



International Pediatric Association

# Vewsletter

ISSN 2410-7069 | Year 2022 Vol 16. Issue 1

#### **IPA Executive Committee 2021-2023**

President: Dr. Enver Hasanoğlu - Turkey

Executive Director: Dr. Aman B Pulungan - Indonesia

President-Elect: Dr. Naveen Thacker - India Treasurer: Dr. Jonathan Klein - USA

Coordinator of Development: Dr. Linda Arnold - USA

Past President: Dr. Errol Alden - USA

IPA Congress 2023 President: Dr. Bakul J Parekh - India

Dr. Joseph Haddad - Lebanon

Dr. Leyla Namazova-Baranova - Russia

#### **IPA Standing Committee 2021-2023**

Dr. Manzoor Hussain - Bangladesh (APPA)

Dr. M. Ashraf Sultan - Pakistan (APPA)

Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura - Japan (APPA)

Dr. Sally Goza - USA (AAP)

Dr. Sam Wong - Canada (CPS)

Dr. Oswaldo Revelo - El Savador (ALAPE)

Dr. Carlos G A Rivera - Mexico (ALAPE)

Dr. Madeleine A Folquet - Côte d'Ivoire (UNAPSA)

Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye - Senegal (UNAPSA)

Dr. Adamos Hadjipanayis - Cyprus (EAP/PS-UEMS)

Dr. Mansour Bahrami - Iran (UNPSTR)

Dr. Koray Boduroglu - Turkey (UNPSTR)

Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh - Palestine (UAPS)

Dr. Kevin Forsyth - Australia (IPALA)

Dr. Berthold V Koletzko - Germany (FISPGHAN)

Dr. Raúl G Mercer - Argentina (ISSOP)

Dr. Susan Sawyer - Australia (IAAH)

Dr. Mortada El-Shabrawi - Egypt (ISTP)

Dr. Sameh Shehata - Egypt (WOFAPS)

#### ISSN 2410-7069

© 2014 All rights reserved by the International Pediatric Association (IPA)

### **Edition Summary**

» Message from the President	02
» From Executive Director's Desk	03
» IPA Newsletter Editorial	04
» "A Generation at Risk"	05
» IPA Statements at the WHO Regional Committee and Special Sessions of WHA	07
» IPA Webinar on COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Routine Immunization in the background of COVID-19	10
» IPA Webinar on Effects of Climate Change on Child Health	11
» IPA Activity Recap	13
» IPA Regional Activity Recap	18
» Announcements	20

#### **IPA Newsletter**

#### **Editor-in-Chief:**

Dr. Zulkifli Ismail - Malaysia

Assistant Editor-in-Chief:

Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh - Palestine

Write to us:

editor.ipanews@ipa-world.org

#### **IPA Administrative Office**

Dr. Amajida Fadia - Indonesia Alya Qisthina - Indonesia Helena Arnetta Puteri - Indonesia Iqlima Nuril Kamilah - Indonesia

#### Follow us on:

Instagram

ipaworld\_org

Facebook

International Pediatric Association **IPAWorldorg** 

🕥 Twitter

LinkedIn

The International Pediatric Association

www.ipa-world.org







## Message from the President



Dear Colleagues,

Now we are all welcoming 2022 with both challenges and hope. Our struggle with COVID-19 continues despite vaccines. Vaccines are available for some but there are inequalities in distribution and access. However there

are many countries especially among the more developed countries with full access to vaccines who are facing serious vaccine hesitancy and anti vaccine protests. After the Omicron variant countries are increasing their measures we hope it will not come to school closure which should be the latest. IPA will continue to advocate against inequalities and reach out more and more professionals to tackle vaccine hesitancy and build vaccine trust.

Year 2021 not only continued to host COVID-19 but also many extreme weather events which called on all the nations to take urgent measures to stop global warming. We know we will continue to struggle with climate change in 2022, but we carry the hope that COP26, the UN Climate Conference in Glasgow will speed up countries. IPA will work to increase the awareness of pediatricians and child health workers, and work in collaboration with other parties to create solutions for pediatricians and families.

The State of the World's Children 2021 focused on children's mental health for the first ever. COVID-19 has brought a great burden on children's mental health which the climate crisis is expected to increase. Besides, conflict, migration, poverty are other challenges which bring greater burden. Starting from responsive

caregiving and providing safe and secure family environments - two of the 5 components of "Nurturing Care" - pediatricians have to support families, children and youth for mental health. IPA will collaborate with mental health workers to overcome the stigma, for increased awareness, for community support as well as early diagnosis and intervention of mental health problems.

It has already been shown that the most cost effective interventions are those related to maternal-child health, adolescent well being, water and sanitation and education. Each intervention already has its challenges for accomplishment to leave no one behind. However the COVID-19 shut downs brought up another inequality to the surface; "digital divide". The digital media has all its problems with itself contributing to physical inactivity, bullying and abuse, commercialism just a few to list. However as it nests the bad it also is very valuable for the knowledge and data it contains. It was through the internet that we continued to interact, to have many meetings, webinars and conferences. The inequality to reach the internet has already posed a negative impact on education for many children. We have to learn to get the best of the knowledge on the internet, protect the children from the bad and advocate for a more equal Access for all.

These are only a few of the challenges to achieve SDGs, fulfill the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and to reach "Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere". IPA has the hope of collaboration with partners, IPA has the hope of children and youth voices.

Happy and Healthy New Year

Prof. Enver Hasanoğlu

**IPA President** 







### From Executive Director's Desk



Dear colleagues,

Since the first case COVID-19 was reported, we are now marking 2 years of the pandemic. Although children tend to have more mild diseases compared to adults, they risk being among most affected. the particularly those

who are already in vulnerable situations or disadvantaged. Aside from the socio-economic impact and disruption in education, the global COVID-19 data showed that many countries have reported deaths in both children and adolescents.

As the only global body representing the professional societies of paediatricians across the globe, IPA has always been working as one of the leading advocates for the children's rights of which includes their rights of health in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic. At the Second Special Session of the World Health Assembly on 29 November to 1 December 2021, we voiced several key points that must be taken into consideration by the World Health Organization (WHO) while developing the convention, agreement, international other instrument pandemic preparedness and response. Our statement emphasized the importance of routine immunization, COVID-19 vaccination school children. and health previously also had been advocated by IPA on Agenda Item 11: "School Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic" at the 72nd Session

of the WHO Regional Committee for Western Pacific

Children's education and mental well-being have suffered immensely due to school closures in the past two years. COVID-19 vaccination in children should be encouraged and distributed equally to safely reopen the school as their health is the utmost priority. IPA strongly supports the distribution of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines for children. On December 15th, we held a webinar on "COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Routine Immunization in the Background of COVID-19", reaching out 1,222 people from 121 different countries, to further disseminate the importance of this issue. In the following month, "IPA Statement on COVID-19 in Children and Safety of COVID-19 Immunization in Children" was officially published as guidance for paediatricians across the globe.

