

Report of the meeting of the EPSC board

Tuesday October 5th

The board meeting was held after the symposium on Tuesday October 5th, 2004.

The times they are a changing

This year at the ESRS meeting the “Pediatric Sleep” was very well represented as demonstrated by the numbers reported below:

- October 5 8.30-10.30: Course on Polysomnography of children’ sleep (>40 participants)
- October 5 14.00-19.00: 14° EPSC meeting
- October 6 14.30-16.00: 22 poster presentations
- October 7 14.30-16.00: 45 poster presentations
- October 8 16.00-18.00: 8 oral presentations

Thus, we have to take into account that this growing trend will necessarily oblige to change the “structure and the organization” of the EPSC.

Future of the EPSC

As first point an open discussion on the future of the EPSC has been carried out and, mainly, how to re-organize the club and if become part of the ESRS as section or Associate member. It was decided to ask the ESRS for a proposal about this topic.

The aims of the EPSC will be to consolidate the area of paediatric sleep, to bring together clinicians and researchers, to put together people from different continents and from different disciplines and to ensure that all countries can be brought up to globally acceptable standards in every way (teaching, research, clinical services and methods, resources, access etc). Therefore it was raised the issue about the possibility to extend to other developing countries and become consequently “International”. Obviously, it was also discussed how to join the US Pediatric section of the AASM in order to collaborate for these common purposes.

We decided to postpone the discussion about this during the next meeting.

Proposal for the 2005 Meeting

It was decided that the next meeting will be held in Madrid in October or November.

We also we discussed the possibility to join the World Association of Sleep Medicine (WASM) congress asking for a satellite symposium on arousal and hypoxia (the one that André Kahn was organizing for January in Brussels) in order to have more participants and more visibility.

European Pediatric task force and practice guidelines

The board made the proposal to create an European Pediatric task force for different projects or for a consensus on different sleep topics in children or for creating practice guidelines for pediatricians (i.e. behavioural and pharmacological treatment of insomnia in infants and children, etc.).

EPSC newsletter

It has been proposed to prepare an EPSC newsletter that will be sent electronically to all the EPSC members, asking them to participate in building up the newsletter and to communicate any information that might be of some interest for the pediatric sleep community. This newsletter will be sent, probably, every three or four months.

Database of European Pediatric Sleep Providers

It has been proposed to make a database of European Pediatric Sleep Providers and to collect the information on all the pediatric sleep labs in Europe. It was decided to nominate a “responsible” for each country that could collect all pediatric sleep centers in his/her own country.

Sensibilization of the community on pediatric sleep

Another goal of the EPSC should be to increase the knowledge of pediatric sleep problems and their consequences through the media (TV shows, newspapers, internet, etc.). We should find different ways to involve the community like a sort of pediatric sleep day in Europe for educational purposes. Also there has been a proposal to create similar booklets on different pediatric sleep topics in different languages (creating new ones or collecting what has been done in different European countries, modifying and integrating them) to be distributed in pediatricians’ offices or hospitals.

New board

After informal elections a new board was designated:

Secretary: Oliviero Bruni.

Board Members: Franco Patricia (Belgium), Groswasser José (Belgium), Lecengreux Michel (France), Lahorgue Nunes Magda (Brasil), Nevsimalova Sonia (Czech Rep.), Peraita-Andrados R. (Spain), Gonzalo Pin (Spain), Vecchierini Marie Françoise (France), Villa Maria Pia (Italy)

The board concluded works on October 5th, 2004 evening.