



THE 33rd ISSUE – July 2007

Content:

Editorial

Message from the EPOS New President, Prof. Ernesto Ippolito

Message from EPOS Past President – Prof. Shlomo Wientroub (written for EFORT e-letter 5/2007)

Report from EPOS-IFPOS Combined Meeting in Sorrento, Italy - Prof. Nando de Sanctis

Announcement of EPOS 27th Congress in Warsaw, Poland - Prof. Marek Napiontek

EPOS/Marie Curie Instructional Course Program

News from the National Societies

Editorial

Dear EPOS Members,

It is my pleasure to say that the EPOS Newsletter has become a tradition and I trust that each of you, as much as I, always looks forward to its new edition. The introduction of its electronic format has simplified all the work connected with its publishing and made this process very flexible.

EPOS Newsletter is not an official journal, yet our task is to provide basic information about significant events in pediatric orthopaedics and in our Society, as well as to present official views of our elected representatives. Of quite importance is the news from the life of national associations and our friendly and cooperating pediatric orthopaedic societies.

In the past, the life of EPOS proceeded within the periods between its annual congresses. Today, thanks to the educational and scientific activities of the Board members, there are programmes being developed and/or underway that have been either directly prepared by EPOS or have enjoyed its expert cooperation.

We would like the EPOS Newsletter to become a forum where our members are not shy to share their views and opinions. Particularly welcome are critical voices which point to reality.

Let me wish all the EPOS members and their families wonderful summer holidays.

I look forward to your opinions and contributions.

Prof. Pavel Dungl
Editor



Message from the EPOS President, Prof. Ernesto Ippolito

Dear Colleagues and EPOS Members,

In a few months EPOS, which was founded on January 31, 1981, will be celebrating its 27th anniversary. During the last few years, our Society has been growing tremendously and today it includes 320 members, in comparison to the few dozen members during the early years of its existence. At the same time, our annual meetings attract more and more people from all over the world! This year, almost 600 people attended the 26th Meeting in Sorrento organized by Prof. Nando De Sanctis, and a large number of them came from non-European nations.

I feel truly humbled and honoured to be the President this year of such an outstanding scientific Society, and I will make a great effort to try to increase its trend of expansion in accordance with the line already indicated by my distinguished predecessors. I wish to thank all the officers and councillors of the EPOS Board, as well as all the members, for trusting me and electing me to the highest position of our prestigious Society.

I firmly believe that one of the most important factors leading to such an expansion and maturation of EPOS has been the high level of the research work that all EPOS members have been making known internationally through the best scientific journals of our discipline. Prof. Fritz Hefti is the current chairman of our Research Committee, and several important multicenter studies have been initiated and carried out under his leadership. Among others, I would like to mention the multicenter study on Trevor's disease by Prof. Gerad Bollini and the multicenter study on the "epidemiology" of treatment of Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease by Prof. Fritz Hefti himself. This latter study was carried out in a very simple and original way, underlining the absolute lack of homogeneity in the indications for treatment of Perthes disease in Europe. Perthes disease is a typical example of how the lack of knowledge of the pathophysiology of a given disease may lead to a profusion of many forms of treatment and different opinions among various surgeons (ranging in Perthes, from physical therapy to pelvic osteotomy!) with very negative effects on the affected children and their families that feel quite disoriented. As the president of EPOS, I wish to strongly urge all our young members, especially those who practice in research institutions, to investigate the etiopathogenesis of the pediatric orthopaedic diseases, which is almost unknown for most of them.

Among other journals that provide evidence of the research work of EPOS members, I would like to mention the Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics B (JPOB), founded in 1992 under the editorial leadership of Prof. Henri Bensahel, that has reached a very high level of impact during the last few years, and the Journal of Children Orthopaedics (JCO), which was started this year under the double editorial leadership of Prof. Shlomo Wientroub and Prof. Henri Bensahel. Our past president, Prof. Wientroub, greatly desired a new journal that would be the scientific expression of our Society. So now we have a journal with an outstanding international editorial board, which is printed by Springer in a magnificent way. However we have to work hard, trying to make JCO reach a competitive standing as fast as we can.

