



Caring together

# EDTNA | ERCA News

European Dialysis and Transplant Nurses Association/  
European Renal Care Association

Issue 1 • 2007

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Since the Madrid Conference, the Executive Committee, the Advisory Board and other volunteers have been working hard on several issues including:



**Industry:** Various face to face meetings have been held with industry including (Gambro, Amgen, Arrow, Nipro, Fresenius, B. Braun, Astellas, Shire, Hemocue and Omron). An industry survey has also been conducted ascertaining the perceptions of EDTNA/ERCA among key industry stakeholders. See article next page.

**2007 Conference (Florence, Italy):** The conference website ([www.edtna-erca-florence2007.com](http://www.edtna-erca-florence2007.com)) is fully updated with latest promotional materials and programme information. The site selection took place on 8 February together with the Maria Pegoraro, LOC Chair, Secretariat representatives, and myself.

**International Diabetes Federation (IDF):** I met with the IDF representatives in Copenhagen and is discussing the possibility of further collaboration. More information about IDF including a 'Guide to Diabetes and Kidney Disease' can be found at [www.idf.org](http://www.idf.org).

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## EDTNA/ERCA Introduces a New Membership Category: E-Members

**Since 1 January, EDTNA/ERCA has launched a new membership category: "E-membership".**

This new membership category is open to all individual, associate and global members for €40 per year (or €100 for 3 years) as well as members from European Emerging Economy countries for €10 per year (no 3-year fee available for this category).

E-members can access all benefits but in electronic format only. For this, it is required that E-members have an e-mail address and register online at [www.edtnaerca.org](http://www.edtnaerca.org)

E-member benefits include:

- PDF copy of the *EDTNA/ERCA News*, the association quarterly newsletter

- PDF copy of the *Journal of Renal Care*®, the association quarterly journal
- Free access to the Journal Club and Renalpro (speciality forums)
- Become an active volunteer if the association
- Participate in working groups and projects

E-members also benefit from the same 'special member rate' when attending the annual conference.

All PDFs can be downloaded from the website ([www.edtnaerca.org](http://www.edtnaerca.org)) in the members-only section.

For more information about e-membership, visit [www.edtnaerca.org/HowtoJoin](http://www.edtnaerca.org/HowtoJoin).

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Croatia Symposium on Renal Replacement Therapy and Transplantation:** On 22-24 September, I attended as guest speaker, the Croatian joint symposium for physicians, transplant co-ordinators and nurses. The former Croatian Key Member, Hrvojkja Mozanic, did a great job in informing delegates about EDTNA/ERCA activities, whilst I presented the latest EPD data. Croatia could be a potential EPD country going forward. The event received strong support from the Croatian government, regional authorities and industry. More information on the event can be found at [www.diatransplant.org](http://www.diatransplant.org).

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Czech PEAK meeting:** "Promoting Excellence for Anaemia and the Kidney" (PEAK) meeting was held in October in Prague under the kind and generous sponsorship of Roche Pharmaceuticals. The aim of the meeting was to share best practice in anaemia management within the Czech Republic and explore ways of making improvements for the future. Faculty members from EDTNA/ERCA, Lesley Bennett, Anaemia IG Chair, John Sedgewick, Education Board Chair and myself supported the meeting. Delegates enjoyed a highly

interactive two days exploring ways for further improving clinical practice in anaemia management.

**ELITE Meeting:** The 1<sup>st</sup> ELITE meeting was held in October in Rotterdam. All delegates were sponsored by Astellas International. The mission statement of the ELITE workshop is to provide nurses with the knowledge, skills-framework and tools to improve chronic illness care and effect change. The ELITE programme was a positive step towards meeting current needs in transplantation.

Jitka Pancirová  
President EDTNA/ERCA 2006-2008

Thank you to our latest  
Corporate Members

COREMED

AMGEN

To review the full list of Corporate Members, please visit: [www.edtnaerca.org/corporate](http://www.edtnaerca.org/corporate)

## Member Spotlight

### Martin Gerrish

Chair  
Scientific  
Programme  
Committee



#### What is the role of the SPC?

The role of the Scientific Programme Committee is to ensure that our conference continues to be an exciting, stimulating event by planning a mix of internationally renowned guest speakers, workshops, seminars and corporate education sessions along with selecting presentations and posters presenting the latest developments in multidisciplinary renal care from throughout Europe and across the world.

