Welcome to issue 16

Dear friends and colleagues,

Welcome to the 16th issue of the ESPE Newsletter. This issue highlights the rapidly approaching meeting to be held in Glasgow, Scotland this September. This is a special meeting as we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of ESPE. Here you will find a welcome letter by Chris Kelnar, president of ESPE 2011, inviting all to participate. Not only have he and the scientific committee prepared a wonderful scientific programme, but also some special “surprises” in celebration of ESPE’s anniversary. Prof. Kelnar has also had the wonderful idea of a benefit concert during ESPE 2011 to raise money for the children affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Please read about this and place it on your calendar. I am sure we are all going to enjoy this meeting and all of the special events planned.

You will also find information regarding the changes in the ESPE Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (PAG) working group, with a report from Lourdes Ibañez, chair of this committee, and information regarding ESPE 2012 from Wieland Kiess, president of next year’s meeting.

Deadlines of upcoming ESPE events, grants, awards and fellowships can be found both here and at the ESPE website. Please keep these deadlines in mind.

We will see you soon in Glasgow!

Yours sincerely,

PROFESSOR JESÚS ARGENTE
Editor, ESPE Newsletter

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IMPORTANT DATES

The 50th ESPE Annual Meeting
Glasgow, Scotland,
25–28 September 2011
http://www.eurospe.org/meetings/

The 51st ESPE Annual Meeting
Leipzig, Germany,
20–23 September 2012
http://www.eurospe.org/meetings/

Please visit the ESPE website for details about future meetings: www.eurospe.org

ESPE 2011:
Evidence-Based Paediatric Endocrinology – its Strengths and Limitations

GLASGOW, 25–28 SEPTEMBER 2011
www.espe2011.org

Dear colleagues and friends,

I am very much looking forward to welcoming you to the 50th ESPE Meeting in Glasgow in September. To mark this important stage in the development of our Society, the theme is ‘Evidence-based paediatric endocrinology – its strengths and limitations’. This will give the opportunity in the Plenary Lectures, Symposia and Meet-the-Expert sessions to look back at what we know scientifically, critically appraise the basis of that knowledge, showcase current research, and look to the future as ESPE becomes an increasingly international forum for the exchange of the latest basic scientific and clinical information.

We have arranged a meeting of the highest scientific quality and an exciting social programme. Full details are on the website (http://www.espe2011.org). Please note the registration deadline and encourage your senior and junior faculty colleagues to attend.

For this special 50th Meeting we have arranged a celebratory ESPE Evening with something for everyone, including a few surprises! Scots are famous for their hospitality and like to throw a party!

The gala evening begins with a classical concert by members of the prestigious Chamber Orchestra of Europe, who will perform an exciting programme with an ESPE theme. The concert will take place in the Clyde Auditorium adjacent to the SECC and tickets can be purchased for a minimum donation of €10, with all proceeds going to Save the Children and UNICEF to help children affected by the earthquake disaster in Japan.

Following the concert, we invite you to experience a taste of Scotland with traditional music and dancing at our gala dinner and ceilidh, which will be conveniently held at the SECC. A ceilidh (pronounced kay-lay) is a traditional Scottish social gathering involving lively music and dancing. The dinner will feature fresh local produce and guests will have the opportunity to taste our national dish, haggis, which will be “piped in” by a bagpiper in full highland dress, and maybe enjoy a “wee dram”! After the meal, dance the night away to the music of an internationally renowned ceilidh band. Don’t worry, full dance instructions will be given and kilts are optional! Early purchase of tickets for the gala dinner and ceilidh is advisable as this is an evening not to be missed!

Why not also add a few days to your trip and enjoy a holiday in Scotland? Glasgow is now a vibrant and stylish former European City of Culture, with some of the best shopping in the UK, and gateway to some of the finest unspoilt countryside in Europe, as well as Edinburgh, Scotland’s capital.

For this landmark 50th ESPE Meeting you can be assured of warm Scottish hospitality and an outstanding scientific programme in the UK’s best conference centre.

Welcome to Scotland!

