



**International  
Pediatric  
Association**

Every Child • Every Age • Everywhere

# International Pediatric Association Newsletter

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## Message from the President



Dear Colleagues,

We celebrated April 7, World Health Day for health for all, for equity, and for sustainable development. As we are getting closer to 2030 to fulfill the SDGs, unfortunately inequalities are upsurging, first with COVID19, increasing environmental disruption

and extreme weather events, and the increasing number of forcibly displaced populations which we are recently witnessing with a new forced displacement surge from Ukraine.

It has been reported that by the end of 2020, the number of people forcibly displaced due to persecution, conflict, violence, and human rights violations had grown to 82.4 million, more than double the level of a decade ago which was 41 million in 2010. More than two-thirds of all refugees came from just five countries: Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan, and Myanmar. In 2020, 36 million children were international refugees. Children account for 30% of the world's population but 42% are forcibly displaced.

Unfortunately since late February 2022 after the Russia Ukraine war, nearly 4.7 million refugees have left Ukraine (as of 12 April 2022), while an estimated 7.1 million people have been displaced within the country. 90% of Ukrainian refugees are women and children. According to UNICEF, by March 24, 2022, more than half of all children in Ukraine (7.5 million) had been forced to leave their homes, of whom approximately 1.8 million had left Ukraine.

All forcibly displaced children have the same rights as the children who are not refugees, however, their needs and risks are much more complicated. They face several challenges in their country before being a refugee, they face challenges on the move, in detention centers, at the camps, in the host

community, and even when they return back to their home country.

We all know that the official numbers may not reflect the real number of children being killed, injured, recruited as child soldiers, or being sexually abused in relation to armed conflict globally as well as the number of children being victims of the indirect effects of conflict such as malnutrition, infectious diseases, reduced educational opportunities, and heightened poverty. The mental health burden may have lifelong effects.

So as emphasized in the IPA Statement on Safety and Health of Children Living in Ukraine, I would like to take this opportunity to include all children and "invite the international community to make every effort for the wars to end as soon as possible, in the interest of protecting all children's safety, wellbeing, education, and health" Besides I would call all national pediatric societies to be involved with the needs of displaced children. IPA and national pediatric societies are actors for advocacy of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) for both displaced children as well as host children; can be actors for health service provision, training of child health workers about basic health topics relevant to displaced children as well as data collecting for displaced children. In the era to reach SDGs for all children everywhere, we need disaggregated data for appropriate intervention planning for displaced children. The most relevant indicators could be stunting, birth attendance, safe drinking water, housing, poverty, education, and employment just a few to list.

IPA has worked and will work with international organizations as well as national societies to prevent the detrimental effects of wars on the psychological and physical health of Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere.

**Prof. Enver Hasanoğlu, MD**

IPA President

Reference: Özmert EN, Derman O, Bideci A, Okumuş N, Boduroğlu K, Bakkaloğlu S, Hasanoğlu E, Alden E. Syrian Children in Turkey: A Model of Action for National Pediatric Societies Pediatrics 2019;143(2):e20180539.



## From Executive Director's Desk



Dear colleagues,

In the early year of 2022, many countries worldwide were facing the surge of the Omicron wave. The increasing number of cases in children is linked to the emergence of the Omicron, causing them to be among the most affected population. Immediately responding to the situation, on February 19th, 2022, IPA conducted an international webinar titled "What We Know About Omicron in Children." The webinar attracted over 3,500 registrants from 128 countries and provided updates from expert speakers on Omicron in children, vaccine immunogenicity, and "Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C).

We are entering the third year since WHO declared the COVID-19 a global pandemic. Prolonged school closures have led to substantial learning loss for all children, with losses accumulating over time. This signifies the urgent need to redouble efforts in school reopening to protect the human capital of our children. With regards to safe school reopening, IPA strongly supports and recommends COVID-19 vaccination in children, including booster dose administration for those with comorbidity, provided the vaccines are approved for use in children by regulatory authorities. The benefits of vaccinating children and adolescents are beyond the direct health benefits as it decreases intergenerational transmission to older adults and reduces disruptions to education. Therefore, every country must expand its COVID-19 vaccinations programs to all children and adolescents.

Regardless of the COVID-19 circumstances, IPA advocates for routine immunization amidst the COVID-19 circumstances, as postponing can increase the risk of vaccine-preventable diseases. Each country and its respective national pediatric member society should actively support the roles of the forefront maternal and child health service centers in providing routine immunization, including collecting and monitoring children's growth. For instance, the Indonesian Pediatric Society (IPS) has developed "PrimaKu," a user-friendly application that allows parents and pediatricians to track their children's immunization status, growth, and development since they were born. In the current era of digitalization, having an application with these features is practical and highly beneficial for both parents and healthcare providers.

Concerted global efforts have brought us to the present situation, where the number of cases and deaths due to COVID-19 is decreasing in some countries. Although COVID-19 restrictions might have been more relaxed and less stringent in these countries, various countries are in different pandemic phases with different vaccination coverage rates. Therefore, we need to continue implementing health protocol to push the numbers further downward to prevent another resurgence.

**Prof. Aman B Pulungan**  
IPA Executive Director



## IPA Newsletter Editorial

### War on the horizon after a pandemic?



Just as we see a silver lining after two years of understanding and coping with a pandemic, a new man-made catastrophe has started. Although the invasion of a country by another is never a solution, one cannot ignore the historical perspectives involved. Neither can one

ignore other incursions in other countries that have similar effects on the vulnerable populations, viz the women and children.

Displaced populations are now a huge problem in many countries and the sad truth is these incidents need not occur at all if country leaders abide by proper neighbourly etiquette and opt for diplomatic solutions. There will always be warmongers who profit from the sale of arms to warring factions but governments and leaders should have the moral caliber to dissociate themselves from such activity. Yet we see governments promoting the sale of arms in wars that do not directly involve their countries.

On 26 March, IPA organised a webinar on Health Challenges of Refugee Children. We have seen displaced populations with children suffering from

post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and dying of starvation, exhaustion, extreme temperatures or simply lack of love and care. How have we handled the situation? By fire fighting, ie providing shelter, food, education, humanitarian aid, etc at refugee centres. Although these are newsworthy and tug at our heartstrings, are there no better preventative efforts at a higher level so that we never have to see such mass suffering? We have to ask ourselves about stopping these from happening in the first place. We should be prioritizing diplomatic solutions, having cordial meetings mediated by neutral countries, banning the sales of arms, keeping our promises and listening to what others have to say. In the world that we have created and with the egos of world leaders, these efforts seem like a distant future.

Many shout 'Children are our future' but what kind of a future are we leaving behind for them? Our leaders create wars, most by proxy, sell arms, support corrupt dictators, tear down the environment under the pretext of 'development'. And worse of all, the powerful countries that are supposed to lead a peaceful diplomatic resolution are actually sustaining the war.

