First EFNS European Cooperation Neurology Workshop
April 13 - 20, 2000, Třešť, Czech Republic

ZÁMECKÝ HOTEL TŘEŠŤ
Academy Sciences of Czech Republic
Pursuing its policy of European cooperation in the new atmosphere of international solidarity the EFNS Management Committee decided to organize the first special workshop in Moravia.

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Třešť, April 13 – 19, 2000

The castle hotel, where the event took place, served as an educational conference center of Charles University. It had generously made possible to use the facility very cheaply.

Seventy five young neurologists (under the age of 40), five representatives of each former communist country, were guests of the EFNS in the castle of Třešť. During 3 days these selected referees gave account on their national neurology performance in the following aspects: in-patient services, out-patient services, pre-graduate education, post-graduate education and research. Another 3 days were devoted to lectures given by experts on topical issues in stroke, dementia, headache, multiple sclerosis and vertebrogenic disorders. Fourteen lecturers from 9 countries participated in this educational part of the programme. Discussions to the practical issues in neurology aimed to international comparison and to proposals for future standards.

This first workshop was conceived for East and Central Europe. National delegates represented 15 countries with total population of 316 millions and more than 25 000 neurologists.

The outcomes showed a lot of enormous differences that exist not only between Western Europe and the countries in transition, but also within this area itself. The density of neurologists in individual countries ranges from 1 per 7000 to 1 per 32000 inhabitants. The differences are even greater when it comes to the availability of equipment, ranging e.g. from one CT facility per 100 000 people to one per million. In some countries with defective insurance systems a fee for CT examination could be equivalent to an average 1 month salary. This could cause embarrassing differences in the approaches to correct diagnoses. Moreover, some inaccessible diagnostic and therapeutic options can influence even the statistics of nosologic incidence and prevalence by the fact, that some patients refrain from asking medical help purely for financial reasons. Also neurologists themselves have a lot to overcome, being actually rewarded in at least 9 of our hosted countries by a lower than average local country salary. The equivalents of such neurological wages are somewhere around 40 Euro per month.
General knowledge and training in neurology in East European countries stays on a very good level and as such gives an attractive and promising prerequisite for the ensuing EFNS educational and supportive activities.

Also pharmaceutical companies showed generosity in their support. These were Pfizer, Schering, Gedeon Richter, Sanofi-Synthelabo and Knoll.

Apart from the scientific program also a cultural one was performed. One country music evening and one concert of the works from G.P. Telleman, F.Liszt, F.Chopin, V. Bellini, C. Debussy took place. The performers were a trio of students from Pardubice musical school. A trip to Telč, the UNESCO heritage city, was done one afternoon.

**SUMMARY:**

**Participants:** 75 neurologists from 15 countries - Central and Eastern Europe
Albania - 5, Belarus - 6, Bulgaria - 5, Croatia - 4, Czech Republic - 5, Estonia - 4, Georgia - 3, Hungary - 5, Moldova - 5, Poland - 4, Romania - 6, Russia - 7, Slovak Republic - 5, Slovenia - 5, Ukraine - 2

**Reports:** 5 topics
Pre-graduate education
Post-graduate education
In-patient services
Out-patient services
Research
Lecturers: 14: Great Britain - 1, Italy - 1, Austria - 4, Slovak Republic - 1, Hungary - 3, Poland - 1, Czech Republic - 1, Croatia - 1, Switzerland - 1

Lectures: 6 topics
Neuroethics
Headache
Dementia
Multiple sclerosis
Stroke
Vertebrogenic disorders

NEUROETHICS:
Franz Gerstenbrand, Vienna: Ethical principles in neurology

HEADACHE:
Fabio Antonaci, Pavia: Cluster headache and related syndromes: clinical characteristics, pathophysiology and treatment
Timothy J. Steiner, London: Migraine pathophysiology and treatment

DEMENTIA:
Christian Bancher, Kurt Jellinger, Vienna: Biological in vivo markers for Alzheimer’s disease
Michal Novak, Bratislava: Tau proteins, neurofibrillary degeneration and pathogenesis of Alzheimer’s disease
Manfred Windisch, Graz: Actual and future therapeutic strategies in dementia

