

The European Federation of Periodontology news



The activities of the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) involving the advancement of the art and science of periodontology as well as organizational and administrative issues were successfully continued for the 19th consecutive year.

The annual General Assembly was held in London, on Saturday 28 February 2009. The EFP governing body, the chairmen of the committees, the EFP representatives, and the board representatives from the national societies attended this important meeting. The Hellenic Society of Periodontology (HSP) was represented by Andreas Parashis, the society's EFP representative.

Journal of Clinical Periodontology

The editor-in-chief Maurizio Tonetti, and the associate editors, Søren Jepsen (Bonn, Germany), Panos Papanou (New York, USA), Bruce Pihlstrom (Bethesda, USA), Marc Quirynen (Leuven, Belgium), and Mariano Sanz (Madrid, Spain), have guided the official publication of EFP to outstanding levels of excellence.

The editorial board has been expanded to increase the effectiveness of peer reviewing, and the time from acceptance to publication has been drastically reduced. The journal maintains a high impact factor (3.193 in 2008), one of the highest among dental journals. Thus, the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* has attracted attention from numerous international clinical and research groups who wish to publish their results in a timely fashion to a broad readership.

Currently, all published papers are classified and categorized into four subsets: periodontal diseases, periodontal therapy, implant therapy, and clinical innovation. Every article includes a section on clinical relevance in order to provide clinicians with a clear and concise explanation of the rationale for the study and may also contain suggestions for clinical practice. Articles that have been peer reviewed and accepted for publication are published online before the print edition of the journal is published.

Two annual "Jan Lindhe" prizes are awarded each year to the best papers published in basic and clinical periodontology, respectively. All issues of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* are available online from the first issue that was published in 1973.

Contract with Wiley-Blackwell

The editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* announced in this year's General Assembly that after agreement with Wiley-Blackwell, both print and online subscription rates remain the same as for 2008. The online subscription to the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* costs € 29.00 for all members of the national societies, including, of course, the active and associate members of the HSP. Online access is provided via the EFP website. Every EFP member has a personal access code, but an initial registration is necessary for the online identification of each member.

The special offer of the printed version of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* for members of the HSP is € 87.00 for this year. Subscription or renewal is completed online through Wiley-Blackwell at the following webpage: www3.interscience.wiley.com. Special reduced prices are offered to EFP members on all Wiley-Blackwell journals. These subscriptions are currently completed online through the "My EFP" site.

EFP's website

The official EFP website (www.efp.net) has been recently renovated under the guidance of Webmaster Edwin Winkel. The relational database allows communication between members, the EFP Executive Committee, subcommittees, and the webmaster on different levels. An e-mail address is required for communication with EFP members. Every national society has a webmaster who is responsible for updating the society's database every three months. National webmasters may communicate with the EFP on special webpages. Harry Kalaitzakis is the HSP webmaster.

Since January 2004, the "My EFP" webpage has hosted announcements from and activities of the national societies. Access to this webpage is restricted to EFP members who are provided with a special pass code. "My EFP" provides a search engine for all EFP members and allows each member to modify his/her personal data. The renovated website has been regularly updated and as of February 2008, has a new esthetic design with a practical layout.

EFP News

The EFP News is a bulletin published to report the actions and activities of the federation. EFP News promotes the important role of EFP in research, education, and the clinical practice of periodontology and serves as an advertising tool to approach related organizations and commercial partners. In addition, the newsletter provides information on EuroPerio congresses, European Workshops in Periodontology, committee reports, important local meetings, and other scientific activities of the national societies.

Ioanna Kamma has been the editor of the EFP News since 2004. Contributing to environmental protection efforts, EFP News is no longer printed and mailed to EFP members. The electronic pages of EFP News reach all colleagues, organizations, and partners in a timelier manner.

Recognition of the specialty of periodontology at European level

In many European Union countries, including Germany, France, Italy, and Greece, periodontology is not a recognized specialty. However, because periodontology is accepted as a specialty in 11 European countries, recognition in the remaining countries may be accomplished through the European Union.

The EFP developed a position paper regarding the need for the recognition of periodontology as a specialty in European countries. The position paper was approved by the General Assembly and presented at the Council of European Chief Dental Officers (CECDO). European national periodontal societies should implement strategies to influence corresponding chief dental officers in obtaining their support. In addition, EFP will explore possible administration approaches to promote this issue through the EU.

Uros Skaleric, the chairman of the "ad hoc committee for recognition of periodontology as a specialty", is responsible for the promotion of this issue to the CECDO. The HSP also developed a related document presenting the positions of the society on the recognition of periodontology as a specialty in Greece.

Strategic planning

The General Assembly that was held in Munich (23 February 2008), approved the final proposal from the Executive Committee to develop the EFP's 2008-2012 Strategic Planning. The strategic planning involves a restructuring process required to identify the federation's vision and priorities, to ensure that EFP members are working towards the same goals, to better communicate with the national societies, and to adjust the federation's directions in response to a changing environment.