The burden caused by the Delta variant has not been entirely passed while the Omicron variant spreads in early 2022 with unprecedented speed. We are in dire need of cross-border collaboration to effectively curb the transmission of coronavirus and put an end to this pandemic. Being the umbrella of 165 paediatric member societies, IPA will continuously work side by side with our members, partners, and other international organizations to assure that every child, every age, everywhere get the full benefit that COVID-19 vaccines can provide with no one left behind.

**Prof. Aman B Pulungan** 

IPA Executive Director





### **IPA Newsletter Editorial**



#### The Intertwining of Politics and Economics with Child Health

Greetings from the editorial board and wishing everybody a happy new year as we climb out of 2021.

This is our first issue in 2022 which also started with the Chinese (Lunar) New Year of the tiger, a supposedly auspicious animal.

In the last few months we have read about, and watched, the collapse of a government in Lebanon. To those who remember, decades ago Lebanon recovered from a devastating civil war resulting in political reconciliation to rebuild itself into a cosmopolitan and peaceful country with Beirut becoming a beautiful capital by the Mediterranean Sea.

In this issue, the editorial team has invited our Lebanese colleague, Prof Joseph Haddad to write about the situation of child health in his country resulting immediately from the collapse of the government. While many may say that paediatricians should not officially discuss political and sensitive issues, we cannot deny the fact that political decisions and fiscal calculations will affect the most vulnerable and voiceless individuals, the children followed by the women. With the beneficiaries of political decisions being children, keeping quiet is not an option and is akin to burying our heads in the sand.

While we wait for more pediatricians to be involved in politics and become country leaders, the least we can do is to write and discuss the issues and fallout resulting from such political misadventures originating from human greed. We hope that we can all learn from Prof Haddad's report and connect the dots relating to child health and well-being. Our heartfelt condolences go to the people, especially the children, of Lebanon.

Also in this issue are many reports on IPA's involvement with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and our participation at the World Health Assembly (WHA). A few national associations have also involved IPA in their annual congresses and the reports are included so more countries and regional associations will follow this trend.

2021 was a year of slow recovery from the pandemic that set the impetus for the widespread use of social media and online meetings and conferences. With new more easily transmissible variants of the SARS-Cov2 virus evolving, it looks like international travel and face-to-face meetings will still be on hold. Hybrid conferences will be the future norm and we are fortunate that we live in an era when these are available to stay connected and be updated. The 17th Asia Pacific Congress of Paediatrics (APCP) will happen on 10-13th March in Lahore, Pakistan and as expected, the cost of running the hybrid conference is higher. We still hope to see some of you there.

Stay safe, stay connected and Happy New Year from all of us.

Prof. Zulkifli Ismail

Editor-in-Chief





# A Generation at Risk!

ebanon is in the midst of a rapidly escalating, unprecedented humanitarian crisis that is plunging the country deep into poverty and threatens population well-being, economic development, social welfare and national and regional stability. The dire situation is due to the compounding effects of the August 2020 Beirut blast, massive economic collapse and the COVID-19 pandemic, in a setting of longstanding entrenched political corruption and a dysfunctional, mismanaged crisis response by the state. This current emergency occurs on the background of a turbulent history and complex regional geopolitical context - including the Syrian refugee crisis, the ongoing influence of foreign actors and their local proxies (West vs East influences), the United-States-imposed sanctions, endemic corruption, a culture of nepotism and entitlement among the political dynasties, dysfunctional power-sharing and deep-seated sectarian divides. With over half the population now living in poverty, a generation of children are among those at risk. The current situation is widely described as the worst economic crisis in Lebanon's turbulent modern history. The World Bank has recently reported that the economic and financial collapse is among the most severe globally since the mid-19th century.

# The Impact on Children of Lebanon's Complex Crisis Schooling

Even prior to the Beirut blast, which left at least 183 schools damaged and is estimated to have affected access to learning and education support for more than 85,000 children and youth, there were reports that 1,600 schools would close due to the economic crisis, and many children had

been withdrawn from schools due to economic hardship. Moreover, COVID-19 has further impacted educational access. It is estimated that at least one in four children in Beirut are now at risk of dropping out of school and 40% of school aged Syrian refugee children are not enrolled in any type of learning. Access to education is further threatened by the imminent lifting of subsidies, with many children likely to either be transferred from private to public schools and others likely to forgo education completely as spending on food is prioritized over schooling, and as others are forced into child labor to support household incomes.

#### **Child labor**

Increasing rates of child labor have been reported since October 2019, including an increase in the number of children identified as being the sole breadwinners in their households. Food insecurity is a main trigger for sending children to work, with increasing numbers of children being forced into income-generating activities due to escalating economic distress. Children engaged in work and labor spend most of their time on the streets, where they are at high risk of exposure to exploitation. Child works seven days a week, with no days off for rest or play.





#### Child marriage

Rates of child marriage are reportedly increasing in Lebanon, particularly among Syrian refugee girls, to reduce the financial bu den on families

#### Health and nutrition

The direct health impacts of Lebanon's multiple crises on children are pronounced, and include an increased number of children aged under 5 years with acute malnutrition. UNICEF reported that in March 2021, 30% of families in 1,244 households surveyed had at least one child who skipped a meal or went to bed hungry, and 77% of all households (99% of Syrian households) indicated that they did not have enough food or enough money to purchase food. Access to safe water is increasingly an issue, with 20% of households reporting insufficient drinking water. There have also been marked reductions in uptake and coverage of routine child immunizations, with a 43% decrease reported in private clinics, a 31% decrease at the national level, and 77% of pediatricians reporting a decrease in routine immunization. UNICEF reports that 30% of children are not receiving the primary health care they require, and 76% of households are impacted by soaring medication prices. "Period poverty" is also increasing with two-thirds of adolescent girls having no means of purchasing sanitary products, and many resorting to other measures to manage their periods, including newspaper, old rags, baby diapers or not leaving the house.

Physical and mental health problems are projected to continue to increase among children in Lebanon. Refugee and vulnerable children experience additional and particular psychosocial concerns, including, among Syrian refugee boys, a fear of violence and being targeted by the Lebanese authorities

and surrounding communities and fear about their future in Lebanon given the political and economic breakdown.

#### **Gender-based violence**

An increase in violence against children and gender-based violence have been reported. Girls and women are at an increased risk of physical and sexual violence and exploitation.

#### In conclusion

Lebanon was previously making modest progress towards achieving a number of the child-related sustainable development goals, but the current multifaceted crisis is reversing developmental gains. The adverse impacts on Lebanon's children span a range of domains and threaten every aspect of child wellbeing in both the immediate and longer terms.

Yes, Generations yielded from the womb of a corrupted world are at risk. No doubt that the Lebanese scenery is replicated in many other parts of the world.

The world is becoming Dangerous for our children and their families.

Is it Time to act and how? .....