We hope you enjoy the reporting in this issue of our newsletter. Stay safe, wherever you may be.

**Prof. Zulkifili Ismail**  
Editor-in-Chief, IPA Newsletter

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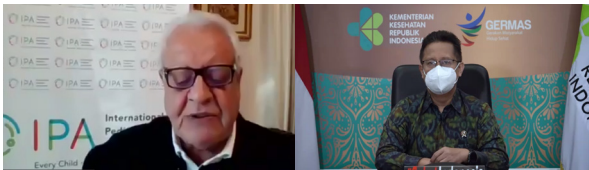


# Webinar by IPA Strategic Advisory Groups

## “What We Know About Omicron in Children”

### Webinar by IPA SAG on COVID-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) & Infectious Disease

On 19 February 2022, a webinar on “What We Know About Omicron in Children” was hosted by the IPA Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) on COVID-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) & Infectious Disease. The webinar drew over 3,500 registrants from 128 countries. Since designated as a variant of concern by the WHO on 26 November 2021, Omicron is causing an increase in pediatric cases. Therefore, IPA aims to provide a platform of discussion to equip healthcare professionals and the general public to prevent better and manage Omicron cases in children.



Left-Right: Opening remarks by Prof. Enver Hasanoglu as IPA President; Keynote address by Mr. Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Minister of Health Republic of Indonesia

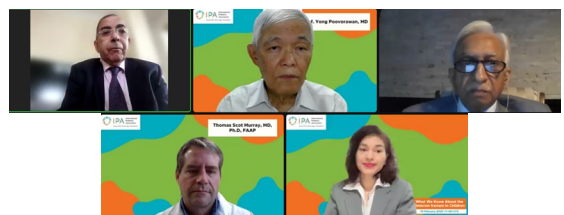
**Prof. Enver Hasanoglu**, the IPA President, delivered his opening remarks to open the webinar officially. Prof. Hasanoglu highlights the importance of developing a comprehensive understanding of Omicron to protect children globally. In the following keynote address, **Mr. Budi Gunadi Sadikin, the Minister of Health, Republic of Indonesia**, shared how increasing cases in children are linked to the emergence of the new Omicron variant, with a number of cases in Indonesia being moderate and severe. Mr. Sadikin shared his appreciation for the webinar, playing a pivotal role in updating the public’s knowledge and understanding of Omicron in children.

Beginning the series of presentations is **Dr. Anggraini Alam** from Indonesia. Dr. Alam provided a holistic picture of the Omicron variant, from its background history to its pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, and impacts on children. Dr. Alam emphasized that mutations in the coronavirus change its ability in terms of transmission, evasion and antibody neutralization.



Left-Right: Session 1: “How Does Omicron Affect Kids” with Dr. Anggraini Alam (Indonesia); Session 2: “SARS-CoV-2 Variants and Vaccine Immunogenicity” with Dr. Yong Poovorawan (Thailand); Session 3: “Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) after Omicron Infection” by Dr. Thomas Murray (United States).

In the next session, **Dr. Yong Poovorawan** from Thailand focused his presentation on sharing results from studies conducted regarding the safety and immunogenicity of heterologous and homologous vaccinations, where he highlights that it is recommended for the first dose to be inactivated vaccine and boosted with viral vector. To conclude his presentation, Dr. Poovorawan further emphasized the benefits of a booster vaccination after six months post-vaccination against COVID-19. The third and final speaker was **Dr. Thomas Murray** from the United States. In his presentation, Dr. Murray shared that MIS-C affects children of all age groups and that, from his experience, there has been a surge in MIS-C cases with the Omicron variant. Furthermore, Dr. Murray emphasized the importance of prompt diagnosis and management of MIS-C as it improves the outcomes for children. During the Question and Answer Session, the questions gathered were answered by our speakers. The webinar recording is available on the IPA Youtube channel ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm\\_eBle0HOU&t=252s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm_eBle0HOU&t=252s)).



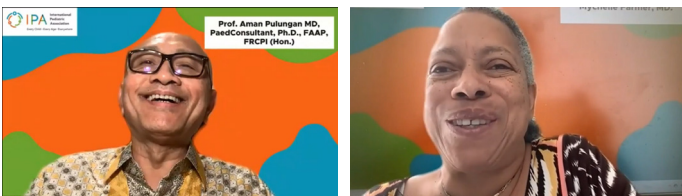
Dr. Mortada El-Shabrawi (Top-Left) and Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Sultan (Top-Right), the Co-Chairs of the IPA SAG on COVID-19, AMR, and Infectious Disease, led the Question and Answer Session led by moderators.

## “Pediatricians Tackle Childhood Obesity During The COVID-19 Pandemic”

### Webinar by IPA SAG on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD)

On 2 March 2022, the IPA Strategic Advisory Group on NCD conducted a webinar titled “Pediatricians Tackle Childhood Obesity During The COVID-19 Pandemic” to celebrate World Obesity Day on March 4th. It united more than 2,100 pediatricians, health care professionals, and the general population to further understand the challenges of childhood obesity from various regions of the world, hoping to find better solutions amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic.

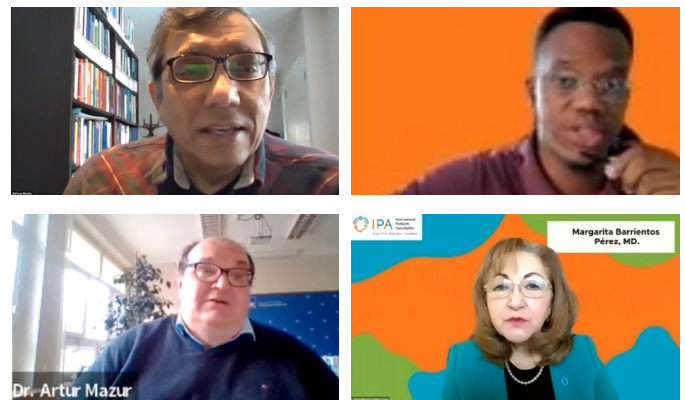
The webinar commenced when **Prof. Enver Hasanoğlu** delivered the opening remarks. Prof Hasanoğlu highlighted the increasing problem of childhood obesity globally due to mental and physical challenges during the COVID-19 Pandemic which leads to weight gain. The webinar proceeded with **Prof. Aman Pulungan** and **Dr. Mychelle Farmer** as moderators of the webinar.



Left-Right: Moderators of the webinar, Prof. Aman Pulungan (Indonesia) and Dr. Mychelle Farmer (USA)

A keynote presentation was delivered by **Prof. Zulfiqar Bhutta**, who discussed the importance of early life interventions for the prevention of overweight in children and for the prevention of non-communicable diseases later in life. During the pandemic, mitigating the rise of childhood obesity can be done by ensuring a healthy diet and adequate physical activity during social restrictions.