But EPOS also wants to intensify its educational role. In Sorrento, we entered into an agreement with POSNA to offer Pediatric Orthopaedics instructional courses worldwide. A

coordinator from EPOS and a coordinator from POSNA will recruit volunteer teachers from each society to take part in the program of the course that will be managed by a local host. This educational program will be particularly useful for all those countries in which, for various reasons, the level of Paediatric Orthopaedics is not high. For the EPOS part, the entire program will be under the supervision of Prof. Franz Grill, the chairman of our Educational Committee, who in May e-mailed to all EPOS members a call for volunteer speakers as well as the list of courses scheduled for 2008-2009, in order to recruit speakers for the panel of EPOS faculty for each instructional course.

So far, EPOS has been managed in an informal "homely" way. Thanks to the dedication and the enthusiasm of all the Board members – including the EPOS secretary Prof. Pierre Lascombes whom I would like to mention and thank for his hard work and great support of the presidency - as well as of the ordinary members of the Society, all the institutional aims of EPOS have been pursued and accomplished. The same applies to the organization of the annual meeting, that so far has been carried out with dedication and enthusiasm by the local organizer under the supervision of the Board. However, for many reasons the "final product" of each meeting has been lacking homogeneity. Europe is not North America. Local situations vary enormously from nation to nation and, accordingly, the participants' fee, quality and cost of the hotels, meeting hall architecture and arrangement of the seats, economical reward for the Society have been very different over the years. I have heard colleagues complaining and asking for solutions. A centralized managerial organization hired by the Society could solve several problems, by improving the general organization of the Society, and create homogeneity. I do not yet have the right answer, but we will work on it considering, by the way, that this alternative has a cost that will impact on the Society's finances.

The EPOS financial budget is mainly based on the annual fee paid by the 320 EPOS members. Our treasurers, first and foremost Prof. Rüdiger Krauspe, who is currently holding the office have always complained about the negligent behaviour of many members who forget to pay the annual fee. As far as I know, this is a recurrent problem in all the scientific societies. In terms of industry support, we are the poorest sister in comparison to other very wealthy European subspecialty orthopaedic societies. However, due to new indications for treatment in many diseases and traumatic conditions of our subspecialty, the use of surgical devices has increased during the last few years. We need industry support to promote both research and education, that are the main targets of EPOS.

Speaking of other sister societies, I believe that we have to intensify our relationships with those societies which may share interests similar to ours. Hand Surgery, Spine Surgery, Skeletal Oncology, External Fixation, Pediatric Radiology, Pediatric Neurology, Pediatric Rheumatology, basic science Societies may be involved in common projects. EFORT that, step by step wants to become the European Academy, is looking for alliances with the European subspecialty orthopaedic societies

Dear friends, we are facing radical social changes in the world community and we must keep pace with progress in order to not run the risk of getting left behind. However, every new change should be carefully weighed and discussed to avoid errors that could have negative effects on our beloved Society.

Prof. Ernesto Ippolito
EPOS President

Message from EPOS Past President – Prof. Shlomo Wientroub (written for EFORT e-letter 5/2007)

EPOS was founded on January 31, 1981 in Paris by Henri Behsahel, John Sharrard, Jürg Baumann, José de Mesquita Montes, and Dietrich Tönnis, and the first scientific meeting was held one year later. From the very beginning, EPOS was a dynamic force in stimulating multicenter clinical and basic research related to the growing skeleton. Since then, new knowledge from different fields provided better understanding of musculoskeletal disorders in terms of genetic background, embryonic development as well as modern imaging techniques. Recent advances and newly developed devices used for deformity correction, limb lengthening and pediatric and adolescent fracture treatment have provided more therapeutic options than ever before. EPOS became a well-recognized and prestigious organization that established a network of open dialogue between pediatric orthopaedic surgeons around the world, transcending geographical distances and linguistic barriers.

