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EDTNA | ERCA News

European Dialysis and Transplant Nurses Association/
European Renal Care Association

Autumn Edition • 2006

President's Message

Dear Members,

It was great meeting you at the successful Conference that just took place in Madrid!

As your newly-elected President, I look



forward to doing my utmost to continue in the tradition of our previous President, Althea Mahon, who did a fantastic job in leading the Association to where it is now.

It is an honour for me to be your new President and I am eager to accept this new challenge with the support and help of the other EC Members. At this occasion, I would like to welcome two new Members to the EC: Maria Saraiva (Portugal) and Josep M^a Gutiérrez Vilaplana (Spain).

With this new team on board, we will work to build on and improve success stories for our Association. Key priorities for the months to come include:

- Expand products and services to emerging economy countries
- Strengthen industry relationship for the development of new educational and research projects
- Develop partnerships with non-renal associations (diabetic, cardiovascular...)
- Maintain financial sustainability and increase membership

I thank you for your trust and look forward to the opportunity to meeting with you.

With best regards,

Jitka Pancirová

Jitka Pancirová

President EDTNA/ERCA 2006-2008

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EDTNA/ERCA Journal becomes Journal of Renal Care®

2006 is the year of change! After the launch of the new EDTNA/ERCA website, a totally revamped newsletter and Annual Report, and a membership brochure, the Association is now announcing the new name of its

Journal of Renal Care®

quarterly peer-reviewed Journal.

The Journal, previously named EDTNA/ERCA Journal is now re-named Journal of Renal Care®. To protect its unique use, the new journal name has been registered with European regulatory bodies and does now belong exclusively to EDTNA/ERCA.

The Journal of Renal Care® is the official publication of EDTNA/ERCA with a circulation of around 4000. The Journal is published in 7 languages: Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian and Spanish.

It publishes a broad range of peer reviewed clinical, research, educational and profession oriented material for nephrology professionals.

The Editorial Board seek to provide content that is relevant to and reflective of the growing diversity of the Renal Care community.

We trust this new name will improve the Journal's outreach in the renal care field.

Don't miss out on your next issue (3.2006), including articles on:

- Management of vascular access
- The technology behind the improvement in anaemia management
- Recruitment and retention audit: training does make a difference

- Is potential equalisation in haemodialysis treatments necessary?
- Nutritional status and handgrip strength in pre-dialysis patients
- A care pathway for the end of life in a renal setting
- A clinic to prevent the deterioration of renal insufficiency
- Improving quality of assistance and outcome in critically ill patients with acute renal failure
- Quality of life in chronic kidney disease (CKD)
- Living with a haemodialysis machine
- Patient education in pre-dialysis-through patient led forums
- Ultra violet absorbance: on-line measurement used to mirror clinical events during haemodialysis

If you have not received the last issue of the Journal of Renal Care® or wish to inform the Secretariat about your change of address, please use 'My Profile' on www.edtna-erca.org to update your contact details or send a message to info@edtna-erca.org.

Thank you to our latest Corporate Members:



To review the full list of Corporate Members, please visit:
www.edtna-erca.org/corporate

Member Spotlight

Eva-Lena Nilsson

Key Member
Sweden



When and why did you decide to join the EDTNA/ERCA?

I became a Member of EDTNA/ERCA at the end of the eighties. I was then working in the Middle East and found the EDTNA/ERCA Journal interesting and helpful in keeping me updated on many different issues I was facing in my daily professional challenges.

This convinced me that I should be part of the Association.

Why have you decided to become an active Member of the Association?

Back in Sweden I missed working with people from different countries and backgrounds.

I found that becoming an active Member in EDTNA/ERCA allowed me to once again think "internationally." EDTNA/ERCA is a great forum for exchanging ideas with colleagues from across Europe.

You have been involved in the development of a seminar at the Madrid Conference (A Multi-disciplinary Approach). Did you find it challenging and how these kinds of activities impact your professional career?

I find it very challenging to be part of the EDTNA/ERCA Madrid Conference. Learning to perform new tasks is always interesting and in that sense, the association offers many different opportunities to be involved and challenge yourself on many different levels. EDTNA/ERCA is full of talented and enthusiastic people.

Life is never boring; we have a lot of fun.

Get the Most from Your Membership

Visit www.edtna-erca.org and access the online career center on the Members-only section. Post your resume or view the job offers.

What Happened at the 35th International Conference

2 336 participants from 54 countries attended the successful EDTNA/ERCA 35th International Conference which took place in Madrid, Spain on 8-11 September 2006.