PROFESSOR CHRIS KELNAR
President, ESPE 2011
ESPE 2011 Scientific Programme

The scientific programme will start on Sunday 25 September and end on Wednesday 28 September. Plenary Lectures, Symposia, Free Communications, Poster Presentations, Meet-the-Expert Sessions and Exhibitions will allow both clinicians and basic researchers to hear the most recent developments and future perspectives of the field.

The full programme is available to view on the website: www.espe2011.org

PLENARY LECTURES

Plenary Lectures will include:

- The research community needs to serve the information needs of patients and professionals more effectively
  Sir Iain Chalmers, Oxford, United Kingdom
- Medical measurements: what are we measuring?
  Martin Bland, York, United Kingdom
- Immune therapy in type 1 diabetes mellitus
  Åke Lernmark, Malmö, Sweden
- Is brown adipose tissue changing our metabolic world
  Barbara Cannon, Stockholm, Sweden
- Exome analysis and the future of molecular medicine
  Inês Barroso, Cambridge, United Kingdom
- The evolution of homeostasis and stress mechanisms
  George Chrousos, Athens, Greece
- Growth promoting therapies in short children at the onset of puberty: an evidence-based appraisal - ESPE/JSPE
  Toshiaki Tanaka, Tokyo, Japan

ESPE 2011 Social Programme

Welcome Reception
Sunday 25 September 19.00

The Glasgow Science Centre located on the banks of the historic River Clyde will be the venue for the Welcome Reception as you are cordially invited to attend. The Glasgow Science Centre is situated across the river footbridge from the SECC. The evening will allow delegates to socialise, renewing old friendships and making new ones prior to the ESPE meeting commencing.

Beverages and various small snacks will be served.

Please note: Delegates and accompanying persons are invited; attendance must be marked on the registration form. Please note that tickets are limited, so advance registration is highly recommended.

ESPE Benefit Concert for the Children of Japan
Tuesday 27 September

The ESPE Evening begins with a classical concert by members of the prestigious Chamber Orchestra of Europe, who will perform an exciting programme with an ESPE theme. The concert will take place in the Clyde Auditorium adjacent to the SECC.

At the request of Professor Chris Kelnar, the ESPE President, it has been decided that this event will support the ‘Save the Children’ and ‘UNICEF’ charities with the specific intention of benefiting the children of Japan.

It is estimated that around 100 000 children were displaced and made homeless as a result of the earthquake and tsunami disaster. In addition, many children, including those as yet unborn, could potentially be exposed to radiation in the air, water supplies and milk with possible future consequences in terms of the increased risk of cancers, leukaemias and endocrine (including thyroid) problems.

Thus, rather than the concert being included in the registration fee, entrance will be by ticket for which a donation of a minimum of €10 will be required and given to the above charities for these purposes. Of course larger donations will be accepted with gratitude.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

ESPE Evening
Tuesday 27 September

This year’s ESPE Evening is truly a gala event to mark the 50th ‘birthday’ of the society. There is something for everyone, including a few surprises. Scots are famous for their hospitality – we like to throw a party!

Join us for a delicious meal of local produce – including the famous national dish, haggis – followed by a traditional Scottish ceilidh featuring music from a world-renowned ceilidh band.

Tickets for the concert and the ESPE Evening can be purchased when registering online: www.espe2011.org or contact espe2011.registration@congrex.com
Changes in the **ESPE** Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (PAG) Working Group

I have agreed to chair the ESPE Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (PAG) Working Group, starting this year. Professor Charles Sultan, the former Chair, has now become the Secretary. The PAG Working Group members are:

- Jean Pierre Bourguignon (Belgium)
- Marco Cappa (Italy)
- Feyza Darendeliler (Turkey)
- Lucia Ghizzoni (Italy)
- Anders Juul (Denmark)
- Christopher Kelmar (United Kingdom)
- Alexander Kurtev (Bulgaria)
- Maria Victoria Marcos (Spain)
- Catherine Pienkowski (France)
- Michel Polak (France)
- Richard Stanhope (United Kingdom).

The aim of the PAG Working Group is to improve the reproductive health of girls and adolescents through:

- bringing together clinical physicians and basic scientists involved and/or interested in the field
- promoting active research in reproductive-related disorders with special attention to cross-collaboration between basic and clinical aspects
- developing and maintaining a registry of the main reproductive-related disorders as a background for research
- interacting and collaborating with related disciplines
- promoting knowledge and education in order to optimize the care of young girls worldwide.

