



**International
Pediatric
Association**

Every Child • Every Age • Everywhere

International Pediatric Association Newsletter

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Edition Summary

» Message from the President	02
» From Executive Director's Desk	03
» From the Editor	04
» IPA Congress 2025	05
» IPA Activity Recap June-September 2024	06
» IPA Regional & International Sub-Specialty Pediatric Societies Activity Recap May-August 2024	14
» Announcement	28

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International Pediatric Association (IPA)





Message from the President



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is a privilege to connect with you through this newsletter as we continue to advance the mission of the **International Pediatric Association (IPA)**—a global community committed to improving child health and well-being across all regions. As the IPA President, I am immensely proud of the collective work we are doing to address some of the most pressing issues in pediatric care, from **webinars conducted by the IPA Programme Areas and Working Groups** and **vaccination campaigns to advocating for child rights** and **supporting healthcare systems in resource-limited settings**.

Through our partnerships with national pediatric societies, international organizations, and health advocates, the IPA remains a driving force in promoting the health of children worldwide. Our ongoing efforts to support pediatric education, promote equitable access to healthcare, and respond to emerging health threats—such as climate change and infectious disease outbreaks—are central to our mission. The work we do, in every corner of the globe, is only possible because of your dedication and collaboration.

As we move forward, I want to highlight one of the most significant events on our horizon: the **31st International Pediatric Association (IPA) Congress in 2025**. This Congress is more than just a scientific meeting—it is a celebration of our collective achievements, a platform for sharing knowledge, and an opportunity to chart the course for the future of pediatric care.

The **IPA Congress 2025** will focus on **“Bridging Borders for Child Health: Facing Challenges and Global Solutions”** underscoring our shared commitment to ensuring that every child, no matter where they are, has access to the healthcare they deserve. With a diverse and cutting-edge program, we will explore pressing topics such as **nutrition, mental health, vaccination, climate change, and healthcare innovations**. This Congress will also provide a dynamic space for networking, enabling pediatricians and child health professionals from all regions to collaborate on solutions that impact our youngest and most vulnerable populations.

I invite each of you to actively participate in this remarkable event. **The IPA Congress 2025** will be a transformative experience, and your engagement will be crucial to its success. Together, we will continue to shape the future of pediatric care, making lasting progress toward a healthier world for all children.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and passion for improving child health. Let’s keep moving forward, united in our shared purpose.

Warm regards,

Dr. Naveen Thacker
IPA President



From Executive Director's Desk



Dear colleagues,

As we approach the final months of 2024, I reflect on the incredible resilience and dedication shown by pediatric healthcare professionals around the globe. This year has continued to challenge us, but it has also provided new opportunities for growth and collaboration in advancing children's health.

In this issue of the IPA Newsletter, we highlight several key initiatives that have made significant strides. From the ongoing progress through the IPA Programme Areas and Working Groups to the recent Physical Standing Committee Meeting in Casablanca, these efforts act as a testament to what can be achieved through collective action and unwavering commitment.

However, as next year marks five years to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, it is clear that there are areas where progress remains insufficient, namely SDGs goal 2 and 3. Child health, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, still faces significant gaps in addressing preventable diseases, malnutrition, and inequitable access to healthcare services. We must accelerate our efforts across all IPA member societies in these critical areas if we are to meet the targets set out for children's well-being by 2030.

We also look forward to the upcoming IPA Congress 2025 in Mexico, where leaders in pediatric health will gather to share insights and discuss solutions for the most pressing health challenges faced by children today. This conference marks an important point in IPA history with the upcoming IPA Elections as well. As we innovate and adapt to new realities, our goal remains the same: to ensure that every child, no matter where they live, has access to the care they deserve.

Thank you for your continued support and for being an integral part of our mission. Together, we will continue to shape a healthier future for children worldwide.