**Prof. Joseph Haddad**Beirut, Lebanon

Executive Committee Member of IPA



#### Reference:

- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Lebanon: Children's Future on the Line. (2021). Available online at: https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/ media/6541/fil
- 2. Save the Children. "I Don't Know How We Will Survive Lebanon Children Hit Hard by Price Hikes and Rising Insecurity. (2021). Available online at: https://www.savethechildren.net/news/i-don't-know-how-we-will-survive-lebanon-children-hit-hard-price-hikes-and-rising-insecurity





# IPA Statements at the WHO Regional Committee and Special Sessions of WHA

# The 68th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Eastern Mediterranean Region

t the 68th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Eastern Mediterranean Region that was held on 11-14 October 2021, Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh and Dr. M Ashraf Sultan submitted IPA statements on two agenda items below.

# Agenda 2 (f): Regional framework on ending preventable newborn, child, and adolescent deaths and improving health and development

Despite all implemented global strategies, frameworks, and action plans, many countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region still have high mortality rates in infants and children under 5 years of age. A global coalition is essential to develop and ensure the success of a regional framework to prevent newborn, children, and adolescent death. In order to have a proper framework, there are organized steps that must be taken to ensure a safe and secure environment. Read the full statement here: <a href="https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=419">https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=419</a>

# Agenda 2 (k): COVID 19 preparedness and response activities in the Region

Although the Coronavirus pandemic is more anticipated than Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, the handling of the situation has led many to believe the world was not well prepared. We should prepare better, and WHO should provide the blueprint of guidelines document to handle future epidemics with several main focuses. Read the full statement here: https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=420





Left-Right: Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh (IPA Standing Committee, Palestine) and Dr. M. Ashraf Sultan (IPA Standing Committee, Pakistan).

# The 72nd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Western Pacific

Prof. Kevin Forsyth, Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura, and Prof. Aman Pulungan submitted statements that voiced concerns, positions and recommendations at the 72nd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Western Pacific on 25 to 29 October 2021





# IPA Statements at the WHO Regional Committee and Special Sessions of WHA







Left-Right: Prof. Aman Pulungan (IPA Executive Director, Indonesia), Prof. Kevin Forsyth (IPA Standing Committee, Australia), Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura (IPA Standing Committee, Japan).

# Agenda Item 11: School Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic

School Health is one of the most urgent issues for health and wellbeing of children during the COVID-19 pandemic. IPA urges the need for action to support the health of "Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere" from all sectors and all member states. IPA requested the WPRO member states to take into consideration several matters that address the needs of children related to school health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the full statement here: <a href="https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=421">https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=421</a>

# Agenda Item 14.4: Reaching the Unreached through strengthening of the Child Health Workforce

IPA supports the aspirations of the UN towards the SDG's and the WHO 2030 workforce aspiration. IPA is determined to be active in supporting such expansion and development of the child health workforce, seeking to harmonize and strengthen the activity that happens globally around workforce development, education/training, and leadership development, and in

addition actively support the Workforce agenda of the WHO and the UN through supporting training in the SDG's. Read the full statement here: https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=422

# Second Special Session of the World Health Assembly

r. Anggraini Alam delivered a live statement on behalf of IPA at the Second Special Session of the World Health Assembly (WHASS2) on 29 November to 1 December 2021.

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of the benefits of developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response with a view towards the establishment of an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate such convention, agreement or international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response, taking into account the report of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and **Response to Health Emergencies** 

As part of a way forward, the WGPR drafted a report and proposed several conclusions for consideration the WHASS. by urges the WHO take to into account children's health when identifying tools to implement recommendations and develop proposals to strengthen the IHR (2005). IPA emphasized 4 points to be taken





# IPA Statements at the WHO Regional Committee and Special Sessions of WHA

into account while developing a WHO convention, agreement, or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response. Read the full statement here: https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=423



Dr. Anggraini Alam (Member of IPA SAG on COVID-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Infectious Disease, Indonesia).

# The 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board

r. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh delivered a live statement on behalf of IPA at the 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board (EB150) on 24-29 January 2022. The statement was prepared by Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh (Co-chair of IPA SAG on Children in Humanitarian Emergencies), Dr. Özlem Tekşam (Co-chair of IPA SAG on Children in Humanitarian Emergencies), and Dr. Kurniawan Taufiq Kadafi (Member of IPA SAG on Children in Humanitarian Emergencies).

# Agenda Item 15.1: Strengthening WHO Preparedness for and Response to Health Emergencies and 15.2: Standing Committee on Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness and Response

WHO proposed on the establishment of a new Executive Board Standing Committee Committee: the Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness and Response and the WGPR drafted an interim report on the recommendations and their applicability for strengthening WHO as well as enhancing global preparedness and response to pandemics, and other health emergencies. IPA, by emphasizing 6 points, urges the WHO to take into account children's health in health emergencies implementing recommendations in order to propose actions for the WHO Secretariat, Member States, and non-State actors. Read and watch the full statement here: https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=426



Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh (Co-Chair of IPA SAG on Children in Humanitarian Emergencies, Palestine).



# IPA Webinar on COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Routine Immunization in the Background of COVID-19

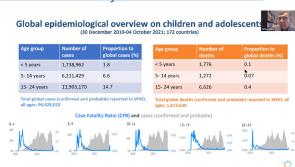
n 15 December 2021, the International Pediatric Association Vaccine Trust Project conducted a webinar on "COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Routine Immunization in the background of COVID-19" with support from Sanofi Pasteur. The IPA President, Dr. Enver Hasanoglu, delivered a speech to welcome 1,222 attendees from 121 different countries across the globe.

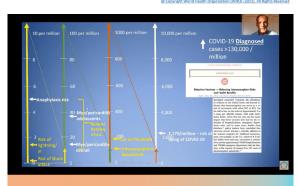
Comprehensive presentations by Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta and Dr. Evan Anderson covered updates on the COVID-19 burden in the world, its adverse impact on routine immunization, including the availability of the vaccines, their effectiveness, and their safety in pediatric populations. An in-depth panel discussion with Dr. Eli Somekh, Dr. Eduardo Lopez, Dr. Hasan Tezer, Dr. Catherine Weill-Olivier, Dr. Hans Jürgen Dornbusch, and Dr. Deogratias Munube where each panelist shared their perspective on COVID-19 in their respective region/country and what is being done to address it.

In the end, Dr. Orenstein summarized, "We need to get better data on safety and effectiveness of vaccines and overcome the hesitancy issue, which is certainly a major problem in several countries in the world. Therefore, it was clear that we needed adults and getting the children back to school. We would need to have programs and targets on this matter so that it would be helpful for the children's health." Followed by Dr. Miguel O'Ryan, "As the indirect effects of COVID-19 in children have been supreme, especially school closure, we need to advance very quickly on Covid-19 vaccination in children. Maybe in the future pandemic, we need to

think about what we need to do if we had a similar epidemiological situation."