The following speakers shared their experiences with childhood obesity. **Dr. George Msengi** shared the African experience and highlighted several factors that contribute to the increasing number of childhood obesity in Tanzania, including financial status and social-cultural norms which lead the parents to choose cheaper but less nutritious food for



Top (Left-Right): Keynote Speech from Prof. Zulfiqar Bhutta (Pakistan/Canada); “African Experience” by Dr. George Msengi (Tanzania). Bottom (Left-Right): “European Experience” by Prof. Artur Mazur (Poland); “Latin American Experience” by Dr. Margarita Barrientos Pérez (Mexico)

their children. The third speaker, **Prof. Artur Mazur**, shared the European experience and underlined how the impacts of societal response to the pandemic have led to weight gain and obesity progression. **Dr. Margarita Barrientos Pérez** continued presenting the Latin American experience, in which she focused on recommendations to re-evaluate public health programs to prevent childhood obesity, especially during the pandemic where children are more vulnerable to unhealthy diets. The webinar proceeded with a fruitful discussion during the Q&A session.

At the panelist discussion session, Prof. Aman Pulungan presented a result from the Obesity Survey conducted by the IPA SAG on NCD. The panelists commented on increasing mitigation regarding holistic behavioral changes that include families during the pandemic to help reduce the risks of obesity in children. The webinar recording is available on the IPA Youtube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LUD8SUGUHE&t=313s>).



Left-Right: Panelists of the Webinar: Prof. Fatma Feyza Darendeliler (Turkey), Dr. Dipsalema Joel (Botswana), and Dr. Basim Al-Zoubi (Jordan)

## “Health Challenges of Refugee Children” Webinar by IPA SAG on Children in Humanitarian Emergencies

On 26 March 2022, the IPA SAG on Children in Humanitarian Emergencies conducted a webinar entitled “Health Challenges of Refugee Children.” The webinar discussed the health care needs of refugee children during crises, humanitarian needs and organizations for refugees, and how to talk with children about war and other humanitarian concerns.

presenting the humanitarian needs of refugees in Poland during the Ukraine-Russia crisis, the biggest refugee crisis in Europe for decades. Dr. Radziewicz-Winnicki informed that the immediate health priorities during this crisis include providing surgical services to treat trauma, increasing access to healthcare services, supporting refugees suffering from NCDs, and preventing an outbreak



Left-Right: Prof. Enver Hasanoglu; Moderators of the Webinar: Dr. Ozlem Teksam and Prof. Aman Pulungan

The opening remark was delivered by **Prof. Enver Hasanoglu**, who underlined the complicated challenges facing children’s rights in times of crisis, including communicable diseases, food insecurity, malnutrition, an increase in child marriage and labor, and cessation of education amongst refugee children.

**Dr. Sayed Ali Shah Alawi** discussed the situation of health care needs in Afghanistan, which has worsened since the COVID-19 Pandemic. The war condition put children at risk of severe malnutrition, infectious diseases, and psychosocial disorders. **Dr. Igor Radziewicz-Winnicki** then continued

of infectious diseases by providing vaccines.

**Dr. Elif Ozmert** then shared the action model of the Turkish National Pediatric Society, which includes the “Everything Starts with Love” campaign to increase social awareness for the protection and inclusion of refugee children and training pediatricians working in high-refugee areas. The final speaker, **Dr. David J Schonfeld**, discussed the importance of communicating and providing ways for children to cope with anxiety, fear, and sadness caused by crises. The recording is available on the IPA Youtube channel ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_FgbAWpM2b4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_FgbAWpM2b4)).



Left-Right: Dr. Sayed Ali Shah Alawi (Afghanistan), Dr. Igor Radziewicz-Winnicki (Poland), Dr. Elif Ozmert (Turkey), Dr. David J Schonfeld (USA)





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# IPA Monthly Webinars by Education and Advocacy SC Subcommittee

**February 2022**

## “Pitfalls in Pediatric Surgery: What the Pediatrician Needs to Know”

On 24 February 2022, a webinar on “Pitfalls in Pediatric Surgery: What the Pediatrician Needs to Know” was conducted as the first of upcoming monthly webinars by the IPA Education and Advocacy Standing Committee (SC) Subcommittee. The webinar commenced with opening remarks from **Prof. Enver Hasanoglu** as IPA President. He highlighted the importance of learning and identifying pitfalls in pediatric surgery as it is in line with IPA’s mission as the global voice for Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere.

The webinar that attracted 999 registrants was led by **Dr. Raúl Mercer** as the Moderator of the webinar. **Prof. Sameh Shehata** explained the common pitfalls in the practice of pediatric surgery, recommendations for treatments, management, and therapy from clinical cases and published papers, and the referral timings for each condition. He ended the presentation by highlighting the responsibilities of pediatricians, pediatric surgeons, and parents in ensuring the health and safety of children.

A robust discussion occurred during the Q&A Session where a large number of queries were received, prior to and during the webinar, from

participants all over the world. For questions that had not yet been answered, participants were encouraged to join the Facebook Discussion Forum (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1003012623610397/>) by the IPA Education and Advocacy SC Subcommittee where pediatricians can have more in-depth discussions. The recording of the webinar is available to watch on Youtube through: <https://bit.ly/LIVEEduWebinarFeb2022>.



Left-Right: Dr. Raúl Mercer as moderator and Prof. Sameh Shehata as speaker.

**March 2022**

## “What the Pandemic Teaches on Adolescent Mental Health”

The webinar on “What the Pandemic Teaches on Adolescent Mental Health” was held on 18 March 2022. IPA received a total of 713 registrants, including pediatricians, doctors, and healthcare professionals from 59 Countries, through Zoom and YouTube live stream. **Prof. Enver Hasanoglu**, the IPA President, started the webinar by giving a remark. He pointed out that pandemics significantly impact children and adolescents’ education, social





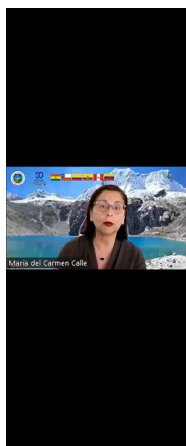
Left-Right: Dr. Jonathan Klein as moderator and Dr. María del Carmen Calle Davila as speaker

life, and mental health. Therefore, he encouraged the attendees to ensure and protect the young generation's mental, emotional, and behavioral health together.