This year, EPOS celebrated its 26th annual meeting in Sorrento, Italy. EPOS hosted a combined meeting with IFPOS. This, without doubt, was one of the largest ever gatherings of pediatric orthopaedic surgeons from the four corners of the world, representing 51 countries, among them some that had not attended such events before. The society's most prestigious award, the Maximis Meritis medals for 2006, were bestowed upon Professor Henri Behsahel (France) and Professor Ignacio Ponseti (USA) in recognition of their being true progenitors of pediatric orthopaedics worldwide. EPOS announced the inauguration of a new tradition in recognizing excellence in pediatric orthopaedic research: the John Sharrard Best Clinical Paper Award, the Predrag Klisic Award for the Best Science Paper, and the Jürg Baumann Award for the Best Poster.

Today, EPOS validates its central role in the world of pediatric orthopaedics by the foundation of its new official journal, *Journal of Children's Orthopaedics* (JCOR). The Journal provides a forum for the advancement of the knowledge and education in pediatric orthopaedics and traumatology across national borders and advocates an increased worldwide involvement in preventing and treating musculoskeletal diseases in children and adolescents. EPOS signed new affiliation agreements regarding JCOR with several international associations (POSNA, SLAOTI and the Pediatric Section of APOA). From the very beginning, the vision and aspiration of the EPOS founders was to link European national societies for sharing knowledge and information for high-quality, state-of-the-art teaching for raising the levels of clinical expertise so that no child would fail to benefit for reasons of geography. This year, EPOS' goal was finally reached by the forging of alliance agreements with national pediatric orthopaedic societies within and outside Europe to better interact and communicate in order to share the latest top basic and applied research information in the field related to clinical practice. From now on, physicians in training can be exposed to first-class practitioners and there will be a speedier transfer of new technology, thereby enriching the most remote corners of Europe. EPOS hopes that this far-reaching network will increase the number of pediatric orthopaedic specialists in Europe and enable the development of a recognized specialty. Our purpose is to unite in order to better carry out our educational efforts by wide-reaching dissemination of information on pediatric orthopaedic meetings and training courses. EPOS received an educational grant from the European Union under the Marie Curie Actions to establish EPOS instructional courses in pediatric orthopaedics, which will enable us to teach orthopaedic residents who wish to specialize in pediatric orthopaedics. Thus far, these courses are scheduled to take place in Vienna, Helsinki, Tel Aviv and Marseille.

EPOS and POSNA have decided to cooperate in setting up instructional courses in pediatric orthopaedics around the world within the framework of a full partnership. An agreement was signed between the two societies to unite their efforts and create a common educational task force of pediatric orthopaedists who volunteer to travel all over the world, and to join the specialists from the host countries in conducting teaching activities. The EPOS/POSNA instructional course was held in Bratislava in January, 2007 and it was considered as being an enormous success by both instructors and participants. The next courses are scheduled to take place in Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Egypt. Both societies welcome requests from other countries to host instructional courses.

EPOS and EFORT are intensifying their scientific collaboration at the coming 2007 EFORT meeting in Florence for which EPOS has organized courses and symposia.

Throughout the years, EPOS evolved into a one big family with a heritage that has already passed from generation to generation of pediatric orthopaedic surgeons in Europe and around the world. The Sorrento meeting surpassed all expectations by its excellent scientific content and many opportunities for scientific interaction which afforded a platform for future research and educational collaboration.

Reflecting back upon its beginnings, EPOS can be proud of its accomplishments, sometimes in spite of obstacles and hardships. There is still a lot of work to be done in order to increase the number of highly qualified pediatric orthopaedists in and around Europe and to expand our research efforts in order to improve the quality of life and function of disabled children in our communities.

Prof. Shlomo Wientroub
EPOS President 2006-2007

Report on EPOS-IFPOS Combined Meeting, Sorrento, Italy

From 11th to 14th April 2007, the 26th EPOS Congress with 4th IFPOS Congress was held in Sorrento realizing the 2nd EPOS-IFPOS Combined Meeting.

