Prof. Shafique Pirani, from the University of British Columbia, Canada has made it his goal to bring the Ponseti Method to countries as well as individuals that he comes into contact with.

Course-language is English. The maximum number of participants is restricted to 40 people.

Magdy El-Batouty, M.D. (Orth.)  
President of EGPOS

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### **Finnish Pediatric Orthopaedic Society (SLOY)**

Suomen lastenortopedinen yhdistys (SLOY)/Finnish Pediatric Orthopaedic Society ([www.sloy.fi](http://www.sloy.fi)) arranged a two-day long hands-on course in pediatric traumatology at the Children's Hospital, Helsinki . SLOY was also actively involved in organizing the 15<sup>th</sup> Orthopaedic Summer School between July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in Helsinki. Finnish Medical Association has granted Special Competence in Paediatric Orthopaedics and Traumatology to 10 members of the society. SLOY has currently 67 members.

Yrjöna Nietosvaara  
President of SLOY

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### **French Pediatric Orthopaedic Society SOFOP**

In 2005, our society changed its previous designation (GEOP : Study group of paediatric orthopaedics) into SOFOP (French Paediatric Orthopaedics Society). The aim of this change was to obtain a better international legibility.

Gérard Bollini (Marseilles) is the current president of our Society (2006-2007), the past President is Rémi Kohler (Lyon) and the forthcoming President is Jean-François Mallet (Caen). The SOFOP is an independant association affiliated with the French Orthopaedics Surgery Society (SOFCOT). The number of SOFOP's members is currently 228.

The SOFOP organised its national meeting in March in Brest. The topic was "Modern concepts on DDH ". Two hundred surgeons of different nationalities took part in this seminar. The SOFOP also participated in June in a combined meeting with Lebanese Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeons in Beyruth. The congress was organised by Prs. Ismat Gahnem and Roger Jawish. During this congress, many round tables and instructional course lectures were done. It has been a great pleasure for all the participants to exchange their experience with colleagues from abroad.

Last November, during the national congress of the French Orthopaedics Surgery Society (SOFCOT) in Paris, the SOFOP participated in this meeting with half a day devoted to osteomyelitis. A lecture on "North America Orthopaedic Surgery history" was held up by doctor François Fassier (Montreal), and the results of a multicenter study on more than two hundred mucopolysaccharidosis patients were presented. Another full day of free papers was set up. A round table on "Pathology of the knee" was also organised with our colleagues from SOFCOT.

Next year the annual seminar will be held in Marseille, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of March. The topic will be "Guideline in Traumatology"

To contact the SOFOP:

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### **Israeli Pediatric Orthopedic Association**

The Israeli Pediatric Orthopaedic Association embraces about 60 members, all active pediatric orthopedic surgeons all over the country. The professional collaboration and the social relations long established within the community are excellent. The expertise acquired is voluntarily shared and called for when special cases arise, all for the benefit of our patients.

The association holds a comprehensive meeting every year with the participation of distinguished guests from abroad invited to give key lectures. Only last June we had the honor to host Professor David Feldman from Hospital for Special Surgery, New York and Professor Michael Ain of the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Aside of these annual events, we meet every few months for case presentations and clinical and academic exchanges, thus contributing to the knowledge of all.

Our next project is a combined meeting between the Indian and the Israeli Pediatric Orthopaedic Associations which will take place in the city of Jaipur - Radjastan, India in February 2007.

We are all honored by the recent election of one of our most prominent members, Professor Shlomo Wientroub, as the new president of the EPOS. Professor Wientroub heads the Pediatric Orthopaedics Department, Dana Children's Hospital, Tel-Aviv Medical Center

Noam Bor, MD  
Chairman of the Israeli Pediatric Orthopedic Association

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### **Italian Association of Pediatric Traumatology and Orthopaedics (SITOP)**

The XIth updating course of the Italian Association of Pediatric Traumatology and Orthopaedics was held during the National Congress of the SITOP which was held in Rome on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The theme was "Congenital Clubfoot: The Ponseti Method 40 years later: light and shadows". The need to stress the materials and the method of this cure devised by Dr. Ignatio Ponseti comes with the renewed interest that this therapeutic technique is once again having in scientific circles throughout the world.

In the 1960s there was a lot of resistance, not only in Europe, but also in the United States. Today after a review of the criticism of the surgical therapeutic options which do not offer after long-term follow-up the hoped for results, interest has reawakened in the Ponseti method for the correction of congenital clubfoot.

The day-long course was extremely useful and at the end, after an animated and deep discussion, it was decided that the Ponseti method is beneficial, if applied by a competent expert, the time necessary to learn how to apply this technique, however, is not short, and especially if it is applied completely. Today, more than ever, after more than 30 years of follow-up, it represents a reality with more light than shadows.

As a method it has shown itself to be more valid for the percentage of good results achieved, which stabilized in time, and for the percentage of mini-invasive surgical operations which were needed, and for the lower level of obligation for the orthopedist, the patients and their families.

Riccardo Contessi  
SITOP

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### ***Pediatric Orthopaedic Section of the Slovak Orthopaedics and Traumatological Society (SOTS)***

The Pediatric Orthopaedic Section of SOTS is a voluntary association of orthopaedic surgeons with an interest in pediatric orthopaedics. Up to present, a sub-specialization in pediatric orthopaedics in Slovak republic has not been established. The Pediatric Orthopaedics section of SOTS has 32 members, three of them were accepted as EPOS members. The members of this section actively participated in the Czech-Slovak-Polish pediatric orthopaedic conference held in Warsaw in 2004, in EPOS congress (Dresden 2006), in AACPD meeting combined with Czech-Slovak-Polish pediatric orthopaedics meeting (in July, 2006, in Warsaw), and



also in Czech-Austrian pediatric orthopaedic meeting in Prague (November 2006). Friendly and warm traditional relations have been established many years ago among pediatric orthopaedic surgeons in the Czech and Slovak republic, 12 members of the SOTS have joined the Pediatric orthopaedic section of ČSOT as guests, attending all of the local Czech meetings.

The First EPOS-POSNA course called Current concepts in pediatric orthopaedics will be held in Bratislava, Slovak republic, January 25 – 27, 2007. The idea to organize this course comes from Henri Bensahel and Viktor Bialik and was supported by Franz Grill and Pavel Dungl. After a legislature agreements initialized by Shlomo Wientroub and Kaye Wilkins, POSNA was invited to cooperate at this meeting. The result is the course programme together with on-line registration at [www.ortopedia.sk](http://www.ortopedia.sk). We hope that the participants will join the group of our guests, and will spend this meeting in a fiendly athmosphere.

assoc. prof. Milan Kokavec, M.D., PhD  
President of SOTS, EPOS board member

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