The General Assembly that was held in London (28 February 2009) unanimously approved the proposal to reconstruct EFP's committees in order to meet the objectives identified by the strategic planning. The Executive Committee consists of seven members, including the president, the past-president, the president elect, the secretary general, the treasurer, and the two elected members. In addition,

invited members of the Executive Committee include the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* and the committee chairmen.

The overall structure has been simplified to the following four committees: Congress, Education, Workshop, and External Affairs. The Congress Committee (Jean Louis Giovannoli, Chairman) is involved in the organization of the EuroPerio congresses. A core professional congress organizer will be connected to the Congress Committee to coordinate all main aspects and execute all tasks associated with the organization of the EuroPerio meetings.

The Workshop Committee (Mariano Sanz, Chairman) is dedicated to the preparation of the European Workshops on Periodontology. The Education Committee (Ubele Van der Velden, Chairman) is devoted to providing guidelines and discussing all aspects of both under- and postgraduate studies and curricula in periodontology throughout Europe.

Finally, the objectives of the External Affairs Committee (Edwin Winkel, Chairman) are to improve communication with the national societies and other professional organizations, to facilitate communication of important messages to the public, to develop good relations with sponsors, and to promote the recognition of periodontology as a specialty.

European Academy of Periodontology

The 6th European Workshop on Periodontology (2-6 February 2008) was organized by the European Academy of Periodontology in Ittingen, Switzerland for the last time under the chairmanship of Klaus Lang. Seventy-three colleagues discussed controversial and pertinent issues of "contemporary periodontics", including the following:

- (a) Innovations in periodontal practice
- (b) Periodontal tissue engineering and regeneration
- (c) Critical issues in bone regeneration
- (d) Peri-implant infections
- (e) Periodontal diseases and health

The proceedings of the 6th European Workshop were published in Supplement 8 (2008) of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

Mariano Sanz, Chairman of the European Workshop on Periodontology Committee, announced that the next European Workshop on Periodontology (7-10 November 2010) will be organized in Segovia, Spain. The 7th workshop will focus on the "biology of periodontal and peri-implant tissues".

Practice Committee

The process of monitoring the way periodontology is performed at a private practice level in EFP's country members has been recently completed. A questionnaire was electronically mailed to all available EFP e-mail addresses and the results were analyzed. Apart from the primary outcome, EFP anticipates that data analysis will provide guidelines to improve periodontal care at a private practice level.

In total, 24% of the e-mail receivers responded to the

electronic survey. Greece had one of the highest response rates among the EFP country members (45.9%, 78 of 170 colleagues), with 50% of the responders being 31-40 years old. The interesting survey results have been uploaded on the EFP website.

Education Committee

The first European Workshop in Periodontal Education (18-21 October 2009) was organized by the EFP Education Committee in Segovia, Spain. The first European Workshop in Periodontal Education was chaired by Mariano Sanz, Ubele Van der Velden, and Joerg Meyle. Participants of the workshop were more than 70 experts from European academic institutions involved in teaching periodontology at the under- or postgraduate level. The workshop was also joined by colleagues from the Association of Dental Education in Europe.

The first European Workshop in Periodontal Education addressed several key issues in periodontal education, including learning outcomes and methods of periodontal education in the under- and postgraduate dental curricula, as well as types of continuing professional education in periodontology.

EuroPerio 6

EuroPerio 6 (4-6 June 2009) was held in Stockholm at the International Fairs and Congress Centre (Stockholmsmässan) under the chairmanship of Stefan Renvert and PierPaolo Cortellini. Approximately 5,160 participants attended the congress, representing 83 countries. The 6th EFP congress featured an unparalleled lineup of 119 distinguished speakers from 30 countries, covering clinical and research aspects of periodontology and implant dentistry. EuroPerio 6 was a very successful conference that reached far beyond the borders of Europe.

EuroPerio 6 was attended by 115 Greek colleagues. The scientific contribution of the Greek periodontal community was also notable. Panos N. Papapanou (Columbia University, New York, USA) and Phoebus N. Madianos (Athens, Greece) were invited speakers. In addition, many colleagues from the Department of Periodontology, University of Athens, and the Department of Periodontology and Implant Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

as well as independent clinicians, participated with oral presentations and posters.

Moreover, it was a great honor that poster #428, "Detection and prevalence of antibiotic resistance genes in the oral cavity of Greek subjects: a pilot study", by I. Ioannidis, D. Sakellari, and A. Spala, won the second best Poster Prize of EuroPerio 6. Congratulations to the research team from Aristotle University!

The next EFP symposium (EuroPerio 7) will be held in Vienna on 7-9 June 2012.

Executive Committee

The membership of the EFP Executive Committee, after the elections on 28 February 2009, is as follows:

President: Uros Scaleric (2009)

President Elect: Korkud Demirel (2009)

Past President: Richard Palmer (2009)

General Secretary: Pierre Baehni (2009)

Treasurer: Iain Chapple (2009)

Elected members: Birgitta von Troil (2009)

Moshe Goldstein (2009)

The next General Assembly will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 28 February 2010.

Andreas Parashis
EFP Representative of HSP