There was a great crowd, many colleagues arrived from everywhere. Almost 550 paediatric orthopaedists representing 51 countries were present. There have never been so many people participating at one EPOS meeting.

All of them received a special edition book about the 25 years of the EPOS History realized by Nando de Sanctis.

150 accompanying people attended the meeting.

Sorrento was a spectacular frame with its rich surroundings of marvellous natural and archaeological beauty. The Congress Centre in the Hilton Sorrento Palace represented a charming venue.

The scientific programme started on Wednesday morning with the pre-meeting Course on "Lower Limb Deficiencies" where more than 400 participants attended.

The Congress started on Tuesday morning with "Update in Orthopaedic Oncology" a topical subject presented by 4 great experts followed by a session on tumors in the Musculo-skeletal system.

On Friday "What is new in musculo skeletal infections" was the major topic followed by an infection session.

On Saturday "New Horizons in Spine Surgery" with three important lectures showed the new techniques about the treatment of the Idiopathic and congenital scoliosis followed by two sessions about the spine.

The free paper sessions were on "Developmental dysplasia of the Hip", "Foot and Ankle", "Trauma", "Legg-Calvè-Perthes Disease", "Limb Reconstruction", "Hip/Lower Extremity" and "Cerebral Palsy" with 123 presentations.

240 e-mail posters completed the scientific programme.

All the congress was characterized by a high scientific level of presentations and of discussions and last but not least the punctuality of the sessions.

The social programme started with the opening ceremony on Wednesday evening.

After the welcome of the Presidents of the societies and the President of the congress, more than 600 people present enjoyed hearing charming musical entertainment with classic Neapolitan songs presented by a plectrum orchestra.

On the following afternoon the usual walking tour led almost 600 people to Pompei where a full-immersion in to the ancient Roman History and archaeology created evocative moments.

In the evening of the same day 48 Presidents of the national societies met the EPOS and IFPOS Boards for an elegant dinner.

During this dinner there were 2 events:

1- Henri Bensahel, Michael Goldberg and Klaus Parsh received the medal of Honorary Members of the Italian Paediatric Orthopaedic Society from Vincenzo Riccio SITOP President.

2- The transfer of the IFPOS presidency from Seok Yun Lee to Nando de Sanctis, the new IFPOS President.

On Friday night during the gala dinner more than 300 people were present while Shlomo Wientroub and Ernesto Ippolito showed an iconographic reconstruction of the lives of Henri Bensahel and Ignazio Ponseti that in recognition of their services and scientific activity they received the Honor Medals Promaximis Meritis.

Dancing and singing concluded the cheerful evening of the gala dinner.

On Saturday evening, there was the closing ceremony where after the goodbyes and thanks of the local host the new IFPOS Board was presented.

Finally, in a warm and friendly atmosphere the farewell dinner concluded the meeting.

Prof. Nando de Sanctis
Chairman of the Meeting

EPOS 27th ANNUAL MEETING
April 9th – 12th, 2008
Warsaw, Poland

Main topic of the Meeting:
HIP DEFORMITY IN ADOLESCENCE
PRE-MEETING COURSE
DEGA'S OSTEOTOMY OF THE ILIAC BONE

CONGRESS VENUE

Hilton Hotel
63, Grzybowska Str.
00-844 Warsaw, Poland
www.hilton.com

Dear Colleagues

We have a special occasion and privilege to invite you to Warsaw. Poland since 1989 is an entirely independent country, a member of United Europe and in the course of rapid economic changes. Here the "Solidarity" was born, not only as the name of trade union which has changed the political system but also as an idea which may be attractive for the contemporary world. The capital city of Warsaw, with its central location, is an ideal place for coming in and exploring the country. It is a place which can be a starting point for visits to admire the natural beauty of sandy beaches on the Baltic See as well Tatra mountains.