**Dr. María del Carmen Calle Davila** presented how to recognize the importance of protecting the mental health of adolescents, review the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on adolescent mental health, and inform how to obtain tools for early identification and adequate response to warning signs of adolescent mental health problems. During the following Q&A session, **Dr. Jonathan Klein** sorted the questions received from the registrants prior to the webinar and questions received live during the webinar into several discussions. The recording of the session is exclusively available for IPA members and networks to watch on youtube: <https://bit.ly/LIVEEduWebinarMar2022>.

## 2. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Adolescent Mental Health (12)

- Threatened adolescent emotional and mental wellbeing: restrictive policies.
- Voices were not taken into consideration in the policy making. The adolescent population has even been stigmatized again as irresponsible individuals.
- The most affected: youngest populations
- Attention to the intersectionalities. For those living in SDMH-negative environments or with pre-existing psychological disorders, the impact is greater.
- The most reported mental health problems are distress, depression, anxiety, increased frequency of drug use, poor sleep and eating habits, addictive gambling behaviors and suicidal behaviors. (13)



**April 2022**

## "Introducing a Child Rights-Based Approach in Clinical Practice"

The IPA Education and Advocacy SC Subcommittee held the third webinar on their monthly webinar series on 22 April 2022. The webinar entitled "Introducing a Child Rights-Based Approach in Clinical Practice" was moderated by **Dr. Raul Mercer**, with **Dr. Jeffrey Goldhagen** as the speaker. **Prof. Aman Pulungan**, IPA Executive Director, opened the webinar by welcoming the 509 registrants from 61 countries, the speaker, and the moderator.

During his presentation, Dr. Goldhagen explained the Millennial Morbidities of Child Health as defined by social and environmental determinants; the relevance of Social Epidemiology and Life Course Science to the health and well-being of children; and how to translate the epidemiology and science of children's health into contemporary pediatric practice using the principles, standards, and norms of child rights. An interesting discussion led by Dr. Mercer addressed several questions that are categorized into several topics, for example, the age of children on the child rights, child rights in the covid pandemic, and child & clinical practices. The recording of the webinar is available to watch on IPA Youtube through the following link: <https://bit.ly/LIVEEduWebinarApr2022>.



Left-Right: Dr. Jeffrey Goldhagen and Dr. Raul Mercer

## IPA Activity Recap

### February 2022

#### WHO/UNICEF Launch of a New Multi-country Study Examining the Impact of BMS Marketing on Infant Feeding Decisions and Practices

IPA participated in the WHO/UNICEF launch of a new multi-country study examining the impact of breast milk supplement (BMS) marketing on infant feeding decisions and practices on 23 February 2022. The speakers included **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** (Director-General, WHO), **Dr. Nigel Rollins** (WHO), and **Grainne Moloney** (UNICEF). **Dr. Jonathan Klein**, IPA Treasurer, and Executive Committee member, 2021-2023, was one of the panelists.

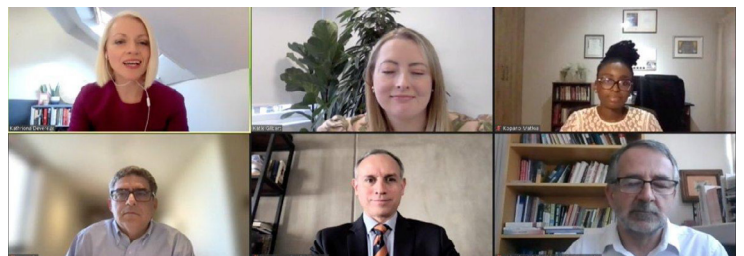
Forty years after the World Health Assembly adopted the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes (the Code), formula milk marketing still represents one of the most underappreciated risks to infants and children's health. Suboptimal feeding is estimated to cause upwards of 600,000 pneumonia and diarrhea deaths annually among children under 5 and nearly 100,000 deaths of women every year from breast and ovarian cancer and type 2 diabetes. Despite the Code and subsequent international resolutions, formula milk companies continue to put profits before infant and population health. While many of their marketing tactics are bold and overt, in the digital age, they have also become more subtle and sophisticated.

Over the past three years, robust evidence has been generated that demonstrates the scope and influence of marketing approaches at the individual, community, health system, and political levels. The first in a series of publications throughout 2022 is a report highlighting the key

findings from research conducted with women and health professionals in eight countries on the impact of formula milk marketing on infant feeding decisions and practices. This research exposed formula milk marketing as a \$55 billion-dollar-a-year industry that systematically undermines parents' infant feeding decisions and compromises women's and children's health and human rights.

IPA is committed to working with WHO to support the implementation of the Code and its subsequent resolutions and work to educate our member societies and help national pediatric societies to advocate with their governments and institutions for the effective education of women and their families. PMNCH has also endorsed the report and the PMNCH Health Care Professional Association Constituency is also committed to full implementation of the report. The full report is available on [WHO Website](#) or [UNICEF Website](#). Attention is called specifically to the section of the report specifically about marketing to health professionals.

Key messages to take into consideration are:



Top (left-right) Kathriona Devereux (Journalist and TV producer, Ireland), Katie Gilbert (M&C Saatchi World Services), Kopano Matlwa Mabaso (Author and public health physician, South Africa). Bottom (left-right) Jonathan Klein (Professor, University of Chicago Illinois; Executive Committee of IPA), Hugo López-Gatell Ramírez (Undersecretary of Prevention and Health Promotion, Mexican Ministry of Health), Alejandro Calvillo (Director, El Poder del Consumidor, México)



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## IPA Activity Recap

(1) Marketing of commercial formula milk is pervasive, personalized, and powerful; (2) Formula milk companies make misleading and unsupported 'scientific claims' in their marketing and packaging and they incentivize and co-opt health professionals to promote their products; and (3) Through their extensive reach and diverse tactics, the formula milk industry deliberately undermines parents' and consumers' informed

decision-making around infant feeding, affecting the health and rights of children.

Reported by:

**Dr. Jonathan Klein**

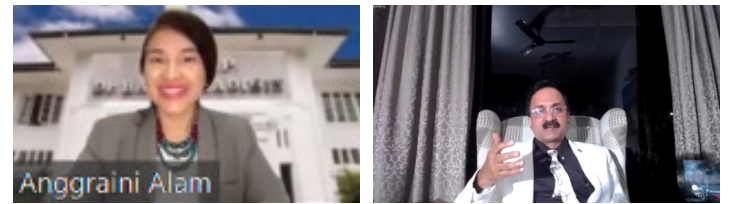
IPA Executive Committee 2021-2023

### March 2022

#### "WHO COVID-19 Case Management Webinar Series: COVID-19 in children and young persons"

On 22 March 2022, two esteemed pediatricians representing IPA in the "WHO COVID-19 Case Management Webinar Series: COVID-19 in children and young persons" organized by the World Health Organization: **Dr. Anggraini Alam**, a member of IPA Strategic Advisory Group on COVID-19, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Infectious Disease and **Dr. Dhiren Gupta**, an IPA Expert in pediatric pulmonology.