Prof. Aman B Pulungan
Executive Director
International Pediatric Association



From the Editor



Reading the contributions to this newsletter always makes me proud of the contributions of pediatricians globally. It has been a difficult year across the world, and the challenges we face continue to mount. Some of these challenges are ones we hope were maybe behind us - for example, the emergence of polio in Gaza, but also in Pakistan with more than 10 cases, and positive environmental samples in more than 50 districts. We know about these challenges because of the advocacy and efforts of our colleagues, and we have seen how they are able to respond. These collective efforts give me hope we are working towards a better future for children, wherever they may be.

I am looking forward to the IPA Congress in Mexico in 2025 and hope that many of you will join us there. To me the greatest strength of the Congress is not the topics which will be discussed but the people to whom we can connect. The breadth of representation of different countries and different challenges for pediatrics is by far to me the biggest drawcard. We can learn from our colleagues and connect across borders. In particular I am keen to learn from our South American colleagues and the lessons they bring from their own contexts....and sample the food!

Prof. Amy Gray
IPA Newsletter Editor-In-Chief



IPA Congress 2025

IPA Congress 2025: An Interview with Dr Carlos Alonso-Rivera

1. What are you looking forward to most about hosting the IPA Congress in Mexico in 2025?

Mexican pediatricians are looking forward to the opportunity to receive colleagues from different countries and to be able to exchange experiences in relation to child and adolescent health. It will be an honor to bring together leading experts from all regions of the world in a single event, with the sole purpose of learning and updating knowledge to provide better care to our patients. On the other hand, as a Latin American region we want to show the world our experience, our challenges and our opportunities in paediatric care.

2. What do you think are some of the highlights of the congress program?

The scientific program of the congress has been carefully designed by the organizers and the scientific committee that includes the 2 host Mexican pediatric societies in collaboration with the president of IPA, Dr. Naveen Thacker. During the 3 days of the congress, current knowledge in different pediatric specialties such as infectious diseases, gastroenterology, neurology, neonatology, critical medicine, adolescent medicine, among others, will be discussed, and we will also have the participation of different international agencies who will talk about the challenges of child health in our times, access to vaccines, breastfeeding, etc. We believe that it is a very complete program and rich in up-to-date knowledge.

3. For first time visitors to Mexico what do you think will surprise them the most during their time there?

In addition to the excellent scientific program that we have prepared for all those attending the congress, we have also thought of all those who visit our country for the first time, so different social and tourist activities have been organized in parallel to the scientific activities. We will make available to our visitors different agencies that will help us to have a rich cultural experience that our country offers to visitors. Mexico awaits them with open arms.

4. What are the essential foods we must try when there?

Mexico has a rich gastronomic offer for our visitors, but without a doubt we cannot miss tasting the popular food of our region. Tacos, quesadillas, mole, tamales. Of course, we must not forget tequila and mezcal as the most well-known drinks in our region. We have food and drink for all tastes. We just need to be careful with foods seasoned with chili (spicy), because they can be a surprise!

5. For those people who have some extra time before or after the Congress is there a local attraction they must not miss?

Mexico City is one of the largest cities in the world and offers a wide variety of tourist attractions. A visit to the pyramids of Teotihuacan, the different churches such as the metropolitan cathedral and the basilica of Guadalupe should not be missed. In addition, you can visit the canals of Xochimilco with its traditional "Chinampas". In the cultural part it is important to visit the different museums in the city, probably one of the best recommendations is the National Museum of Anthropology and History, where you can find impressive pieces from the pre-Hispanic period. For those who have additional time, before or after the congress, there are numerous beach destinations or colonial cities, and "magical towns" that can be visited by domestic flights 1-2 hours away from Mexico City.