Warsaw's past gave rise to many legends. One of them speaks of a mermaid - half-woman, half-fish - swimming in the waves of the blue Vistula River to appear in front of the Mazovian fisherman, and foretell the founding of an indestructible city.

The capital of Poland is located on both banks of the Vistula River. Warsaw offers an unlimited number of attractions: historical sights, monuments, museums, theatres and Chopin's enchanting music, Maria Skłodowska-Curie, the place she was born. From Castle Square to Chopin's monument, from Łazienki Park to Wilanów Palace, Warsaw is an exciting city waiting to be discovered.

Chairman of the Meeting
Prof. Marek Napiontek

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[Registration and abstract submission on www.epos.efort.org](http://www.epos.efort.org)

Call for papers

Deadline for all submissions is September 30th, 2007.

REGISTRATION FEE (Euro)	BEFORE	AFTER
	February 18, 2008	February 17, 2008
EPOS Member fee	320	380
Non-member fee	420	480
Trainee fee	250	250
Accompanying person fee*	120	120
Gala Dinner **	60	60

Preliminary Scientific Programme

Wednesday, April 9

12.30-17.00 Pre-Meeting Course " Dega's osteotomy of the iliac bone"
18.00-20.00 Welcome Reception – Hilton Hotel

Thursday, April 10

08.00-11.00 Scientific Session
11.00-11.30 Coffee
11.30-13.30 Scientific Session
13.30-14.30 Lunch

14.30-17.30 Afternoon Tour – **Warsaw Panoramic Sightseeing**

Friday, April 11

08.00-10.30 Scientific Session
10.30-11.00 Coffee
11.00-13.00 Scientific Session
13.00-14.00 Lunch
14.00-15.30 Scientific Session
15.30-16.00 Coffee
16.00-18.00 Scientific Session

20.00 National Gala Dinner

Saturday, April 12

08.00-10.00 Annual General Assembly
10.00-10.30 Coffee
10.30-13.00 Scientific Session
13.00-13.15 Closing Ceremony

13.00-14.30 Celebration Lunch

[Social Programme](#)

**Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception – Hilton Hotel
Wednesday, April 9th, 2008
Included in congress fee**

**WARSAW PANORAMIC SIGHTSEEING
Thursday, April 10th, 2008**



Pick up from Hilton: 14:30
Tour duration: 3h
Price: included in the congress fee

The tour programme

Enjoy this great opportunity to get acquainted with the history of Poland's capital. Stroll through the Old Town, intricately reconstructed after World War II. The Old Town is an excellent example of a compromise between historic values and modern needs - art,

galleries, craftsmen's workshops. One will have the possibility to hear about the Sigismund's Column, the Royal Castle (exteriors), the Market Square and the Barbican. Then walk to the Monument of the Warsaw Uprising.



Take pleasure in a drive along the Royal Route with its beautiful palaces, aristocratic residences, famous statues and historic churches. See the historic sights of Warsaw - the Monument of the Warsaw Uprising, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Chopin's Monument and the Belvedere Palace.

Tours and Events

08.04.2008 (Tuesday)

CRACOW – HISTORIES AND CULTURAL CAPITAL OF POLAND – one-day tour



Cracow – rich in history, outstanding works of art and architecture. The city is the location of the Jagiellonian University (founded in 1364), the Royal Castle – Wawel, with its mythical Wawel Cathedral and the largest and most beautiful town square in Europe.

In the afternoon we suggest 2 options:
Option A – visit to Auschwitz Nazi Camp
Option B – visit to Wieliczka Salt Mine



Auschwitz – the largest of the Nazi concentration camps during World War II. It has been the largest 'death' factory in the history of humanity and a silent witness to human tragedy. Auschwitz consisted of several units, including the largest one at Brzezinka (Birkenau). Of the millions of people brought there in period between 1940 and 1944, only 60 to 70 thousand utterly emaciated victims were alive at the time of liberation of the camp.