The webinar was then adjourned with the closing remarks of Dr. Naveen Thacker-President-Elect IPA and Course Director, Online IPA Vaccine Trust Course. The post-webinar survey showed that participants were highly satisfied with the technicality of the webinar including the quality of the simultaneous interpretation, the subject of the webinar, and the knowledgeable and experienced speakers. Most of the survey participants answered that they would recommend others to watch the webinar recording that is available on the IPA YouTube Channel link below: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gye830YO418&t=714s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gye830YO418&t=714s</a>





Top-Bottom: "Routine Immunization in the Background of COVID-19" by Dr. Zulfigar Bhutta and "COVID-19" accines



# Joint Webinar by IPA, AAP, IPS, and TNPS: "Effects of Climate Change on Child Health" •—



27 January 2022, the International **Pediatric** Association, in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics, Turkish National Pediatric Society and the Indonesian Pediatric Society conducted the joint webinar: "Effects of Climate Change on Child Health". Uniting over 1,700 registrants from all over the world, the "Effects of Climate Change on Child Health" webinar discusses climate change from the perspectives of its impact on child health, to better equip not only pediatricians and healthcare professionals, but also the general population, with the understanding, knowledge and tools needed to take action to protect our children and their future.

The webinar commenced with opening remarks from Prof. Enver Hasanoglu, as IPA President, who highlighted the urgency and threats that climate change brings to over 1 billion children across

the globe. The important message highlighted by Prof. Hasanoglu was further reinforced by Mr. Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Minister of Health, Republic of Indonesia, in his keynote address. Led by Prof. Aman Pulungan and Dr. Janna Patterson as moderators of the session, four distinguished speakers from Indonesia, the United States and Turkey, discussed climate change from various perspectives.

The presentations began with Dr. Aparna Bole from the United States, who urged that solutions that tackle the issue of climate change are child health solutions and shed light on actions that the healthcare industry can take to minimize their impact on the climate crisis. Dr. Bole's presentation was then followed by Prof. Elif Özmert from Turkey, who focused on the impacts of the climate crisis on early childhood development, encouraged parents and healthcare professionals alike to implement responsive caregiving





that not only addresses the physical health of our children, but also their mental and emotional wellbeing.

The third presenter is Prof. Ruth Etzel from the United States, who discussed specific case studies concerning the climate crisis and adolescents. The presentation session reached its conclusion with Dr. Kurniawan Taufiq Kadafi, who specifically shared the relationship between the climate crisis and a range of disasters, as well as highlighting first hand experiences in dealing with the needs of children in the field of disasters in Indonesia.

The participants' enthusiasm was clearly depicted during the question and answer session, where the panel received a large number of inquiries from participants all over the world. The webinar concluded with a certificate presentation and photo session with all the speakers, moderators, guests and participants.





#### October 2021

# IFMSA Online Panel Discussion: "Back to School: Your Role in Health Literacy"

Represented by Prof. Aman Pulungan (IPA Executive Director), IPA was invited to become one of the panelists in the online panel discussion: "Back to School: Your Role in Health Literacy" hosted by the International Federation of Medical Students Association (IFMSA) on October 30, 2021. With the pandemic affecting many school-attending children, it is crucial to explore ways the youth can tackle issues such as vaccination, mental health and sexuality

education. Prof. Pulungan raised his concern about the disruption of immunization follow-up and healthy food and diet advocacy in school in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic. "We have to increase awareness about the pandemic. Our youth and adolescents play an important role in advocating for school health. We have to teach and make them aware of our problems. They have to be champions, leaders, and agents of change" urged Prof. Pulungan.



Top (Left-Right): Aarya Shah (Moderator, IFMSA), Prof. Albert Lee (Panelist, Founding Director, Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion, Chinese University of Hong Kong), Ms. Beena Kuttiparambil (Panelist, Chief Adolescent Development, UNICEF Tajikistan). Bottom (Left-Right): Dr. Norieta Balderrama (Panelist, Head, Mental Health and Wellness Services, Child Protection Unit, Philippine General Hospital), Prof. Aman Pulungan (Panelist, Executive Director, IPA), Joshua Tan (Moderator, IFMSA).

### November 2021

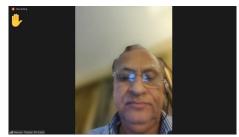
# WHO Fourth Strategic and Technical Advisory Group of Experts (STAGE) Meeting for Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (MNCAHN)

PA supports WHO STAGE for MNCAHN recommendations on various agendas such as vaccines for children, outpatient management of possible severe bacterial infectious (PSBI) in newborn, anemia global action plan, addressing the post neonatal child mortality for at risk children, and improving breastfeeding and mitigating the marketing of breast milk substitutes. At the WHO Fourth STAGE Meeting for

MNCAHN on 9 to 11 November 2021, **Prof. Aman Pulungan** (IPA Executive Director) and **Dr. Naveen Thacker** (IPA President-Elect) represented IPA to voice concerns and highlighted the importance of involving pediatricians' inputs and pediatric societies on these matters to the STAGE members and other delegates present. IPA proposed a change in the system, urging WHO, regions, and all countries to involve more roles from







Left-Right: **Prof. Aman Pulungan** (IPA Executive Director) and **Dr. Naveen Thacker** (IPA President-Elect) delivered input during the WHO Fourth STAGE Meeting for MNCAHN.

pediatric societies. IPA is ready to work together with all stakeholders and will fully support information to IPA's large network of pediatric societies to move forward for the health of "Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere".

### IPA at the 25th Anniversary of Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians





Left-Right: Prof. Shaman Rajindrajith gave a welcome speech; Prof. Enver Hasanoglu, IPA President, delivered a keynote address.

n the year 2021, the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians (SLCP) celebrates its 25th anniversary by hosting a hybrid international conference on November 11, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The president of SLCP, Prof. Shaman Rajindrajith, delivered a welcome speech begin the "Expanding Horizons: Global Collaboration to Improve Child Healthcare in the New Normal World" which subsequently followed session with a keynote address by Prof. Enver Hasanoglu, the IPA President. Esteemed global speakers were invited in the conference, including Prof. Aman Pulungan (President, Asia Pacific Pediatric Association) and Dr. Naveen Thacker (President-Elect, IPA), who presented the "Double Burden of Malnutrition" and "Vaccination of Children against COVID" topic respectively in the session.

On behalf of IPA, Prof. Enver Hasanoglu virtually signed the "Colombo Declaration on Global Collaboration to Improve Child Health Care in the New Normal World" while congratulating the organizing committee that was Co-Chaired by Prof. Shaman Rajindrajith and **Dr. Surantha Perera** from SLCP. Afterward, **Dr. Naveen Thacker**, IPA President-Elect who was also the Co-Chair of the Conference, virtually signed the declaration.







**The Colombo Declaration**, supported by SLCP, the Ministry of Health of Sri Lanka, IPA, APPA, South Asian Paediatric Association (SAPA), Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP), Pakistan Paediatric Association (PPA), Bangladesh Paediatric Association (BPA), Nepal Paediatric Society (NEPAS), and Afghanistan Paediatric Association (APA).