IPA Executive Committee (EC) and Standing Committee (SC) Physical Meeting in Casablanca, Morocco



On 9 August 2024, IPA Executive had their annual physical meeting at Hyatt Regency Hotel in Casablanca, Morocco. Eight of the nine Executive members joined in person, while Dr. Enver Hasanoglu (Immediate President) was not able to be present. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Naveen Thacker (current IPA President) started at 8.30 AM Morocco Time. The IPA Executive Committee (EC) 2023-2025, namely Dr. Naveen Thacker (President), Dr. Joseph Haddad (President-Elect), Dr. Aman Pulungan (Executive Director), Dr. Jonathan Klein (Treasurer), Dr. Adamos Hadjipanayis (Coordinator of Development), Dr. Carlos G Alonso Rivera, Dr. Amy Gray, and Dr. Ana Beatriz Rosas-Sumano (IPA Congress 2025 Co-President), primarily discussed the upcoming IPA Congress 2025 in Mexico and the IPA Election 2025-2027. The meeting concluded at 9:30 AM Morocco Time.

The IPA SC Meeting convened at the hotel following the Executive meeting. A total of 27 of 31 SC members attended, 26 in person and one person virtually. The meeting commenced at 10.00 AM Morocco Time. The IPA Officers, namely Dr. Naveen Thacker (President), Dr. Joseph Haddad (President-Elect), Dr. Aman Pulungan (Executive Director), Dr. Jonathan Klein (Treasurer), and Dr. Adamos Hadjipanayis (Coordinator of Development), presented their report to the SC and had a robust discussion on IPA plans for the current term. IPA SC 2023-2025 was divided into several rooms for concurrent breakout sessions for IPA SC Subcommittees. The four IPA SC Subcommittees discussed their group's ongoing activities and upcoming targets/plans, which they then reported to all the SC members. Dr. Thacker then summarized the action plans and concluded the meeting with the SC's agreement.

The second day of the IPA SC Meeting convened on August 10, 2024, at 8:00 AM Morocco Time. The meeting was structured with six distinct sessions, each focusing on a specific agenda item. Dr. Joseph Haddad initiated the proceedings with a discussion on the IPA's strategic planning for the 2025-2027 term. Subsequently, Dr. Rosas and Dr. Rivera led a comprehensive discussion about the upcoming IPA Congress 2025 in Mexico. Dr. Thacker then chaired a robust deliberation on the IPA Election 2025-2027 and the IPA Program Areas and Working Groups. Following these discussions, representatives from various IPA regional and subspecialty member societies presented their activities and programs. Dr. Thacker then concluded the meeting with a summary of the discussions and agreements reached by the SC members, officially adjourning the proceedings.



WHO South-East Asia Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group (SEAR-ITAG)



Dr. Naveen Thacker participated in the 15th WHO South-East Asia Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group (SEAR-ITAG) meeting, which was held on 20-23 August 2024 in New Delhi, India. Representing the IPA, Dr. Thacker took part in the effort to provide evidence-based recommendations aimed to enhance immunization strategies in the region.

Virtual Side Event: Science Summit at the 79th UN General Assembly

On 11 September 2024, Dr. Naveen Thacker and Professor Aman Pulungan participated as key speakers in the Virtual side event: Science Summit at the 79th UN General Assembly. In his presentation titled "NBS Success Story from Indonesia," Prof. Pulungan highlighted the various challenges and strategies involved in implementing Newborn Screening in Indonesia. Meanwhile, Dr. Thacker delivered a presentation on the role of the IPA in global pediatric care, extending an invitation to the audience to attend the IPA Congress 2025 in Mexico with his presentation titled "The Role of Pediatricians in Driving Change: An Invitation to IPA Congress 2025."

PMNCH Session on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Advancing the Agenda for a Sustainable Future



On September 23, 2024, Dr. Naveen Thacker and Dr. Jonathan Klein represented the IPA at a Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) session on adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights. The session, held in New York, USA, featured a collaboration with UNFPA, WHO, and the governments of Chile, Colombia, and numerous other nations.