Dr. Alam presented on the topic of "Care for Children and Young Persons with Mild and Moderate COVID-19 at Home" while, Dr. Gupta shared his clinical experience dealing with MISC in pediatric ICU and pediatric COVID-19 management in the "Panel Discussion" session. The webinar focused on key elements to consider in the clinical management of mild, moderate, or severe COVID-19 in children and young persons by bringing together clinical experts from around the world to discuss clinical management in the community, health facility, and hospital-based management, including optimized supportive care, mental and psychosocial care and prevention of complications. The recording is available on the [WHO website](#).



Left-Right: Dr. Anggraini Alam (Indonesia) and Dr. Dhiren Gupta (India)

#### "World TB Day 2022 Scientific Symposium: Updated WHO Guidelines on the Management of Tuberculosis in Children and Adolescents: The Role of Chest Radiography"

On 24 March 2022, **Dr. Vijay Yewale**, an IPA Expert in pediatric infectious disease (ID), was honorably invited as a panelist in the "World TB Day 2022 Scientific Symposium: Updated WHO Guidelines on the Management of Tuberculosis in Children and Adolescents: The Role of Chest Radiography" organized by the World Health Organization (Radiation and Health), the International Society of Radiology (ISR), and the World Federation of Paediatric Imaging (WFPI). He presented "Challenges in accessing chest radiography and using it to diagnose and treat





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## IPA Activity Recap

TB in Children". The webinar coincided with the release of updated guidance from WHO's Global TB Programme including the relevance of chest radiography to new WHO recommendations on the management of TB in children and adolescents. The updated guidance from WHO's Global TB Programme can be found here: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240046764>.



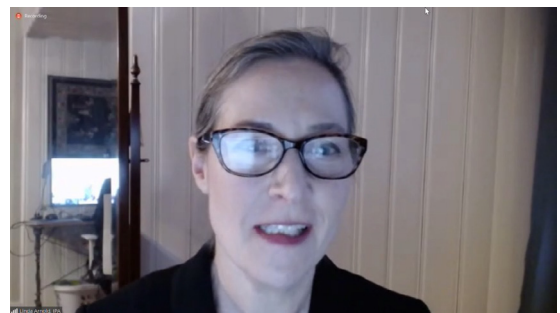
*Dr. Vijay Yewale, presented "Challenges in accessing chest radiography and using it to diagnose and treat TB in Children".*

### "Health Care Professionals Honoring Women's Demands for Respectful Care" Webinar

On 24 March 2022, the "Health Care Professionals Honoring Women's Demands for Respectful Care" webinar was held to honor and respond to the need for respect and dignity during the continuum of care, from reproductive health to pregnancy, and childbirth, post-delivery, breastfeeding, and newborn care. The webinar was co-organized by White Ribbon Alliance, the International Confederation of Midwives, Fos Feminista, the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Human Rights in Childbirth, the Council of International Neonatal Nurses, the International Stillbirth Alliance, the International Pediatric Association,

National Birth Equity Collaborative, and the International Council of Nurses, as a part of global [What Women Want](#) campaign.

**Dr. Linda Arnold**, IPA Coordinator of Development delivered her message, emphasizing the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration to bridge gaps and inequities. "In respecting care for women, I want to just remind everyone that respectful care for women begins with respectful care for girls and adolescents. Children learn what they see and what's modeled for them. And it's important for all of us as women and role models and health care providers to not only respect the needs of adolescent girls and their unique physical, mental and sexual reproductive health needs, but also to engage them in a way that gives them a sense of respect for themselves and autonomy, and will allow them to continue the cycle going forward.", said Dr. Arnold upon closing her statement.



*Dr. Linda Arnold, IPA Coordinator of Development, Co-Chair of IPA SAG on Newborn Health and Survival, representing IPA during the Panel Discussion session.*



## IPA Activity Recap

### April 2022

#### Informal WHA75 Pre-Meeting

Four informal WHA75 Pre-Meetings were held during the weeks between 11 April and 6 May of 2022. The 150th Executive Board decided that the proposed informal pre-meeting for the Member States, non-State actors in official relations and the Secretariat will be organized annually during the four to six weeks before the World Health Assembly in order to improve the involvement and contributions of non-State actors in official relation in WHO governing bodies.



*Prof. Aman Pulungan, IPA Executive Director, representing IPA as a Panel Member on Agenda 18.1. Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition during the Second Session of the Informal WHA75 Pre-Meeting.*

On 21 April 2022, **Prof. Aman Pulungan**, IPA Executive Director, presented a live statement as a panel member on the agenda item 18.1. Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition as part of the second session. IPA raised the issue of overestimation of stunted children, particularly in LMICs, when using the World Health Organization Child Growth Standards (WHOCGS). This often results in children being encouraged to increase their nutrition intake which will then lead to overweight and obesity causing the double burden of malnutrition. IPA also raised concern about the expanding impact of digital marketing of breastmilk

substitutes, the urgent need to explicitly inform consumers about the amount of sugar and other nutrients on the nutrition fact label, and control the national policies that contribute to the continued widespread marketing of inappropriately composed commercial complementary foods with high sugar and low contents of critical micronutrients. Read and watch the full statement [here](#). To watch all sessions of the Informal WHA75 Pre-Meeting, refer to the [WHO Website](#).

#### Launch of the WHO's Essential Newborn Care Course Second Edition

On 11 April 2022, **Dr. William Keenan** represented the IPA as a panel member during the launch of the interim version of the WHO's Essential Newborn Care Course Second Edition. The course focuses on the foundation for essential care of every newborn and their rights, as well as strengthening care in the community. The course also encourages the collection, analysis and utilization of data in quality improvement activities focusing on essential newborn care. Dr. William Keenan emphasized IPA's support



*Dr. William Keenan, Co-Chair of SAG on Newborn Health and Survival, representing IPA as a Panel Member on the Panel Discussion during the WHO's Essential Newborn Care Course Second Edition.*



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# Asia Pacific REGION

## 17th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics

The 17th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics and the 7th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatric Nursing were held in the historic city of Lahore, Pakistan on March 10—13, 2022. The mega hybrid event was organized by Pakistan Pediatrics Association, in partnership with the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association. There were 1626 in-person and 745 virtual delegates from 12 countries. The event was thoughtfully designed to serve as a perfect setting for in-depth learning, exchange of ideas, and networking for practicing pediatricians, academicians, researchers, trainees, and pediatric nurses from the Asia Pacific Region. The congress offered maximum flexibility and options, with the intention of providing an opportunity for much-needed personal connection and exchange of information. The inspiring theme of the Congress was “Every Newborn, Every Child, Everywhere”. The two pre-congress days were filled with 12 skills-building workshops, focused on different sub-specialty themes, participated and greatly appreciated by interns, trainees, and young pediatricians. The 7th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatric Nursing was also held as a parallel hybrid activity on March 12-13, at the same venue.