Wieliczka Salt Mine – the oldest salt mine in Europe, an impressive underground world of salt lakes, chambers, galleries and the unique Salt Works Museum created by many generations of Polish miners. The underground tourist route passes through galleries and chambers on three levels, with 17th and 19th century chapels and unique natural caves.



08.04.2008 (Tuesday)

GDAŃSK – CITY OF HANZA AND SOLIDARITY – one-day tour



Full day trip to Gdańsk start with morning transfer to the Warsaw railway station and departure for Gdańsk. The Amber City is a tourist center with the historic complex of Old Town. We recommend sightseeing of town houses, gates, churches, the Town Hall, the Artus Court and the Fountain of Neptune in front of it. **Enjoy Malbork - the famous largest fortress of the Teutonic Knights Order, the magnificent castle located on the bank of the Nogat River. A splendid example of the classic medieval fortress with multiple defensive walls and a labyrinth of rooms and chambers with exquisite architectural details and decorations.**

EPOS Instructional Courses on Paediatric Orthopaedics
Vienna – Helsinki – Tel Aviv – Marseille 2007 – 2009
supported by the EC – Marie Curie Conferences and Training Courses
(6th Framework Programme)

The Theme

EPOS launches a unique training programme targeted for young physicians who are interested in specializing in paediatric orthopaedics and trauma. The programme is designed to meet the need for standardized, high-quality training and stimulation of scientific research in paediatric orthopaedics. It aims to enhance the exchange of knowledge and experience and to deepen the cooperation between orthopaedic surgeons across Europe for the benefit of disabled children, as well as, to increase the participation of women and of researchers from less-favoured regions of the EC and Associated Countries.

The full programme consists of four 5-days courses which will take place in Vienna, Helsinki, Tel Aviv, and Marseille, starting December 2007. The courses form a comprehensive coverage of the field of orthopaedics and trauma. The courses will achieve the transfer of knowledge from worldwide-renowned specialists to young physicians and researchers., through frontal lectures, group discussions, live demonstrations of state-of-the-art treatment of musculoskeletal problems, workshops and hands-on sessions. After completing the training, the participants will be able to identify, diagnose and manage paediatric orthopaedic diseases and cases.

The participants' expenses will be covered by EPOS, courtesy to generous sponsorship by the European Commission, under the Marie Curie Conferences and Training Courses (6th Framework Programme).

The Plan

<u>Venue</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Main Topics</u>
Vienna 2007	December 1-6	Lower extremity, Hip, Foot, Trauma part I
Helsinki 2008	July 20-25	Spine, The athletic child, Upper extremity, Trauma part II
Tel Aviv 2009	January 25-30	Tumors, Bone displasia and metabolic bone disease, Musculoskeletal infections, Trauma part III
Marseille 2009	July 19-24	Neuromuscular disorders, The paediatric knee, Congenital and neuromuscular spine deformities, Trauma part IV

Participation Rules

Mandatory prerequisites:

- Physicians with special interest in paediatric orthopaedics/trauma
- Between one and ten years of clinical/research experience since graduation
- Good command of English

Participants will be selected by a Committee by means of eligibility, the status of training, the extent and quality of scientific work, the country of origin, and the current work setting. Women specialists and/or participants coming from new member states or less-favoured regions will be given priority. The number of courses participants is limited. In addition to these, a small number of partial participations will be considered per venue.

Detailed courses information and application forms are available on EPOS webpage: www.epos.efort.org

Course Coordinator: Prof. Franz Grill

Organising Committee: Prof. Shlomo Wientroub, Prof. Gérard Bollini, Prof. Dietrich Schlenzka

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES:

The Vereinigung für Kinderorthopädie, Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of the German Speaking Countries for the period of 2007/2008

According to our tradition the German Pediatric Orthopaedic Society (VKO) had its Annual Meeting at May 4th to 5th 2007 in Düsseldorf to celebrate the 20th year of foundation.

