

EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR PAEDIATRIC UROLOGY NURSES GROUP (ESPUN)

AFFILIATED WITH THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR PAEDIATRIC UROLOGY (ESPU) 1997

In May the 14th meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Urology Nurse Group, ESPUN, was taken place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. It was 20th anniversary congress of the ESPU. After the foundation in 1989, the first congress of ESPU was organised in Amsterdam 1990. Paediatric nurses and paediatric urotherapists met in Amsterdam to share their experiences and knowledge. The Congress was held at the RAI Forum Complex, southern part of Amsterdam.

Amsterdam is never less than inspiring, with many beautiful canals and monuments, and never less a lot of bicycles. The city is truly unique, throughout the ages; the town has continued to be a melting pot of culture and religions, co-existing and inspiring each other in harmony. The history is what underpins the characteristic and much admires atmosphere of liberality and tolerance.

The aims of the ESPUN are to share knowledge and experiences between nurses and other paramedical staff in paediatric urology and continence, increase the quality of care for children suffering from these problems as well as support nurses and urotherapists in their professions and research. The nurse group now has 84 members and there are 13 countries represented in ESPUN.

The objectives of the ESPUN are also to develop and maintain an international network group in pediatric urology nursing. Further ESPUN strive to raise the profile of the group by promoting educational activities such as annual conference with paper presented by members and workshops about clinical cases and problems.

English is the official language of the ESPUN but not the first language of all members.

All nurses were invited to attend a language course, sponsored by Astra Tech. The course had 25 participants and there was a lot of learning in the group both language and socially.

The ESPUN scientific meeting had 4 sessions; Bladder exstrophy/epispadia/hypospadias, Neuropathic bladder, Clinical practice and Dysfunctional voiding. There were two workshops: How can you motivate children to manage their own bladder dysfunction? moderated by Janet Fishwick, UK, Anka Nieuwhof-Leppink, NL and Ellen Janhsen, Germany.

The Research school continued with: What is the difference between quantitative and qualitative studies? Moderate by Birgitta Lindehall and Ulla-Britt Jansson, from Sweden were responsible for this education.

The ESPUN prizes for the nurses; Brigitte Seliner, Switzerland received the prize for best research paper; Living with bladder exstrophy and Janet Fishwick, UK for the best clinical practice; Multidisciplinary bladder exstrophy outpatient clinic: Patient centred joint working.

This was the last year for Ulla-Britt Jansson, Sweden as the president of the European Society for Paediatric Urology Nurse group and we would like to thank her for her excellent work to raise the nurse group and bring the group forward in research. We also welcome our new president, Ellen Janhsen, Germany and wish her and the new board good luck in the future.

Monika Doroszkiewicz, ESPUN secretary,
Gothenburg 090518