A high-profile inaugural ceremony was held on the evening of 10th March that was attended by more than 1600 in-person delegates,

including representatives of UNICEF, WHO, Ministry of Health, media, and some child health-focused Non-Governmental Organizations. The ceremony was addressed by Prof Habibullah Babar, President Pakistan Pediatric Association, who offered an enthusiastic welcome to delegates. Others who spoke at the ceremony included Dr. Aman B Pulungan, President of APPA, Prof Iqbal Memon, President-Elect APPA, Dr. Enver Hassanoglu, President of International Pediatric Association, and Prof Yasmin Rashid, the Minister of Health Punjab, Pakistan. The speeches were followed by a 2-hour-long colorful cultural program, showcasing the music, dance, costumes, and other cultural riches from all parts of Pakistan.

Historically all Asia Pacific Pediatric Congresses have been great scientific meetings and despite the challenges posed by the Covid19 pandemic, Lahore was equally a thumping success. The Scientific Program so beautifully designed by the Scientific Committee was a rich mix of plenary meetings, thematic symposia, free papers, posters, skill-building workshops, and “Meet an Expert” sessions. Every morning started with three concurrent “Meet an Expert” sessions. These sessions featured a 45-minute dynamic discussion on topics of interest introduced and explained by an expert and engaged the attendees in



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## IPA Regional Activity Recap **Asia Pacific Region**

the process of identifying the problem and then finding a solution in relation to clinical practice, implementation of guidelines, or in relation to training and research. These sessions were a special opportunity for attendees to meet and interact with the most renowned experts in their fields within a small group setting to connect and converse on a one-on-one level. These sessions were followed by plenary sessions. The three plenary sessions were like scientific feasts, where world-renowned pediatric leaders made inspiring presentations on themes surrounding some common but pressing child health issues and also shared some best practices to address these problems. Some highly prominent plenary speakers included Zulfiqar Bhutta, Aman Pulungan, Jonathan Klein, Anshu Banerjee, Naveen Thacker, Zulkifli Ismail, Kim Mulholland, AG Billoo, Mohammad Miqdady, and others.

A total of 15 thematic symposia were held on topics capturing Infectious diseases, tropical diseases, cardiology, pulmonology, Neurology and developmental pediatrics, Adolescent health, Neonatology, Gastroenterology, Endocrinology, Hematology/Oncology, Emergency and Critical Care, Community Pediatrics and Child Protections. All the symposia were conducted by renowned sub-specialty experts and had a crowded delegates' attendance. There was a separate stream of Free papers and poster presentations. Another segment was 2 highly charged sessions on "Controversies in Pediatric and Neonatal Practice", generating a rich discussion from the floor. Around 40

free papers and 38 posters were included in this stream. The 10 best young presenters of free papers/posters were given cash awards and certificates of appreciation.

The conference provided ample social and networking opportunities to the delegates. The gala dinner was attended by more than 2500 delegates and other invited guests. A special feature of the gala dinner was the award ceremony, where 15 pediatricians were decorated with the "Outstanding Asian Pediatricians Award 2022". These distinguished pediatricians included Iqbal Memon and Ashraf Sultan (Pakistan), Jacqueline Judith Ho (New Zealand), Hung Chand Lee (Taiwan), Piyush Gupta (India), Shinishi Hirose (Japan), Wang Tianyou (China), Patrick Ip (Hong Kong), Aman B Pulungan (Indonesia), Thiyagar Nadarajaw (Malaysia), Zanaida L Anotonio (Philippines), T.S.D. Amarasena (Sri Lanka), Pham Nhal An (Vietnam), Baik Len Eun (South Korea) and Yong Poovorawan (Thailand). The Congress concluded through a graceful Closing ceremony on the evening of March 13, 2022.

**Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmad Memon**

President, APPA



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# Central Asia REGION

## New Member of the UNPSTR

UNPSTR is the Union of Pediatric Societies of the Turkic Republics which was established by Prof. Ihsan Dogramaci in 1993. It represents the Central Asia region in IPA. Azerbaijan is one of the founding members of the Union.

Azerbaijan Pediatric Association (Azerbaijan Pediatriya Cemiyeti - APC), the national society of pediatrics in the Azerbaijan Republic was established on 30 December 2021 with the approval of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Justice. In March 2022, Azerbaijan Pediatric Association applied to become a member of UNPSTR. The membership of the Azerbaijan Pediatric Association has been approved by the Executive Committee of the UNPSTR. The President of the APC, Dr.

Erkin Rahimov, and the Secretary-General Dr. Nigar Sadiyeva have met with Prof. Enver Hasanoglu (IPA President) and Prof. Koray Boduroglu (UNPSTR President) via Zoom, to discuss potential areas of collaboration and joint projects under the umbrella of the UNPSTR.

We hope that the new society of Azerbaijan and its contribution and collaboration with the UNPSTR and the international pediatric community will improve the health and wellbeing of children in the region. UNPSTR encourages Azerbaijan Pediatric Association to become a member of the IPA as well.

**Prof. Koray Boduroglu**  
President, UNPSTR



Top (Left-Right): Dr. Erkin Ragimov, Azerbaijan Pediatric Association President; Dr. Nigar Sadiyeva, Azerbaijan Pediatric Association Secretary-General.  
Bottom (Left-Right): Prof. Enver Hasanoglu, IPA President; Prof. Koray Boduroglu, UNPSTR President, during the online meeting.



## EAP Regional Activity February-April 2022

The European Academy of Paediatrics continued its mission to promote the health of children and young people in Europe and beyond during the first quarter of 2022.

The Virtual EAP Winter Meeting which took place on 3-4 December 2021, was followed by [a series of virtual meetings in January and February 2022](#) by the [EAP Strategic Advisory Groups](#), showcasing their work and facilitating discussions. EAPRASnet (European Academy of Paediatrics Research in Ambulatory Settings network) also conducted a virtual meeting in the first quarter of 2022. Among this group's most recent publications (2021) is an article on COVID-19 Era Effect on Pandemic and Post-pandemic Pediatric Telemedicine Use. Further EAPRASnet publications can be found [here](#).

The news of the war in Ukraine shook entire Europe in February 2022. An [EAP Executive Statement](#) was immediately released, calling



for a cessation of aggression and the promotion of children's welfare as recognized and obligated by international law. As a showcase

of solidarity with the children of Ukraine and its position against the violence ravaging so many innocent lives, EAP launched an [emergency charity](#)

[fundraiser for the children of Ukraine](#) to support the efforts of the National Societies based in and around Ukraine.