The congress president and president of the society Prof. Rüdiger Krauspe offered an excellent scientific program with widespread topics throughout pediatric orthopaedics. After introduction of a special guest lecturer in 1994 this tradition has become a highlight of our annual meeting. This year the guest lecture was presented by Dr. R. Sakkers from the Wilhelmina Children's Hospital University Utrecht/Netherlands with the title „To screen or not to screen? Ongoing research in DDH in the Netherlands.“ Dr. Sakkers presented his outstanding guest lecture with special focus on scientific data about the efficacy of hip ultrasound screening in german language (!). After extensive discussion he received the certificate and honorary medal of the VKO.

In sunshine and almost mediterranean flair the social evening took place at the “Rheinterrassen” with a beautiful view on the river Rhine. The two travelling fellows of 2006, Sandra Lipovac from Munich and Silvia Schröder from Aachen, gave a report about their tour through several European Centers of Pediatric Orthopaedics. Prof. Ludwig Meiss (Hamburg) received the honorary medal of the society as a member, who impressed his colleagues by enthusiastic and devoted work over many years of clinical practice and is now retired.

In the general assembly the President of the society, Prof. Rüdiger Krauspe, could welcome several new members. After general agreement for the development of a curriculum for pediatric orthopaedics the President could present the course program developed by Prof. Klaus Parsch and himself. The next step now is to find enough members for the faculty to start with the first course, hopefully end of 2007 in Stuttgart.

At the annual meeting of the German Orthopaedic Society, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Orthopädie und Orthopädische Chirurgie (DGOOC) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Unfallchirurgie (DGU), from 24th to 27th of October 2007 in Berlin, a lot of special symposia and lectures in pediatric orthopaedics will be presented.

The Basel Colleagues invited us all for their next Pediatric Orthopaedic Symposium date 14th to 15th September 2007.

For the next Annual Meeting of the VKO Dr. Holger Mellerowicz invited all members and friends to Berlin for the 22nd Meeting of the Vereinigung für Kinderorthopädie at 14th to 15th of March 2008.

We are all looking forward to the next Meetings to share expertise and to meet friends, not only from German speaking countries but also from all over Europe.

Prof. Andrea Meurer

Secretary of the Vereinigung für Kinderorthopädie

Pediatric Orthopaedic Section of the Slovak Orthopaedics and Traumatologic Society (SOTS)

The First EPOS-POSNA course called Current concepts in pediatric orthopaedics was held in Bratislava, January 25 – 27, 2007. There were more than 80 participants from European and Middle East countries, the faculty consist of 18 european and 4 US lecturers, 43 lectures with discussion were presented. The head of EPOS educational committee prof. F. Grill obtained 21 questionnaires with mean results of 3,475 points (1 - poor, 4 – excellent). We would like to thank to all the lecturers and participants for coming to this event, that opened tradition of future EPOS POSNA courses.

In January 24. – 26., 2008, SOTS will organize in Holiday Inn hotel, Bratislava, the 7th Central European Orthopaedic Congress together with XXVIII Červeňanský days – the national congress of SOTS. Current knowledge in pediatric orthopaedics, Oncoorthopaedics, Current trends in arthroscopy and miniinvasive techniques and Diseases of foot and ankle will be included into the main topics. The informations about this meeting together with on-line registration will be available at www.ortopedia.sk, and www.ceoc2008.sk. We hope that the participants will join the group of our guests, and will spend this meeting in a fiendly atmosphere.

assoc. prof. Milan Kokavec, M.D., PhD

President of SOTS
EPOS Board Member

The Section of Paediatric Orthopaedics of the Czech Society for Orthopaedics and Traumatology (CSOT)

Over the past six months of 2007, the members of the Section of Paediatric Orthopaedics have been meeting within the congresses organized by CSOT (National Congress in Brno, regional congresses). The EPOS 26th annual meeting in Sorrento in April was attended by 8 members of the Section of Paediatric Orthopaedics. One member attended the POSNA meeting in Florida, U.S.A. in May. Information on the the scientific programme of both congresses will be provided to the members of the Section during its regular meetings. The upcoming meeting with its scientific and social programme will be held in Northern Moravia on October 12-13.