#### December 2021

#### IPA President Speech at EAP Winter Meeting 2021

n 3 to 4 December, European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP) held the virtual EAP Winter Meeting 2021. During the General Assembly Session that was chaired by **Prof. Adamos Hadjipanayis**, the EAP President, **Prof. Enver Hasanoglu** was invited to deliver a speech as the esteemed President of IPA. Prof. Hasanoglu expressed his gratitude for the invitation and the concern of IPA on the ongoing direct and indirect effect of COVID-19 pandemic on children, especially the effects of "online school" on mental health and the fact that not all children have the basic human right to receive COVID-19 vaccination yet. Prof. Hasanoglu

further elaborated in his speech, "On this issue, as an IPA, communicated with global and local authorities to improve this situation, held, and still holding webinars to raise awareness regarding the effects of pandemic on children's physical and mental health. EAP is one of the most powerful associates that we happily work with for years. As IPA, we appreciate its efforts on children's health, and we would like to continue working with you together in harmony".



### IPA at the WHO BioHub System Technical Consultation

rom October to December 2021, **Dr. Ashraf Sultan**, Co-Chair of IPA SAG on COVID-19,
 Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Infectious Disease; and **Dr. Nina Dwi Putri**, IPA Expert, attended the WHO BioHub System Technical Consultation Invite. The consultation is part





of a series of technical consultation sessions aimed to help design the WHO BioHub System through an inclusive, iterative and consultative process on several key topics with various stakeholders including relevant non-state actors. The series of consultations were held on 28 October, 19 November, and 9 December 2021, focusing on topics such as researchers' needs

and contribution to the future pandemic system, approaches to handling Genetic Sequence Data for the future pandemic system, intellectual property and the WHO BioHub System, and IPA has been ready to become a partner of all parties to ensure that every child, every age, everywhere receives the protection and care they deserve.





Left-Right: **Dr. Ashraf Sultan** (Co-Chair of IPA SAG on Covid-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Infectious Disease) and **Dr. Nina Dwi Putri** (IPA Expert) as IPA representatives at the WHO BioHub System Technical Consultation Sessions

# IPA at the Virtual Informal Consultation on Well Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Programming





Left-Right: **Dr. Naveen Thacker** (IPA President-Elect) and **Dr. Jonathan Klein** (Co-Chair of IPA SAG on Adolescent Health) delivered input during the WHO Virtual Informal Consultation on Well Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Programming.

Klein, Co-Chair of IPA SAG on Adolescent Health, attended the WHO Virtual Informal Consultation on Well Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Programming. The consultation reviewed, discussed and generated consensus on the proposed scheduling contacts, package of interventions and the draft program guidance document. This WHO and UNICEF guidance aims to help move from a limited primary health care agenda for mortality to a broader full PHC agenda of health and wellness, including a focus on adolescent health and well-being, support for children's development, addresses equity issues, and the Survive, Thrive, Transform Global Strategy for Health based on principles which include a child's right to survive, thrive, and recognizing the shift for communicable and NCDs. It is emphasized that





there is much that the health sector can do to improve primary care and promote wellness for children and adolescents, and much also that can and should be done in partnership with other sectors of government and civil society. Both need to be supported and move forward to achieve global goals for child and adolescent health and ensure that IPA's goals for children are supported and achieved.

#### IPA at the 5th RPA Annual Scientific Conference











Left-Right: **Dr. Errol Alden**, **Dr. Linda Arnold**, **Dr. William Keenan** (Co-Chairs of IPA SAG on Newborn Health and Survival), **Dr. Ashraf Sultan** (Co-Chair of IPA SAG on Covid-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Infectious Disease), and **Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh** (IPA Standing Committee) as IPA representatives at the 5th RPA Annual Scientific Conference.

n 15 and 16 December, Rwanda Paediatric Association held their 5th Annual Scientific Conference and the launch of the RPA Strategic Plan 2021-2025. The conference was held in a hybrid format with the theme "Promoting Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health Care Delivery Through Evidence Based Practices, Advocacy, and Research in Rwanda". IPA was represented by Dr. Errol Alden, Dr. Linda Arnold, and Dr. William Keenan as Co-Chairs of the IPA SAG on Newborn Health and Survival; Dr. Ashraf Sultan as Co-Chair of the IPA SAG on Covid-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Infectious Disease; and Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh as an esteemed member of the IPA Standing Committee 2021-2023. The conference carried out topics on improving the quality of care among sick and small newborns,

general pediatrics, adolescent health, health care delivery amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and optimizing and sustaining newborn, child and adolescent health quality of care and challenges around its provision. As the leading voice of child's health globally, IPA is delighted to be a partner of this event. Read the RPA Strategic Plan 2021-2025 here: https://ipa-world.org/society-resources/code/images/iFhcCLSkPINyjzX RPA-Strategic-Plan-2021-2025.pdf

**Reported by:** Dr. Amajida Fadia, Alya Qisthina, Iqlima Nuril Kamilah IPA Admin Office





# Asia Pacific REGION

### **Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA)**

Asia Pacific Pediatric Association, NCD Child and CLAN Child Health Regional Workshop: "The Impact of COVID-19 on Obesity and Diabetes in the Asia-Pacific Region



he COVID-19 pandemic has resulted I in unprecedented impacts on child health globally, including the rise of obesity amongst children and adolescents as well as a disruption in diabetes care. The Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA), in collaboration with NCD Child and CLAN Child Health, conducted the workshop, "The Impact of COVID-19 on Obesity and Diabetes in the Asia-Pacific Region". Gathering speakers and participants from all over the Asia-Pacific Region, this regional workshop aims to provide a forum for focused collaboration and evidence-sharing on obesity and diabetes as well as learning opportunities for students and young people, especially those living with obesity and/or diabetes, to strengthen their advocacy efforts.

Beginning the workshop with opening remarks from Prof. Aman Pulungan as the President of APPA and Dr. Kate Armstrong from CLAN Child Health, the two-day workshop was then packed with two keynote

speakers, a panel discussion and breakout room sessions that covered a range of topics from leadership, maximizing the use of social media to intimate discussions on obesity and diabetes in the region.

On Day 1, the workshop was honoured to have Mr. Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Minister of Health, Republic of Indonesia, as the keynote speaker of the session. His keynote address was then followed by a panel discussion with Pat Spellman from New Zealand (Board member of the Diabetes Foundation), Dr. Louise Baur from Australia (Senior consultant paediatrician at the Children's Sydney Hospitals Network and President-Elect of the World Obesity Federation) and Prof. Jamal Raza from Pakistan (Executive Director, Sindh Institute of Child Health and Neonatology). On Day 2, the workshop began with a keynote address from Dr. Rekha Harish (Professor of Pediatrics, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences and Research India).







## **Asia Pacific Region**

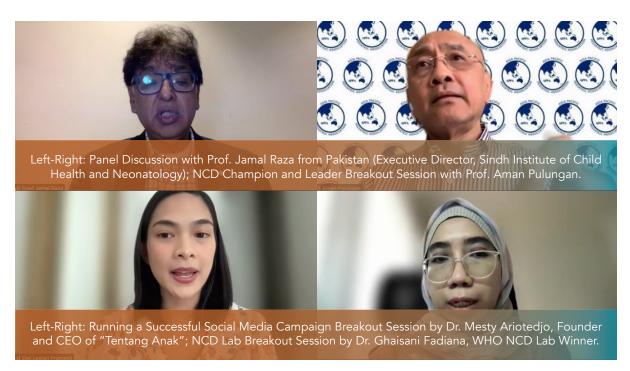


Both days of the workshop were graced by distinguished speakers in breakout room sessions, where participants were able to select 4 out of the 6 breakout rooms offered.

