

INTERNATIONAL ANAESTHESIA TEACHING CENTRE (EUROPE) – NEWS

Report from the Serbian annual meeting

The International School of Paediatric Anaesthesia held its second meeting in Belgrade on the 7th and 8th of May 2010. This meeting was hosted by the team of paediatric anaesthesiologists from the University Children's Hospital led by Prof Dr D Simic. The financial support was kindly provided by the IATC and the Federal Ministry of Health in Germany.

The participants are specialists in anaesthesiology who only occasionally anaesthetize children. The art and science of paediatric anaesthesia allows the anaesthesia practitioner to employ a unique set of skills that are not applicable when caring for adult patients. The aim of this meeting is to help experienced clinicians to refresh their knowledge and further develop these skills, thereby enhancing the safety of children requiring their service. This comprehensive course strives to promote high medical standards through continuous education and enable practice of safe paediatric anaesthesia in non-paediatric environments.

This year's core curriculum covered topics such as: paediatric airway management, perioperative fluid management in children, monitoring in paediatric anaesthesia, anaesthesia for neonates and prematurely born infants, anaesthesia for children with co-existing diseases, management and transfer of a child with major trauma, anaesthesia for day case, ENT and neurosurgical procedures, paediatric regional anaesthesia and acute pain management in children. The workshops provided an opportunity to practice manual skills on manikins (intubation, intraosseus needles) and interactive discussions based on complex case presentations. The course was completed by a Multiple Choice Question test.

The meeting saw this year an introduction of a new session into the programme dedicated to junior anaesthesiologists. The idea is to create an opportunity for doctors in training to develop and practice their teaching and presentation skills. The intention is to emphasize the importance of teaching in their future development as clinicians and educators. The pilot session was successfully presented by Dr I Covaliova from Moldova. As of next year, the session is meant to be expanded into a number of presentations, either oral or poster. The best young presenter will be chosen by the panel of senior specialists and the winner will be granted their expenses to attend the annual congress of the European Society of Paediatric Anaesthesiology.

Dr Schily, project manager of the IATC.eu who is in charge of the meeting, has written to the Ministries of Health of Germany and Serbia to inform them about this international educational programme and thanked them for supporting it.

Thanks to the organizers for a very successful and enjoyable programme in every aspect.

Prepared by V Colovic