The high level of the scientific programme was greatly appreciated by the participants who had the opportunity to attend lectures by renowned speakers such as Prof. Guiseppe Remuzzi, Dr. Charlie Tomson and Prof. Suhail Ahmad as well as corporate education sessions and workshops lead by experts in their fields.

The Lifetime membership award was presented to Jean-Yves de Vos, Belgium.

The winners of the Manuscript Scholarship Awards were:

- Christopher Duncan for: *An exploratory study of patient's feelings about asking healthcare professionals to wash their hands prior to a clinical procedure and the influence that MRSA status and access to patient information may have on this.*

- Nick Polaschek for: *Client attitudes towards home dialysis therapy.*

The Poster Scholarship Awards was given to:

- Judith M. Wierdsma, Peter Blankestijm, Aran Van Zuilen, Miranda Boom, Marc Ten Dam and Jack Wetzels for: *Masterplan: prevention of cardiovascular disease and decrease of renal dysfunction in patients with chronic disease, with the aid of nurse practitioners.*
- Susan S. Lloyd and Helen Byrne for: *Calciophilaxis: calcific uraemic arteriopathy-causing infarction of subcutis and skin: a case study.*

The Annual General Meeting unanimously approved the new membership structure which will offer EDTNA/ERCA Members the possibility to join the association through an electronic membership in 2007.

To take a look at the Conference pictures please visit www.edtna-erca.org.

Copies of the presentations will soon be available to Members on www.edtna-erca.org.

If you have not been able to attend the Conference and wish to receive a copy of the Abstract book please contact the Secretariat at info@edtna-erca.org. The Abstract book is for sale at € 25.

Competencies Framework Project in its Final Phase



The EDTNA/ERCA Competencies Framework Project is now moving into its final phase of preparation with most of the competencies written in the topic areas of Haemodialysis, Transplantation, Peritoneal Dialysis and the Renal Ward ready.

The haemodialysis section has been completed and pilot studies of the proposed competencies are now organised. This will be a small-scale pilot study within several haemodialysis units across Europe. The plan is to have approximately 8-10 nurses from each unit trialling the document.

Pilot studies in Units in the UK, Portugal, and Spain are already confirmed and the project team is awaiting final confirmation of Units in Ireland, Slovenia, Greece and Israel.

The document will be translated into the appropriate language for the country that is undertaking the pilot study.

The pilot studies have commenced in February 2006 and were completed this summer. The final package was presented at the Madrid Conference.

For more information please contact
Melissa Chamney, Project Lead
(m.chamney@city.ac.uk)

European Practice Database (EPD)

A Final Report Ready in November

2005 saw Cycle 2 completed for those countries participating in the first initial EPD pilot project in 2002, England North and the Czech Republic. This data is now being compared with the data collected in 2002 and changes to dialysis centre practice and policy evaluated. Results were presented at this year's conference in Madrid and final reports prepared for distribution in November.

Each year the EPD questionnaires are reviewed to improve clarity and meaning. From the Research Board Nurse Profile Project, in 2004, we successfully isolated aspects of the nephrology nurses' role which potentially could be measured overtime and this data set has been integrated into the

main EPD questionnaire. It is hoped that longitudinal analysis of this new data could begin to capture the changing role of the nurse across and within different countries in Europe.

For 2006/2007 it is hoped that representatives from Austria and Switzerland will agree to participate in EPD for the first time and Belgium, Greece and Scotland will undertake Cycle 2 data collection.

The EPD team is always looking for new countries to be involved in the project and would welcome any Member who has an interest in becoming a local co-ordinator in their country.

*For more information contact
Monique Elseviers, Project Coordinator
(rb.office@pandora.be).*

Learn More about Your New President



Born in Prague, Czech Republic, Jitka always knew she would someday work in healthcare. Having completed her general nurse training at the Nursing School in Prague, and Nephrology Post Basic Course in Brno, she then went on to work in the field of renal care. The field she has been working in since 1987.

For the past 13 years Jitka has been Head Nurse at the private Haemodialysis Centre Parallel 50 in Prague. Jitka's area of speciality, in which she has published and given many lectures, is quality and adequacy of treatment, implementation of clinical standards, anaemia management and vascular access.

Since June 2006 she has worked as a Quality Coordinator for the private chain of dialysis units. Her daily task is the implementation of the ISO documents, clinical standards and preparation of 18 HD units for the external clinical audits.