The first breakout session featured a discussion on NCD Champions and Leaders by Prof. Aman Pulungan, a senior pediatric endocrinologist who has years of experience as a leader and advocate not

only in the Asia-Pacific region, but across the globe. The second breakout session was offered by Dr. Ghaisani Fadiana, a pediatric endocrinologist from Indonesia, who shared about her diabetes education project and experience as the WHO NCD Lab Winner. The third breakout session featured Dr. Mesty Ariotedjo, Founder and CEO of the child developmental platform "Tentang Anak", who shared about running a successful social media campaign.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts raised to child obesity and diabetes throughout the region, it is imperative to unite all parties to raise awareness of challenges for children and young people living with obesity and diabetes. Through this regional workshop, we hope that nations across Asia-Pacific are able to work together towards a future where no child with obesity or diabetes are left behind.





# **Europe** REGION

### **European Paediatric Association (EPA/UNEPSA)**

#### **CLOSING A CHALLENGING 2021 YEAR**

EPA-UNEPSA and IPA joined forces to propose their Viewpoint and Recommendations on Global Emergencies in Child Health: Challenges and Solutions

(https://www.jpeds.com/article/S0022-

**1**021 has been both a memorable and Zforgettable year. None of us have escaped unharmed in our personal or professional lives. We end a two years period marked by a global pandemic that has taken the lives of millions people globally, and has worsened and made more visible social and economic inequities that disproportionately affect different communities worldwide. In particular, children suffered the effects of a pandemic, which has very often aggravated their personal condition already afflicted by preexisting emergencies. The pandemic, like other socio-economic issues of our time, has been politicized and has further polarized already polarized societies. People were forced to distance physically, and educational institutions across the globe closed, with an impact on everyday lives of millions of children, further affecting vulnerable and disadvantaged communities that rely on education for many needs other than learning.

In 2021 global emergencies, including natural disasters, epidemics, drought, armed conflicts, and the SARSCoV-2 pandemic, have hit populations on five continents, causing devastating socioeconomic effects. Children are a most vulnerable and defenseless group and in tense situations, they feel overwhelmed and insecure and are often left to their own devices. Their rights to protection

and integrity are threatened.

Among the several international activities performed in the period October 2021-January 2022, the European Pediatric Association the Union of the National European Pediatrics Societies and Associations (EPA-UNEPSA) together with the International Pediatric Association (IPA), organized a joint conference on October 9, 2021, in Zagreb, Croatia, to discuss the issue of global emergencies in pediatrics and their significant economic and social impact. Delegates discussed the challenges posed by a wide variety of emergencies in the context of increasing global complexities, while also exploring possible solutions.

The IPA and EPA-UNEPSA, developed a final joint statement published in the Journal of Pediatrics (https://www.jpeds.com/article/S0022-3476(21)01052-0/fulltext) including their viewpoint and recommendations to be disseminated to governments, legislators and civil society worldwide, with the aim to raise their awareness and urge solutions to the serious needs of children.

IPA and EPA-UNEPSA strongly recommended that countries develop, reorganize, and strengthen their health systems to address the social and environmental issues caused by global







# **Europe Region**

emergencies, to enable more efficient and effective allocation and use of available resources for disaster preparedness and emergency response resources in communities. The joint statement emphasizes the importance of active involvement of all stakeholders, including governments and healthcare professionals. Their joint effort should focus on developing strategic partnerships with key international constituencies, such as the diplomatic, nongovernmental, legal, and academic communities, and the media with the aim of providing adequate support to infants, children, and adolescents affected by adversities. Pediatricians and their professional societies across the world may play a key role, as they are in the position to collaborate and share their experiences with new and emerging challenges in child health and together mitigate against inequalities within and between countries and between continents and together strongly and courageously advocate for the health and well-being of children.

We are pleased to share with you the important information about the IPA-EPA/UNEPSA joint Statement and document which discusses key issues for children's health.

2021 has been undoubtedly difficult. However we should look at a 2022 full of possibilities if we will be able to recognize and assess challenges and develop solutions. The wishes of EPA-UNEPSA are for better times and new opportunities for all children in the world!!

#### The Board Members,

European Pediatric Association-Union of the National European Pediatrics Societies and Associations (EPA-UNEPSA)

# **European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP)**

The European Academy of Paediatrics continued its mission to promote the health of children and young people in Europe and beyond during the last quarter of 2021.

**The EAP Winter Meeting** which was supposed to take place in Bruges, Belgium from 3-4 December 2021, was converted to virtual format to ensure the safety of the participants. This decision was closely followed by the first reports of the Omicron variant of SARS CoV-2 on the 24th of December 2021.

The virtual meeting had over 90 registrations with delegates originating from Europe and abroad. The abbreviated online programme included sessions from the permanent Councils of the EAP (Primary and Secondary-Tertiary Councils) on 3 December and the European Board of Paediatrics session and EAP General Assembly on 4 December.

The **Primary Care Council** session (chaired by Stefano del Torso and Zachi Grossman) highlights included a discussion on Home Hospitalization and an thought-provoking presentation from guest speaker, Maria Brenner (Trinity College, Dublin) showcasing a study on Progressing the Conversation on Complex and Integrated Care in Europe. Her address was followed by another important topic on the agenda: Child and adolescent mental health during SARS-CoV-2 pandemic by Laura Reali (ECPCP Vice President) with concrete advice to paediatricians on their personal and political impact.







## **Europe Region**

Discussions on the Strategy for Training Center accreditation and how to achieve greater harmonization and better standards and practices were included in the **Secondary-Tertiary Care Council** session (chaired by Berthold Koletzko). Details were shared on the various projects that EAP is a stakeholder in (including H2020 Project CORE-MD) and the EAP's involvement in the preparation of a council workshop on Public-Private Partnership (with 3 members of the European) Parliament.

The **General Assembly** was chaired by the President of the EAP, Adamos Hadjipanayis, who updated the delegates on EAP matters throughout 2021, followed by presentations by the Executive Director, Stefano del Torso, and the Secretary General, Ann de Guchtenaere. The EAP then had the pleasure of viewing an address by IPA's President (Prof. Enver Hasanoglu). Arunas Valiulis, the EAP's Treasurer, brought the EAP members up to speed with the latest developments in finance

The EAP congratulates the new European Board of Paediatrics Chair, Liviana Da Dalt (Italy), who was elected as the successor of Rob Ross Russell during the Winter Meeting 2021.

The most recent **European Board of Paediatrics (EBP) Exam** took place on the 18th of November 2021. There were 203 candidates, with 120 European trainees sitting the exam and applicants from 32 different countries, including an impressive range of regions, like the Middle East, East Asia & Canada.