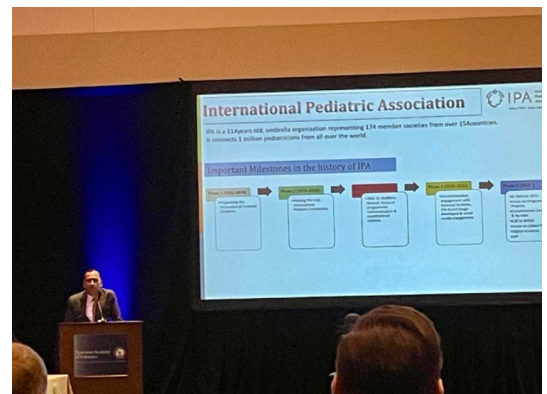
Partnership for a Lead-Free Future launch



Dr. Naveen Thacker and Dr. Jonathan Klein represented the IPA at the Lead-Free Future launch event on September 23, 2024, in New York City, USA. As a committed partner in this vital endeavor, IPA is dedicated to advancing children’s health and well-being by advocating for a lead-free environment.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Board Meeting

On Friday, 27 September 2024, Dr. Naveen Thacker, participated in the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Board Meeting held at the Hyatt Regency, Orlando. During the session, Dr. Thacker delivered an insightful presentation, providing updates on IPA’s ongoing global initiatives aimed at enhancing pediatric care across various regions. Dr. Thacker highlighted the critical milestones IPA has achieved over the years and emphasized collaborative efforts to improve the health and well-being of children worldwide.



Dr. Naveen as the recipient of the “Mas Hidayat Award” in recognition of the outstanding contributions to children’s health at KONIKA XIX



The 19th National Congress of Indonesian Pediatrics Society (KONIKA XIX) took place from 29 September to 1 October 2024 in Semarang, Indonesia, under the theme “Ensuring Equal Access of Childcare in The Era of Society 5.0.” The congress brought together over 4000 delegates from across the nation. A significant highlight of the event was Dr. Naveen Thacker, IPA President, being honored with the prestigious “Mas Hidayat” Award, recognizing his exceptional contributions to global pediatric care. Professor Aman Pulungan, IPA Executive Director, accepted the award on his behalf during the Opening Ceremony and Cultural Night Dinner. The IPA was prominently featured at the event through standing banners and the video promotion of the IPA Congress 2025.

Pediatric Association Advocacy for Immunization Priorities



Since 2023, the IPA has been strengthening immunization efforts in collaboration with the Indonesian Pediatric Society and Pediatric Association of Nigeria. Through national training of various professions in both countries, this initiative has built a network of resource persons to combat misinformation, support immunization programs for HPV vaccine and to strengthen immunization programs overall. The project is progressing steadily, now reaching regional levels. Building on the initial success of national workshops, regional chapters are actively engaging healthcare professionals, community leaders, and policymakers to amplify HPV vaccine efforts.

You can access all IPA Programme Area Webinar recordings via the webinar platform. To guarantee that you don't miss any of our sessions, please log in or register at <http://ipa-world.org/webinar-module>, then proceed to the "Previous Webinar" section and select the desired webinar title.



TRANSFUSION PRACTICES IN PEDIATRIC CANCERS
"CHILDREN ARE NOT LITTLE ADULTS"

Speakers
Dr. Smita Bhutta (USA), Dr. Smita Bhutta (USA)

Panel Discussion
"Transfusion medicine in pediatric cancers"

Moderators
Dr. Smita Bhutta (USA), Dr. Nriyasa Reddy (India), Dr. Purna Kulkarni (India), Dr. Laghari Khan (USA), Dr. Sunil Shah (India)

SAVE THE DATE!
Monday, 3 June 2024
2 - 3:30 PM GMT

REGISTER NOW
bit.ly/PAWebinarRegist

Submit your questions for speakers through: <https://bit.ly/QuestionsOnPediatricCancer>

adminoffice@ipa-world.org

Transfusion Practices in Pediatric Cancer: Children Are Not Little Adults

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Childhood Cancer

Insightful session about transfusion medicine guidelines for children with cancer delivered by pediatric experts from the United States and India.