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS:
Krzysztof Selmaj, Lodz: Immunotherapy of multiple sclerosis
László Vécsei, Szeged: Redox disturbances in multiple sclerosis

STROKE:
Michael Brainin, Vienna, Maria Gugging: Acute stroke units - how to set them up, how they work, what are the profits
László Csiba, Debrecen: Functional ultrasonography, trends and limitations
Vida Demarin, Zagreb: Ultrasonography in the prevention of stroke
Pavel Kalvach, Prague: Pathophysiology of ischemia in imaging
Imró Szirmai, Budapest: Consequences of cerebral microcirculation disorders

VERTEBROGENIC DISORDERS:
Denis L. Kaech, Chur: Neurosurgical and neuroradiological aspects of radicular pain
List of participants – 2000

ALBANIA - Mira Kapisyzi, Tirana, Gjergji Vreto, Tirana, Jera Kruja, Tirana, Sokrat Xhaxho, Tirana, Altin Kuqo, Tirana
BELARUS - Emiliya Sidorovich, Minsk, Yuri Alekseenko, Vitebsk, Svetlana Rovdo, Minsk, Galina I. Naumova, Vitebsk, Leonard V. Shalkevich, Minsk, Svetlana G. Kotova, Minsk
BULGARIA - Valentina Iankova Petkova, Sofia, Lubomir Popov, Sofia, Hristo Krouchkov, Sofia, Marko Klissursky, Sofia, Kamen Baykouchev, Plovdiv
CROATIA - Vlasta Vuković, Zagreb, Arijana Lovrenčić-Huzjan, Zagreb, Dragutin Kadojić, Osijek, Marinko Dikanović, Slavonski Brod
CZECH REPUBLIC - Petr Ševčík, Plzeň, Aleš Bartoš, Praha 10, Pavel Ressner, Ostrava – Poruba, Milan Brázdil, Brno, Roman Herzík, Olomouc, (Jan Šroubek, Praha 5 Motol)
ESTONIA - Maris Heinsoo, Tallinn, Viiu-Marika Rand, Tallinn, Janika Kolv, Tartu, Aive Liigant, Tartu
GEORGIA - Alexander Tsiskaridze, Tbilisi, Helen Phagava, Tbilisi, George J. Kuchukhidze, Tbilisi
HUNGARY - Daniel Bereczki, Debrecen, Csaba Ertsey, Budapest, Klara Faust, Budapest, Gábor Géza Kovács, Budapest, Judit Áfra, Budapest
MOLDOVA - Mihail Gavriluc, Chisinau, Vitalie Lisnic, Chisinau, Oleg Pascal, Chisinau, Stela Odobescu, Chisinau, Liliana Iuhtimovschi, Chisinau
POLAND - Agnieszka Slowik, Kraków, Jacek Zaborowski, Warsaw, Konrad Rejdak, Lublin, Agata Walczak, Łódź
ROMANIA - Bogdan Ovidiu Popescu, Bucharest, Luminita Delia Golea, Bucharest, Sandra Nicu, Bucharest, Cristina Tiu, Bucharest, Sorin Tuta, Bucharest, Valentin Bohotin, Iași
RUSSIA - Ravil Z. Moukhamedzianov, Kazan, Alexander Michailovits Sergeev, Petrozavodsk, Vera Osipova, Moscow, Alexander A. Alexeev, Moscow, Svetlana Kopishinskaya, Nizhny Novgorod, Veronika Vladlenovna Nikitina, St. Petersburg
SLOVAK REPUBLIC - Milan R. Voško, Martin, Egon Kurča, Martin, Miriam Hlaváčiková, Bratislava, Radovan Jaroščák, Bratislava, Martina Martiníková, Banská Bystrica
SLOVENIA - Uroš Rot, Ljubljana, Marija Šoštarič Podlesnik, Celje, Bernard Vladimir Meglič, Ljubljana, Majda Trošt, Ljubljana, Marija Menih, Maribor
UKRAINE - Inna V. Reminyak, Kharkov, Nana Sh. Sklyarova (Dzhandoyeva), Kharkov
Local organizers

V. Brychtová, R. Herzig, M. Dohnalová, P. Kalvach, I. Krajíčková, P. Ressner, A. Bartoš, P. Ševčík