The ESPE PAG Working Group has the potential to become a forum for guiding ESPE in issues relating to PAG and reproductive disorders, a link with other specialist groups in the field of PAG, and a means to strengthen the standard of collaborative research in PAG and reproductive disorders in Europe.

Meetings will be held annually during the ESPE Meetings and will include presentations and updates on specific reproductive-related disorders, group discussions and planning of joint research projects. For the next two years, collaborative clinical projects related to Central Precocious Puberty and PCOS and genetic studies on PCOS are planned.

The next meeting will be on 25 September 2011, at the ESPE 2011 meeting in Glasgow. The topic will be 'Amenorrhea in adolescence', dealing with various aspects by outstanding colleagues in the field. The details of the programme will be published on the ESPE website.

Your contributions are much appreciated.

LOURDES IBÁÑEZ
Chair, ESPE PAG Working Group

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**Reduced fees for new ESPE Members**

**Special 50th Meeting Offer**

Encourage your colleagues to join ESPE! Those who apply for ESPE membership before the 50th meeting (25–28 September 2011) can benefit from a €50 discount on their 2011 membership fees.

Benefits of membership include reduced registration fees at ESPE annual meetings, subscription to the journal *Hormone Research in Paediatrics*, and the chance to apply for awards and fellowships. For details of how to apply, just send them to the ESPE membership web page which can be accessed via http://www.eurospe.org/membership/index.html.

The deadline for applications to benefit from reduced membership rates is 20 September 2011.
51st Annual ESPE Meeting
20–23 SEPTEMBER 2012, LEIPZIG, GERMANY

Welcome.
It is an honour for me to be able to invite you all to the city of Leipzig, Germany, for the 51st Annual Meeting of the European Society of Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE). I sincerely hope that you will actively participate in the meeting which will live up to all of your expectations both scientifically and socially. I encourage you to join in the preparations for the meeting and submit your best research to be presented to colleagues and friends.

The theme of our meeting will be ‘Translating science into clinical practice’. The Programme Organising Committee (POC) is working hard to prepare an exciting programme that will cover the latest science as well as the practical and clinical aspects of paediatric endocrinology. Ethical aspects of endocrine disorders, epigenetics and evolution of endocrine diseases will be discussed. In addition, workshops on laboratory techniques and how to write a scientific paper as well as Meet-the-Expert sessions on important clinical questions will complement the programme.

Our society has grown into a truly global one, bringing together many scientists and clinicians working in this exciting medical area from all around the world. We expect approximately 3000 delegates from more than 80 countries and our sister societies SLEP, APEC and the North American PEC amongst many more will be represented. The meeting will give us the opportunity to look to the future at what we need to know scientifically and clinically to meet the needs of our patients in Europe and beyond. We shall evaluate the basis of our scientific knowledge, highlight current and future research, and uphold ESPE as the international forum for the exchange of high quality basic scientific and clinical information. On behalf of ESPE Council, the POC, the Local Organising Committee and the German Working Group for Paediatric Endocrinology, I wish to thank you for your continuous support of our society’s efforts to further scientific work and clinical knowledge in all areas of paediatric and adolescent endocrinology worldwide.

The meeting will be held at the world-class, modern congress centre of Leipzig (CCL) with ample space for scientific get-togethers as well as the exhibition. The CCL combines an inviting atmosphere with spectacular architecture. The poster area is large and yet can be easily and rapidly surveyed.

I look forward to welcoming you to Leipzig, a city which combines tradition, the present and the future. The annual Leipzig book fair, for example, has developed into a festival of reading and a meeting place for young authors from Germany, Europe and, in particular, eastern European countries. The city is known for its musical history, with Johann Sebastian Bach and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy amongst its former citizens. The ESPE concert will commemorate Bach in the old Gothic St. Thomas Church, where he once worked as a cantor, with his music performed by musicians from Leipzig, and the ESPE Evening aims to bring together friends in a leisurely party in the students’ club of the old Moritz Bastei (Renaissance city wall fortifications).

On behalf of all of ESPE I welcome you to Leipzig and ESPE 2012. We truly appreciate you being with us!

Sincerely yours,

WIELAND KIESS
President, ESPE 2012