#### As the conference is approaching fast, what are the challenges you are facing?

The logistics of trying to ensure a mix that will stimulate all the different professional groups attending, reflects the membership and language groups, is of relevance to both experienced and inexperienced practitioners, includes international guest speakers whilst encouraging first time presenters, and remains within budget is quite challenging!

It is this mix which makes EDTNA/ERCA so unique and stimulating.

#### How will this experience help you in your professional career?

The EDTNA/ERCA volunteer network is like an extended family and the support and friendship across the countries is excellent.

In this role I am developing my skills in time & stress management, diplomacy & tact and gaining an overview of the challenges facing Renal care in Europe.

## Update Your Contact Details Online!

You have changed address? Changed job? Make sure to update your contact details on the online directory. It is fast and easy. Visit [www.edtnerca.org](http://www.edtnerca.org), access the members-only section with your ID and password and go to 'My Profile' (left of the screen). Our database will update automatically once you have saved your changes.

## A Successful Meeting with the Industry

**On 16 December, EDTNA/ERCA organised a meeting with Corporate Members and other key renal companies in Copenhagen. The aim of this meeting was to create an open exchange and discussion with our partners from industry with a view to improving future co-operation.**

Jitka Pancírová, EDTNA/ERCA President, moderated this meeting and explained that the association is responding to industry requests and market conditions by adapting our conference programme and sponsorship package.

Maria Cruz Casal Garcia, Past President and Madrid Conference LOC Chair, presented a clear overview of the Madrid Conference and demonstrated the enormous effort made by the LOC.

André Stragier, Past Communications Officer and Scientific Programme Committee Member, provided a brief overview of the history of EDTNA/ERCA, its main assets and the progress already achieved with the upcoming Florence Scientific Programme.



An open and dynamic discussion followed highlighting the need for increased communication, improving input from industry partners as well as launching the plan to set up an Industry Advisory Board.

EDTNA/ERCA would like to express thanks and appreciation to all industry attendees namely to: Anki Davidson (Director International Exhibitions, Gambro & Hospital); Yasmin Rachid (Project Leader International Congresses, Fresenius Medical Care); Dr. Kerstin Stueck (Product Manager Marketing Communication, B.Braun); Marcel Jacobs (Product Manager Critical Care and Haemodialysis, Arrow).

## Industry Survey – Promising Outcomes

**In December 2006, the EDTNA/ERCA secretariat carried out a survey of key industry stakeholders. The target audience was corporate members, conference exhibitors as well as current and past sponsors/advertisers.**

The purpose of the survey was to evaluate the perception and satisfaction of EDTNA/ERCA, establish expectations and better define how relationships can be improved. The feedback is being used to improve relationships, communications and products and enhance the scope and quality of the EDTNA/ERCA offering.

Overall, there was a positive response from our corporate partners. Respondents were particularly positive about EDTNA/ERCA communication materials, website and the annual conference.

Companies showed some interest in advertising especially in the newsletter, journal and conference programme.

The companies also offered advice about the conference recommending: more co-operation with other associations like EDTA; reducing costs of the conference i.e. cities, hotels and exhibition space, and providing

more access to delegate lists. Overall, industry are looking to EDTNA/ERCA to provide more exchange, transparency, feedback, networking and more information on customer needs.



## DOPPS – A Successful Meeting with Study Coordinators

On 30 November the UK Study Coordinators met at the County Hall Marriott Hotel, in the heart of London, to hear the latest news and developments from Dr. Ron Pisoni of Arbor Research, Research Scientist and DOPPS Director of Analytic Support.

A full report is available on the website at [www.edtnerca.org/dopps](http://www.edtnerca.org/dopps).

## Don't Miss Out on the Next Issue of the Journal of Renal Care®



All EDTNA/ERCA Members will now receive the English copy of the journal by mail. If you wish to review the journal in your own language, translated copies (Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Spanish) are also available in PDF format in the members-only section of the website.