Within the 29th Symposium of the Orthopaedic Clinic Bulovka in Prague, to be held on November 16-17, one of the themes will be Child's Flat Foot – Acquired and Congenital, Conservative and Surgical Treatment. On May 15-15, 2008 the 12th National Congress of CSOT will be held in Prague, with pediatric orthopaedics being one of the themes, featuring current concept of treatment of Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease and congenital short femur highlights. All renowned pediatric orthopaedists are warmly welcome to attend this event. Apart from its scientific programme, the congress will offer its social part which will include an opera performance in the National Theatre and a gala dinner at Prague Castle area.

Assoc. Prof. Jiří Chomiak, M.D.
Vice-President of the Section for Paediatric Orthopaedics of CSOT

French Pediatric Orthopaedic Society (SOFOP)

The SOFOP is an independent association but is also affiliated to the French Orthopaedics Surgery Society (SOFOT). The number of its members is currently 269.

The current president of the SOFOP is Gérard Bollini (Marseilles). The past one is Rémi Kohler (Lyon) and the next one will be Jean-François Mallet (Caen). The general secretary is Jérôme Cottalorda (Saint-Etienne).

The SOFOP organised its national seminar in March in Marseilles. The subject was "Emergency and traumatology". More than three hundred surgeons of different nationalities took part in this seminar. The SOFOP will participate in November in a combined meeting with the Belgian Association of Paediatric Orthopaedics (BAPO) during the national congress of the French Orthopaedics Surgery Society (SOFOT) in Paris. During this congress a session will be devoted to trauma care complications and another one, using videotapes, to surgical procedures. Two instructional course lectures will be done. The first one concerns transplantation and will be held up by Pr Schuind. The second one, about "Concept on thoracic insufficiency syndrome" will be held up by Pr Campbell. A symposium on "Hip arthroplasty before 30 years of age" will also be organised with our adult colleagues.

At the beginning of 2007, SOFOP and the Japanese Society of Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery (JPOA) signed an alliance agreement between the two societies. This agreement will strengthen the ties between the two societies and give some opportunities for more scientific exchanges as well as social meetings. SOFOP expect also to sign this year an alliance agreement with EPOS. It will be a great honour and a great pleasure for the SOFOP to have such agreement completed with EPOS.

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All the activities of the society are on line on our web site: www.sofop.org

Egyptian Group of Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeons (EGPOS)

The Egyptian Group of Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeons (EGPOS) held up an international clubfoot course in Mansura Faculty of Medicine on February 13, 2007. The course guest speakers were Dr. Behsahel and Dr. Pirani who presented their great experience in management of clubfoot and leaded the workshop on Ponseti method. It was really a successful meeting with lots of discussions. The second regular meeting of the EGPOS for this year was held in Alexandria on June 21, 2007. Many interesting cases had been presented for discussion with more than 70 attendants. The general assembly of the group has been held in the same day and they elected Prof. Dr. Y. Tarraf as the President and Prof. Dr. A. Ghoneim as the Secretary General of the Group for a year.

Prof. Dr. Yehia Taffar, M.D. Ortho
President of the EGPOS

Italian Association of Pediatric Traumatology and Orthopaedics (SITOP)

SITOP will hold the national congress on October 4-6, 2007 in Stresa, a small city near the Maggiore lake. The topics are very interesting: Child' s fractures for car accident, Non-malignants tumors, Evolution in Adults of Perthes and Epiphysiolysis diseases, Hip prosthesis in Young Patient, and finally Prenatal Diagnosis of Malformations with Sonography. Some two hundred participants are expected to attend this event.

On October 4-5, 2007, Stresa will be hosting a congress for non-medical staff who work in the orthopaedic pediatric department.

Prof. Piero Vittorio Frediani, M.D. Ph.D.
Next SITOP President