In 2021 the exam was preceded by an online learning course on 15 and 16 October called **Core Knowledge in Paediatrics**. The Scientific

Committee included Rob Ross Russell, Francesca Seregni, Valentina Ferraro, and Kathy Gallagher. Each session was chaired by a senior clinician, but presentations were generally made by trainees that presented and discussed case studies. It was focused on the exam and the exam content. There were 79 participants, 13 experts, and 23 speakers. The course was a perfect distance-learning course for any paediatrician interested in refreshing their knowledge.

The EAP Strategic Advisory Groups will meet during a series of virtual meetings in January and February 2022, showcasing their work and facilitating discussions.

EAP maintains its continuous involvement of the EAP in EU projects:

- Core-MD
- ImmuHubs
- RIVER EU (project on vaccine equity)
- IMMUNION (project on vaccine equity)
- The Vaccinate your Child Campaign

Staying connected is one of the best ways to support each other and to achieve our goal of improving children's health, both in Europe and around the world. The EAP thanks all the leaders of the Strategic Advisory Groups, National Delegates, Individual members, and collaborating societies for being a part of its achievements.

Warm Regards,

Prof. Adamos Hadjipanayis European Academy of Paediatrics President





## Sub-saharan Africa REGION

### **SOCOPED**

#### Rapport D'Activités de la SOCOPED Pour L'Année 2021

Au cours de l'année 2021, la SOCOPED a tenue deux matinées pédiatriques, conformément à ses statuts.

# I. Première matinée pédiatrique samedi 5 juin 2021 à Brazzaville : 5 sessions

# 1. Session d'hématologie : 4 communications

- L'anomalie du métabolisme du fer chez le drépanocytaire homozygote.
   Olandzobo
- L'état des lieux de la leucémie aigüe. Ngolet L
- Outils d'évaluation de l'intensité de la douleur au cours d'une CVO. Ngolet L
- Transfusion sanguine chez l'enfant drépanocytaire au centre national de référence de la drépanocytose. Galiba FO

# 2. Session d'infectiologie : 6 communications :

- Infection urinaire chez le nourrisson hospitalisé pour dénutrition. Mezokeng CR
- Facteurs associés à la faible couverture vaccinale antiamarile chez le nourrisson à Ewo. Moyen E
- Impact de la pandémie à covid-19 sur le paludisme grave de l'enfant. Moyen E
- Infections ostéo-articulaires de l'enfant : étude de 112 cas. Lamini N
- Syndrome de Lyell induit par le phénobarbital. Diall B
- Trypanosomiase congénitale chez une fille de 11 ans. Ossibi-Ibara B

# 3. Session de santé publique : 5 communications

- Connaissances du diabète des enfants adolescents et jeunes adultes suivis pour un diabète de type 1 au Congo. Missambou-Moudilou SV
- Impactde l'automédication antipaludique chez les enfants hospitalisés pour paludisme grave. Oko APG
- Connaissance et pratique de la consommation de l'alcool chez la femme enceinte. Bintsene Mika G
- Parcours des nourrissons de 1 à 24 mois hospitalisés pour dénutrition sévère. Kimpouni Milandou GS
- Prescription des antibiotiques chez le nouveau-né hospitalisé. Ollandzobo LC

#### 4. Session tête et cou

- Amétropies de l'enfant : à propos de 432 cas. Makita C
- Epistaxis en ORL au CHU de Brazzaville.
   Ngouoni GC
- Pathologie oculaire à propos de 751 cas. Makita C
- Hématome épidural-dural intracrânien spontané chez l'enfant : rare complication de la drépanocytose. Boukassa L
- Traitement chirurgical des tumeurs cérébrales de l'enfant au CHU B. Ekouele Mbaki

#### 5. Session de néonatologie

- Faible poids de naissance : facteurs de risque et pronostic néonatal. Ngakengni NY
- Morbidité et mortalité du prématuré à Brazzaville. Ngakengni NY
- Pronostic fœtal de l'hématome rétroplacentaire au CHU de Brazzaville. Mbongo JA







# Sub-saharan Africa Region

# II. Deuxième matinée pédiatrique samedi 6 novembre 2021 : 5 sessions

#### 1. Session d'hématologie

- Morbidité et mortalité de l'adolescent vivant avec la drépanocytose au CHU B. Moyen E
- Purpurathrombopénique immunologique de l'enfant. Ngolet L
- Pratique transfusionnelle des concentrés érythrocytaires chez l'enfant drépanocytaire homozygote au CHU de Brazzaville. Moukouba Foueta
- Foie de l'enfant vivant avec la drépanocytose homozygote au CHU de Brazzaville. Ollandzobo LC

#### 2. Session d'infectiologie

- Paludisme grave de l'adolescent en soins intensifs pédiatriques. Kambourou J
- Morbidité respiratoire pendant la pandémie à Covid 19 dans le service de soins intensifs pédiatriques. Oko APG
- Un cas de Kaposi épidémique chez une adolescente de 16 ans. Kambourou J
- La gale sarcoptique chez l'enfant en consultation de dermatologie à Brazzaville. Bayonne Kombo ES

#### 3. Session de santé publique

- Pratique de la diversification alimentaire. Moyen E
- Violences sexuelles à Brazzaville : profil des victimes et circonstances de survenue. Mbou Essie DE
- Convulsions du nourrisson et de l'enfant à l'hôpital spécialisé Mère-Enfant Blanche Gomes de Brazzaville. Bingui Outman PD
- Aspects cliniques, étiologiques et thérapeutiques de l'épilepsie du nourrisson et de l'enfant à Pointe-Noire (Congo). Sounga Banzouzi PEG
- Dépistage néonatal des syndromes

drépanocytaires majeurs en république du Congo. Galiba FO

#### 4. Session d'ORL

- Facteurs de risque de sévérité des otites moyenne aigues compliquées chez l'enfant à Brazzaville. Otouana Dzon HB
- Perforations tympaniques par usage d'urines d'animaux sauvages : à propos de 153 cas au sein d'une population d'enfants autochtones. Otouana Nzon HB
- Prise en charge des fentes labiovélopalatines de l'enfant : vision et stratégie de l'action humanitaire de « SOS sourire Congo ». Mabika BD
- Prévalences des infections ORL et statut vaccinal chez l'enfant de moins de 5 ans à Brazzaville. Otouana Dzon HB

#### 5. Session de néonatologie

- Devenir à moyen terme des prématurés au CHU de Brazzaville. Ngakengni NY
- Fièvre su grossesse à terme : devenir fœto-maternel à la maternité de l'hôpital de référence de Talangai. Mbongo JA
- Complications viscérales au cours de l'asphyxie périnatale au CHU de Brazzaville de Brazzaville. Angouma Oya SM

# III. Participation aux activités du ministère de la santé

- 1. Participation à l'élaboration du carnet de santé de l'enfant sous l'égide de la direction de la santé de l'enfant
- 2. Participation à l'élaboration de la revue de la morbidité et de la mortalité du nouveau-né et de l'enfant.