EAP and LOW Associates co-produced a podcast describing the situation of children and those

engaged in the war and how to help them. This podcast features Lord Andrew Lansley and Dr. Marina Mamenko, Chairperson of the Board of the



Ukrainian Academy of Paediatric Specialties and Member of EAP. [A Joint Statement on the Coordinated Efforts of Looking After the Health Care Needs of Children and Young People Fleeing the Conflict Zone of Ukraine](#) was published by the European Society for Emergency Paediatrics and the European Academy of Paediatrics was published in *Frontiers in Paediatrics*.

Two of the most recent EAP Statements include a position paper on Increasing the Focus on Children's Complex and Integrated Care Needs and recommendations for Adolescents with Eating Disorders in Pediatric Practice. Visit [EAP's website](#) for a full list of published statements.

The Young EAP (network of national junior pediatric representatives within the EAP)



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## IPA Regional Activity Recap **Europe Region**

is involved in [ongoing projects](#) regarding Paediatric training programs across Europe.

In March, the EAP Executive Committee conducted a hybrid meeting in Bruges where several collaborations with fellow Paediatric bodies and important ongoing EAP initiatives and activities were discussed. EAP is represented in the EU Commission Coalition for Vaccination established in spring 2019 and brings together European health professionals' and students' associations to advocate for vaccination in their work with citizens and peers. Members of the Coalition for Vaccination commit to delivering accurate information to the public, fighting myths around vaccination and vaccines, and to exchanging best practices.

EAP maintains its continuous involvement of the EAP in the following EU projects.

- [Core-MD](#)
- [ImmuHubs](#)
- [RIVER EU](#) (project on vaccine equity)
- [IMMUNION](#) (read the [press release](#) from 25 April calling for easy vaccine access for Ukrainian refugees)
- [The Vaccinate your Child Campaign](#)

[World Immunization Week 2022 - 24 to 30 April](#) marks a joint social campaign titled 'One Less Thing' by UNICEF and EAP to increase routine vaccination in European children. Follow the EAP's social media channels over the course of May for details on the campaign.



During unprecedented times, we urge European pediatricians to continue to advocate for children's welfare in their nation-states, across Europe, and worldwide. We look forward to welcoming all National Delegates and EAP members at the [EAP Spring meeting](#) from 13-14 May 2022. The EAP thanks all the leaders of the Strategic Advisory Groups, National Delegates, Individual members, and collaborating societies for being a part of its accomplishments.

**Prof. Adamos Hadjipanayis**

President, EAP

## American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

### Launch of ENC Now! and WHO ENCC

The World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and other global partners, launched an interim version of the second edition of the Essential Newborn Care Course (ENCC) on 11th April. Recognizing that the first month of life is the most vulnerable period for child survival, ENCC aims to build competencies of learners to save lives, prevent disabilities and ensure all newborns reach their full potential.

The second edition of ENCC is made up of two parts – ENC 1, focusing on essential newborn care from birth to 60 minutes after birth, and ENC 2, focusing on care between 60 to 90 minutes after birth and beyond. ENCC has many new features including flexibility to be used for both in-service and pre-service settings, different course options, strengthened links to care in the community, and alignment with WHO guidelines, recommendations, and quality of care standards. Moreover, ENCC integrates existing newborn courses from around the world such as the AAP's Helping Babies Breathe, Essential Care for Every Baby, and Essential Care for Small Babies curricula. Pilot testing was limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so the second edition will be finalized after further testing and feedback.

We are proud that AAP members, specifically Helping Babies Survive Planning Group members, have served on the technical working group to develop the final product, which serves as the basis for [ENC Now!](#).

ENC Now!, which launched in November 2021, is a digital solution for online, remote facilitation of WHO ENCC. The online course for ENC 1 is currently available on the Helping Mothers and Babies to Survive (HMBS.org) learning platform developed by Laerdal Global Health, and the online course for ENC 2 is currently under development. All WHO ENCC print materials can also be downloaded from HMBS.org.

Recognizing that training alone is not enough to change practice, the AAP is also offering **CRISP** (Customized mentorship and Implementation Support Package) that will include online ENCC training plus supplemental mentorship sessions and resources to support implementation as well as retention of knowledge and skills.

#### Key Links:

- WHO ENCC landing page: <https://www.who.int/tools/essential-newborn-care-training-course>
- Helping Mothers and Babies Survive learning portal: <https://hmbs.org/>
- ENC Now!: <https://hmbs.org/course/enc-now-implementor/>
  - CRISP: <https://hmbs.org/crisp/>
  - ENC Now! AAP News article (pages 1 and 4): <https://766c0720.flowpaper.com/AAPNews0122/#page=1>

#### Casey Rose Lowman, MPH

Manager, Global Newborn Programs  
Research & Evaluation, AAP



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## IPA Regional Activity Recap

# Latin America REGION



On April 19th 2022, ALAPE's Committee of Social Pediatrics held their first webinar, hosted by their president Dr. Iliana Curiel, and Dr. Raúl Mercer as the guest speaker. Dr. Raul who owns a masters in epidemiology is a coordinator of the Social Sciences and Health Program of the Argentinian FLACSO, a member of the Social Pediatrics of ALAPE, and an ISSOP representative held an interesting presentation about the importance of the Social Pediatrics in Latin América, their scope and action areas, and the regional and international challenges.

Click on the links below to enjoy this webinar on Facebook (<https://fb.watch/cD7nfNrcRY/>) and YouTube (<https://youtu.be/dP6axepY3YE>).

Our vice-president Marcela Fama, member of the IPA's Humanitarian Emergencies SAG Group in conjunction with ISSOP members presented an official statement regarding the war conflict in Eastern Europe, which has a negative impact on children and teenagers in the region. This statement represents the interest of all Latin American pediatricians in ensuring the well-being of children, not only in Ukraine but the world. We also have promoted other initiatives, encouraging our subsidiaries all around Latin America to join us and together make a call for peace on behalf of the medical community of the world.



## Upcoming ALAPE Events



**ALAPE 2022**  
PUNTA CANA

XIX Congreso Latinoamericano de Pediatría  
XLVI Congreso Dominicano de Pediatría  
XIV Jornada Nacional de Pediatría  
"LA NIÑEZ LATINOAMERICANA ANTE LOS NUEVOS TIEMPOS"

29 DE SEPTIEMBRE AL 1 DE OCTUBRE DE 2022

[www.alape2022.com](http://www.alape2022.com)



We are getting closer to celebrating our XIX Latin American Congress of Pediatrics and the XIV Dominican National Summit of Pediatrics, from September 29th to October 1st 2022 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, we are so excited about the Scientific Program that our committee assembled for this year, you don't want to miss it! Check out the official website [www.alape2022.com](http://www.alape2022.com) where you can find the seminar topics, the platform to upload conference abstracts, and the accommodation rates at the paradisiacal Hard Rock Hotel, registrations are now open!