To access the translated copies go to [www.edtnaerca.org](http://www.edtnaerca.org), login the members-only section with your ID and Password and go to the Journal of Renal Care® page (you may also access this page by clicking on the journal logo on the right side of the screen). The PDFs are saved in chronological order and by languages. The next issue (1.2007) will include the following topics

- Renal specific secondary hypertension
- Evaluation of response to erythropoiesis-stimulating proteins using anaemia management software
- Hyperkalaemia and haemodialysis patients: electrocardiographic changes
- Calciphylaxis: Calcific Uraemic Arteriolopathy - A case study
- Improving the Nutritional Condition of Infants and Children Undergoing Haemodialysis

- Education of transplanted women for prevention of unplanned pregnancy following kidney transplantation
  - Client attitudes towards home dialysis therapies
  - Quality of life research: a valuable tool for nephrology nurses
  - An exploratory study of patient's feelings about asking healthcare professionals to wash their hands
  - Dialysis Nurses for Palliative Care
  - The Need for Coordinating of care in an aging Dialysis Population
  - Summer Journal Club Discussion Report
- Past issues are also available to members in the member-only section of the website.

### Nephrology Now - A Free Email Service for Renal Care Workers

Academic clinicians from the University of Toronto have started a mailing list that will highlight the most important articles published in the past month in the field of clinical Nephrology - what will effectively be a "meta-journal".

A large selection of relevant journals is reviewed each month, and focus is placed on articles which may have a direct impact on making diagnoses, providing prognosis or guiding treatment. For more information visit [www.nephrologynow.com](http://www.nephrologynow.com)

## International Best Practice Statement on Nutritional Support in RRT Patients

The Nutrition Interest Group is currently conducting an e-survey to obtain information from renal units across Europe and USA, on the practice of nutritional support in dialysis patients.

The information will be used to develop a flow chart nutritional support tool that specifies all approaches to take in the treatment of malnutrition, starting from basic fortification of foods to the use of anabolic steroids. In dialysis patients, the prevalence of Protein-Energy Malnutrition (PEM) is very high, affecting more than 50% of patients.

Ongoing studies are looking at dialysis outcome and practice patterns across Europe and USA, but they do not include any nutritional support information. This study proposes to address this gap in the literature

by providing an insight into the practice patterns, outcomes, knowledge, experience and recommendations of renal health-professionals on nutritional support in dialysis patients.

This is a joint project with the renal dietitians of a London Trust. The findings will be combined with a systematic review to develop international guidelines for the nutritional support of adult dialysis patients.

For more information contact *Ione Ashurst* ([ione@debrito-ashurst.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:ione@debrito-ashurst.wanadoo.co.uk)),  
 Nutrition Interest Group Chair

### Get the Most from Your Membership

Members get 33% discount on all Healthpress Publications. To review the full list of publications and to place an order, please visit [www.edtnaerca.org](http://www.edtnaerca.org) (Publications page)

## 36<sup>th</sup> EDTNA/ERCA International Conference

15-18 September 2007  
 Florence, Italy

### Caring Together: Managing the CKD

We are pleased to announce the following speakers:

- Prof. Luisa Berardinelli (Italy)
- Dr. Giovanni Cappelli (Italy)
- Dr. Jose Antonio Garcia Donaire (Spain)
- Alóis Gorke (Germany)
- Dr. Jean Hooper (UK)
- Karen Jenkins (UK)
- Dr. Julia Jones (UK)
- Dr. Philip Kalra (UK)
- Dr. Manu Keirse (Belgium)
- Michael Kourakos (Greece)
- Waltraud Küntzle (Germany)
- Prof. Ingrid Ledebö (Sweden)
- Dr. Lizzi Lindley (UK)
- Prof. Francesco Locatelli (Italy)
- Prof. Franta Lopot (Czech Republic)
- Tai Mooi Ho (Spain)
- Prof. Francesco Pizzarelli (Italy)
- Aase Riemann (The Netherlands)
- Prof. Salvadori (Italy)
- Dr. Julian Segura (Spain)
- Dr. Annalisa Silvestro (Italy)
- Dr. Claire Soulsby (UK)
- Prof. Sylvie Sulkova-Dusilova (Czech Republic)
- Sue Teasdale (UK)
- Prof. Franco Tesio (Italy)
- Georgia Thanasa (Greece)
- Prof. Christine Van Acker (Belgium)
- Ronal Visser (The Netherlands)
- Dr. Yvonne Wengström (Sweden)

For more information visit  
[www.edtna-erca-florence2007.com](http://www.edtna-erca-florence2007.com)

## Fresenius Middle East – 4-day Educational Programme (FME)

During the annual conference in Madrid, an exploratory meeting was held with representatives of FME, Althea Mahon, John Sedgewick and Angela Guillemet, EDTNA/ERCA Executive Director.