La Présidente: Professeur Aurore Cardorelle





# Middle East & North Africa REGION

On 30-31 December 2021, the Pediatric Society of Palestine and the Palestinian Society of Endocrinology and Diabetes conducted a scientific day for innovation in diabetes mellitus treatment entitled "exploring future in diabetes treatment".

The event included 8 scientific lectures about novel treatments for T1DM, challenges facing diabetic children during COVID-19 pandemic, including mental health, psychological effects, and solutions to help these children all over Palestine and to shed light on actions that healthcare can take to minimize the impact of the pandemic to these children.

Restrictions in the access of services for those in the West Bank or Gaza Strip has affected patients and their families visiting the hospital for endocrine services and diabetes care.

Patients with diabetes face difficulties with frequent glucose monitoring due to the high cost and cannot access new technologies to manage diabetes such as sensors and insulin pumps.

We used social media and the internet to connect with patients with diabetes and help them either through direct contact or through support groups (e.g. WhatsApp). This has helped a significant number of patients during this pandemic and let them feel that they are not alone.















# Latin America REGION

## Asociación Latinoamericana de Pediatría (ALAPE)

ast September, ALAPE's Board of Directors headed by President Dr. Carlos Alonso Rivera (México) took office for the activities of the period 2021-2024. The board members are Vice-president Dr. Marcela Fama Pereira (Colombia), General Secretariat Dr. Stella Maris Gil (Argentina), Treasurer Dr. Luis Felipe González Fernández (Chile), Dr. Sarah Maria Vega Sanchez (Council Member #1, Perú), Dr. Marvis Argelis Corro Gómez (Council Member #2, Panamá), Dr. Mirza Yamileh Lara Castillo (Council Member #3, Honduras), Dr. Rubén Ruiz Santa Cruz (Council Member #4, Guatemala) and Dr. Luz Herrera Brito (Council Member 5, República Dominicana), accompanied by Dr. Oswaldo Revelo Castro (El Salvador) as Past President.

An enthusiastic team ready to take care of ALAPE's duties was thus formed, establishing a close and dynamic communication with their affiliates thru social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, WhatsApp and the ALAPE's Newsletter). In addition, the most updated documents about the pandemic and all the institutional information can be found in our website <a href="https://www.alape.org">www.alape.org</a>.



Also, the Committee authorities (Adolescence, Disability, Breastfeeding, Neonatology, Non-

Communicable Diseases Prevention, Sudden Infant Death Prevention and Social Pediatrics) were renewed and are scheduling the activities of the Continuing Education for the current year

We had the pleasure to be invited by the International Association for Adolescent Health (IAAH) and the Peruvian Society of Youth and Adolescence to be sponsors and represent Latin America at the Webinar of Adolescence held from the 18th to 21st of November 2021. There were also other international organizations like WHO, UNICEF, PAHO and OPS that participated. Our president, in company of the rest of the authorities participated in the opening and closing ceremonies and as a lecturer in a round table where ideas and proposals regarding the new challenges that adolescents are facing nowadays in the region. With a large international attendance, it was a very successful event.

We have been enriching our knowledge with the webinars and international data shared by IPA, SLIPE and OPS/OMS about relevant subjects such as child immunization against COVID and the alarming situation due vaccines shortage in the region.







International
Subspecialty
Pediatric Societies

IPA Regional Activity Recap

### **Latin America**



Finally, and without a doubt, one of our most important projects is the **ALAPE's 2022** 

Congress, which will be held from September 29th to October 2nd 2022 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Our Organizing Committee is already hands-on duty and hopefully the epidemiological conditions allow us to have this long-awaited reunion of colleagues, to share our concerns and experiences regarding the health and wellbeing of the Latin-American children and adolescents. We look forward to seeing you!

## International Society of Paediatric Oncology

SIOP's PARC Program: Advancing the Research Capacity for Pediatric Cancer Clinical Trials in Low Income and Middle Income Countries

#### PARC's Ambitious Goal

n line with its new **Strategy 2021-2025**, SIOP launched in January 2022 the ambitious **PARC Program**\_to bolster pediatric oncology clinical research infrastructure in low-income countries (LICs) and middle-income countries (MICs). With PARC, SIOP will enhance the capacity for research-informed treatment to improve the care and cure of children with cancer.



Through the three-year PARC Program, SIOP will 1) **enable** SIOP members and partners to expand research capacity in order to generate local evidence for cure and care,

2) **advocate** for increased use of research to provide evidence that optimizes the outcomes for children with cancer, and 3) **mobilize** resources for clinical research capacity development in LICs and MICs.

The PARC Program is led by Dr. Guillermo Chantada, SIOP President-Elect, in collaboration with the PARC Committee.

More information, how to engage with the PARC Program and upcoming "Call for Proposals" will be available on the SIOP website here: https://siop-online.org/parc-committee/. SIOP would like to hear from Societies with similar initiatives in clinical research training in paediatrics: please contact tlaub@siop-online.org







# International Subspecialty Pediatric Societies

## **World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases**

WSPID's global e-learning portal was launched in September 2021 and is a one-stop shop for online courses, webinars, guidelines etc. and accessible to healthcare professionals globally – pediatric infectious disease (Peds ID) specialists, pediatricians, researchers, lab technicians, nurses, medical and clinical officers. Sign up for free and browse some of the exciting content already available – more to come this year:

- WSPID Research Career Briefs
- WSPID Basics of Antimicrobial Resistance & Stewardship Series
- "Sepsis Prevention for Neonates" and "Fluid Management and the Use of Inotropes in Sepsis", self-paced online courses in collaboration with the Pediatric Sepsis CoLaboratory
- WSPID Mentorship Program open to Peds ID clinicians, general practitioners and pediatricians with an interest in Peds ID.
- Various webinars including
  - » Emerging Issues in Pediatric Dengue.

- » Utility of syndromic testing for the diagnosis and management of meningitis/ encephalitis.
- » Antimicrobial Resistance in the COVID-19 Pandemic and Post-Pandemic Period.
- » And many more

Our biennial congress which had been planned for December 2021 in Cancun, Mexico was moved to a virtual format and will take place

on 20-24 February, 2022. **We look forward to seeing you online!** 

We have an open access supplement on antimicrobial resistance and infection control in lower resourced settings due for publication as a supplement in the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Journal in March 2022. The supplement includes systematic reviews and narratives of real world obstacles in clinical practice.

Mark F Cotton MB, ChB; M.Med (Paed); FCPaed (SA); PhD; DCH (SA); DTM&H (Wits)
President, WSPID
Emeritus Professor







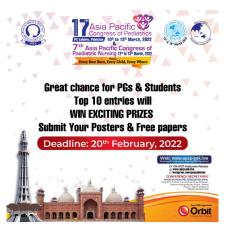
## **Announcements**

## 2022

#### 22-24 February



#### 10-13 March



#### 9-13 May



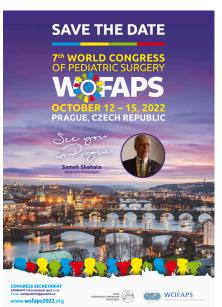
2022

2023

### 28 September-1 October



#### 12-15 October



#### 19-23 February