ALAPE will be sponsoring the III International Congress of Children's Nutrition and Breastfeeding called "Infant Nutrition: beyond the biological condition", this online event is co-organized by the Colombian Ministry of Health alongside the Andes University, ISSOP, and Fundación Éxito, from May 24th to May 26th, the main topics will be micronutrients, breastfeeding, and infant nutrition background.

**Dr. Carlos Gilberto Alonso Rivera**  
President, ALAPE





**Union of Arab Pediatric Societies (UAPS)  
Participation of UAPS in the 6th Annual International  
Pediatric Summit entitled "Gathering the region" held in  
Dubai, UAE from 5-6 March 2022**

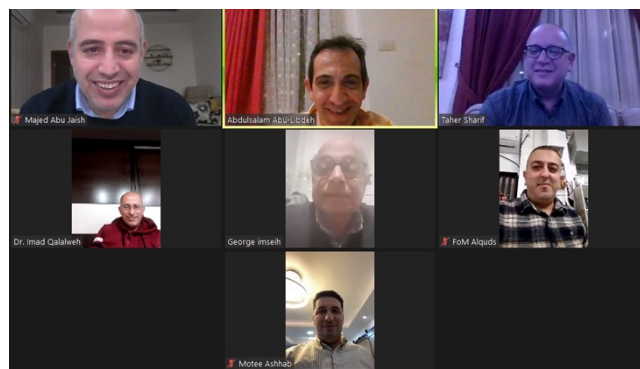


Left-Right: Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh (Secretary General, UAPS) and Prof. Joseph Haddad (President, UAPS). Dr. Abu-Libdeh presented 3 lectures during the conference.



Group picture after the opening ceremony with the Sheikh of the United Arab Emirates

**Pediatric Society of Palestine**



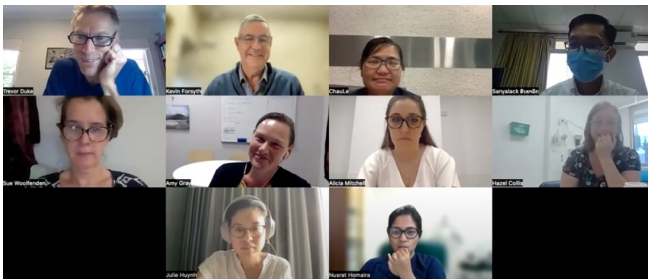
The quarterly meeting of the committee of the Pediatric Society of Palestine.

**Dr. Abdulsalam Abu-Libdeh**  
Secretary-General, UAPS



## International Subspecialty Pediatric Societies

### International Pediatric Academic Leaders Association (IPALA)



Our Leadership Academy has commenced. This is an online 8-month-long leadership course that is designed to equip leaders and potential child health leaders with leadership competencies. It also enables connection to the broader global child health leadership and academic child health leaders. There are 8 modules. In the first module, the participants watched and commented on 15 videos of current child health leaders describing the principles that guide them as leaders. The modules were further developed with material on 'managing self', 'managing others', 'financial literacy' etc. This year is a pilot year, we intend to expand this program in future years. It would be wonderful if IPA Societies took advantage of this program to recommend future leaders for this course next year.

**Kevin Forsyth**  
President, IPALA

### International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP)

The International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD) on the 15th of February each year is the opportunity to raise awareness of childhood cancer globally. Since 2021, the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) representing professionals, and Childhood Cancer International (CCI) representing parents, patients, and survivors have joined forces around the 'Tree of Life' Campaign to commemorate the ICCD. In 2022, the focus was on the pivotal role of the healthcare team in providing the right treatment to young cancer patients. Participants were invited to post and design colorful handprints on the campaign website. Hundreds of messages of hope and gratitude from 60+ countries were collected, making the campaign a great success.

In addition, in mid-March 2022, the SIOP Africa Congress took place as an in-person event for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. The Congress was very successful and very well attended. Furthermore, registration for the 2022 SIOP Annual Congress, which will take place in Barcelona between September 28-October 1, 2022, has now opened. [www.siop-congress.org](http://www.siop-congress.org).

**Tessie Laub**  
Executive Director for Programs and Strategy,  
SIOP



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## International Subspecialty Pediatric Societies

### International Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health (ISSOP)

ISSOP (International Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health) has been actively engaged over the past several months with initiatives addressing a number of critical global issues impacting children.

- Our Covid-19 research group has engaged more than 100 researchers worldwide in collaborative endeavors to engage the voice of children to better understand their experiences and needs during the pandemic. In partnership with the British Medical Journal Pediatrics Open, we sponsored a collection of manuscripts addressing the voice of children that resulted from the research collaboration.
- In response to the crisis in Ukraine, we have nearly 1500 signatures on a petition to develop a legally-binding global agreement, based on the UNCRC, to protect children in armed conflicts. <https://www.change.org/ProtectChildInArmedConflicts>
- In collaboration with ISPCAN and UC San Francisco, we held a 4-session series on Identifying and Responding to the Torture of Children and will be generating a strategic response.
- Our efforts related to the Climate Crisis post COP26 will now focus on engaging a coalition of pediatric organizations to work as a collaborative to ensure the rights of children are fulfilled in response to climate change.
- We continue to be actively engaged in addressing the impact of global marketing on children, including breast milk substitutes.
- These are among the many initiatives in which ISSOP invites you to participate ([www.ISSOP.org](http://www.ISSOP.org)).

**Dr. Jeffrey Goldhagen**

President, ISSOP





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# Announcement

**2022**

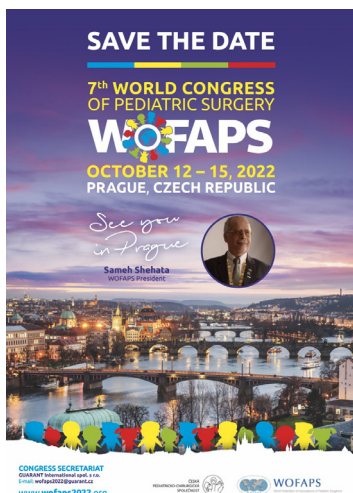
**22-25 June 2022**



**28 September –  
1 October 2022**



**12-15 October 2022**



**2023**

**19-23 February 2023**



**30<sup>TH</sup> IPA CONGRESS & 60<sup>TH</sup> PEDICON 2023**  
Quality Care for Every Child Everywhere  
Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India | 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 2023

30th International Pediatric Association Congress 2023 &  
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