Jitka who was introduced to EDTNA/ERCA's activities by Franta Lopot, has been the Czech Key Member in 1997, co-Key Member Mentor from 2001-2003 and since 2003 is the national coordinator for the European Practice Database (EPD).

The same year she joined EDTNA/ERCA's Executive Committee.

As the recently elected President of EDTNA/ERCA, she hopes to use her experience and expertise to better facilitate the many different projects of the Association.

"It is a job I am proud to have, and I look forward to all the challenges it will bring to me" concludes Jitka.

*To contact Jitka, please send an email to
pancirova@volny.cz*

Mark Your Calendar!

36th

EDTNA/ERCA

International
Conference

**Caring Together:
Managing
the Complications
of Chronic Kidney
Disease**

Abstract submission deadline:
14 February 2007

For more information, please visit
www.edtna-erca.org

The Importance of Patient Rights A European Concern



Theodôr Vogels, Member of the EC and Angela Guillemet, Executive Director, attended the first meeting of the European Life Science Circle (LSC) on 12 September in Brussels.

The aim of the LSC is to be the political motor behind the reforms of Europe's healthcare. The meeting hosted by German Member of the European Parliament, Dr. Jorgo Chatzimarkis, gathered 50 people from the EU institutions, various representatives from the pharmaceutical industry and patient groups covering amongst others Cancer and HIV.

The focus of the first meeting was on the importance of patient rights and on improved unrestricted access to information of prescription medications. Various ways of accessing information was discussed. One alternative is to make more information

available in different languages on the internet. However information should also be provided offline for people with restricted access to the internet.

A presentation on compliance issues by the European Health Care Foundation (www.euhcf.org), informed us that a mere 90 billion dollars a year is spent inadequately through lack of compliance (70 % non-compliance rates).

The Patient association representatives spoke of the unrestricted access of information and of course the use of the term "(non-) compliance" sparked a lively discussion as some would rather refer to adherence and even self-management.

*For more information,
please contact Angela at
angela.guillemet@edtna-erca.com*

2 New Members on the Executive Committee

The 2006-2008 Executive Committee is pleased to welcome two new Members on board: Maria Saraiva (Portugal) and Josep M^a Gutiérrez Vilaplana (Spain).



Maria is a nursing teacher, at the Escola Superior de Engernagem de Maria Fernanda Resende in Portugal.

Maria followed a nursing basic course, a specialized nursing course in medical surgical nursing, with an option in nephrology; and an advanced nursing course on pedagogies applied to nursing teaching.

Maria's involvement with EDTNA/ERCA started in 1991 with being the KM for Portugal. She then became KM Mentor and Member of the Education Board since 2001. Over the past years, she's also been Abstract Chief Assessor and President of the 29th International Conference in Lisbon (2000).



Josep is a nurse in the Nephrology Unit at Hospital Universitari Arnau de Vilanova de Lleida in Spain. Josep has been working as a renal nurse since 1995 in both Haemodialysis and Peritoneal dialysis units. He has been involved in several health education programmes in pre-dialysis and hypertension and has participated in many clinical research projects. He owns a degree in nursing by Escola Universitaria d'Infermeria de la UDL (Universitat de Lleida) and has followed a Nursing Nephrology Accreditation Course (SEDEN).

Josep is a Member since 2001 and has been Chair of the Hypertension IG since 2003. He is also a Member of the Conference Scientific Programme Committee since 2005.

To review the full list of Executive Committee Members, please visit the Leadership Directory at www.edtna-erca.org.

Calendar of Events

- ▶ **1st World Congress on Controversies in Obesity, Diabetes and Hypertension**
26-29 October 2006
Berlin, Germany
- ▶ **AfnP Symposium**
28-29 October 2006
Fulda, Germany
- ▶ **TNNA 16th Annual Congress**
28 October - 1 November 2006
Antalya, Turkey
- ▶ **6th Czech Multidisciplinary Nephrology Conference**
11-12 November
Brno, Czech Republic
- ▶ **EDTNA/ERCA UK Seminar**
12-13 November 2006
Nottingham, UK
- ▶ **5th 3-Country Conference (CH/G/A)**
23-25 November 2006
Konstanz, Germany
- ▶ **5th International Symposium on the Diabetic Foot**
9-12 May 2007
Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands
- ▶ **EDTNA/ERCA 36th International Conference**
15-18 September 2007
Florence, Italy



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Would you like to contribute to the next issue? Please send your articles and pictures to Karine Desbant, EDTNA/ERCA Marketing and Communications Manager
(E-mail: karine.desbant@edtna-erca.org).