EDTNA/ERCA had been approached by FME to explore possible opportunities to network and work in developing suitable educational opportunities for renal nurses working within the Middle East and North Africa. Members of the Education Board during the Madrid conference held a meeting with approximately 40 nurses from Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Morocco, Egypt, and Tunisia.

During this meeting members of the Education Board explored the drivers for education as well as important areas to be considered in possible educational programmes. It also allowed the Education Board to get a first hand account of the real issues facing renal nurses in these countries. Whilst the majority of the group were senior renal nurses there were 2 renal technicians as part of the delegation.

As a result of ongoing partnership work the first Renal Education Programme will be offered in Madrid, 3-7 July 2007. The programme offered over 4 days will explore contemporary issues around renal care with a

focus upon dialysis. The programme integrates themes of nursing practice skills, master classes and Professional Practice - leadership and management of change in practice. An important goal of this programme is to provide a learning opportunity for delegates to work on practice issues from their own clinical environments during the course. This will then support the practice effectiveness of the programme which is a major goal.

The programme is led by Chair of Faculty John Sedgewick and supported by additional educators who currently work either in clinical practice or universities. The first programme will be delivered by John Sedgewick, Melissa Chamney, Fiona Murphy, Diane Green and Lesley Bennett. In preparation for the programme, the faculty group are meeting in March and May to finalise the programme. This programme, the first of its kind, is an exciting venture for EDTNA/ERCA and represents an important educational venture in providing continuing education for nurses within the Middle East.



**Fresenius Medical Care**

For more information, please contact  
John Sedgewick  
([john.sedgewick@btopenworld.com](mailto:john.sedgewick@btopenworld.com)),  
Education Board Chair.

## PEAK Meets in Israel



On 13-15 February, the Israeli PEAK project meeting took place in a hotel located in the northern part of the country.

Faculty Chair Elisheva Milo and faculty members, Iris Romach, Ayala Siboni, Lesley Bennet and John Sedgewick and three senior nephrologists attended the meeting which was sponsored by Roche Israel.

A group of 28 nurses from all over the country took part in the meeting, most of them senior nurses, as well as Head Nurses,

and Anaemia coordinators, with a BA degree in nursing and post basic nephrology course, or a MA degree.

The program included two debates:

1. Anaemia management - according to guidelines or individualised treatment
2. Patient education, is it needed?

Other topics included Evidence Based Practice, Critical Reading, Maximising Oral Presentations, Writing a Clinical Paper, the Future of Anaemia Treatments.

A succession of high level lectures and interactive workshops, received a raved review from participants, whom were able to exchange knowledge and experience.

Israel musicians took the lead during the networking evening encouraging participants to play Brazilian music. The overall event was highly rated by all participants.

## Calendar of Events

- ▶ **Nederlandse Nefrologiedagen**  
3 - 4 April 2007  
Veldhoven, The Netherlands
- ▶ **The World Congress of Nephrology (WCN) 2007**  
21 - 25 April 2007  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- ▶ **48 Seminar Haus Rissen**  
21 - 22 April 2007  
Hamburg, Germany
- ▶ **SNSF**  
6 - 8 May 2007  
Sweden
- ▶ **5th International Symposium on the Diabetic Foot**  
9 - 12 May 2007  
Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands
- ▶ **Vascular Access Conference**  
11 May 2007  
Melegnano, Italy
- ▶ **PubMed**  
28 - 29 May 2007  
Bologna, Italy
- ▶ **British Renal Society Annual Conference**  
11 - 13 June 2007  
Birmingham, England
- ▶ **ERA-EDTA**  
21 - 24 June 2007  
Barcelona, Spain
- ▶ **EDTNA/ERCA 36<sup>th</sup> International Conference**  
15 - 18 September 2007  
Florence, Italy
- ▶ **SEDEN National Conference**  
4 - 7 October 2007  
Cadiz, Spain
- ▶ **FS Nefro Annual Meeting**  
9 - 11 October 2007  
Denmark
- ▶ **Vascular Access Conference**  
12 October 2007  
Reggio Calabria, Italy



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