IPA Newborn Webinar Series: Race Towards Achieving SDG Goals
WEBINAR #6
REINVIGORATING NEWBORN RESUSCITATION IN LRS

SAVE THE DATE!
19 JUNE 2024
2 - 3 PM UTC

MODERATOR
SARA BERKELHAMER (USA)

SPEAKERS
ZULFIQAR BHUTTA (Canada), SITHEMBISO VELAPHI (South Africa)

REGISTER NOW
<https://bit.ly/NewbornWebinar6>

All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Attendance or streaming of 9 of 12 sessions will generate a certificate from IPA.

Kindly note that the webinar will be conducted in English and closed-captioned translation available via Zoom.

adminoffice@ipa-world.org

Reinvigorating Newborn Resuscitation in LRS

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Respectful Care for Every Mother and Newborn

The participants found the discussion about newborn resuscitation to be informative, precise, and applicable in a low-resource setting.



IPA Working Group on Sickle Cell Disease presents
Cell Therapy in Sickle Cell Disease: A Global Health Perspective

SAVE THE DATE!
1.00 - 2.15 PM UTC
Monday, 24 June 2024

MODERATOR & WEBINAR CHAIR
DR. ANSHU JAIN (United States)

SPEAKERS
Dr. Haydar Fransoul (United States), Dr. Debjyoti Chakraborty (India)

REGISTER NOW
bit.ly/SickleCellWebinar01

adminoffice@ipa-world.org

Cell Therapy in Sickle Cell Disease: A Global Health Perspective

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Sickle Cell Diseases

The webinar featured perspectives from east and west countries on gene therapy in sickle cell diseases, making it a realistic global health picture.



IPA Working Group on Polio in collaboration with WHO presents
Polio Eradication: Surmounting the Last Mile Webinar

SAVE THE DATE!
3.00 - 4.15 PM UTC
Thursday, 27 June 2024

MODERATOR
PROF. MUHAMMAD ASHRAF RULTAN (Pakistan)

SPEAKERS
DR. ONDREJ MACH (Czechia), DR. ANANDA SANKAR BANDYOPADHYAY (United States)

PANELISTS
DR. FOLUSHO HUBOWALE BALOGUN (Nigeria), DR. DOUNA GBANUA DAQOYA (Chad)

REGISTER NOW
<https://bit.ly/PolioWebinar1>

Polio Eradication: Surmounting the Last Mile Webinar

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Polio Eradication

In collaboration with WHO, the prominent experts talked about global efforts on polio eradication in an engaging session.



Tools for Pediatric QI and Patient Safety

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Quality Improvement & Patient Safety

The webinar focused on strategies to reduce pediatric harm as well as instruments used to ensure the quality of child care.



Diagnosis of Pediatric Tuberculosis: An Update

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Tuberculosis

Participants were presented with an update on the diagnosis of pulmonary and extrapulmonary pediatric tuberculosis by the speakers.



Dengue Illnesses and Its Complications

Organized by IPA Program Area on Infectious Diseases

Comprehensive details about dengue fever, including some controversial matters, were delivered to the participants.



Oxygen and The Small and Sick Neonate

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Respectful Care for Every Mother and Newborn

Addressed the topic of oxygen management for various sick newborn cases, including retinopathy of prematurity.



The Power of Play: Why Early Moments Matter

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Early Childhood Development

The key speakers of the webinar emphasized the importance of playing at an early age to help boost a child's developmental milestones.



Helping The Child with Diabetes Get an Education: Coping in School

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Non-Communicable Diseases & Mental Health

The participants followed an interactive discussion about proper coping techniques for children with diabetes learning at school.



IPA Webinar on Infectious Disease
Choice of Antibiotics: Perfect or Imperfect?
Moderator: **Dr. S. Balasubramanian** (India)
SAVE THE DATE! **2.30 - 4 PM UTC** 8 August 2024
Panelists: **Dr. Jombo Namushe** (Zambia), **Dr. Gabriela Naranjo** (Costa Rica), **Dr. Barbara Rath** (Germany)
Convener: **Dr. Bakul Parekh** (India), **Dr. Abhay Shah** (India)
All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Zoom Closed Caption translations are now available in many languages!
REGISTER NOW bit.ly/InfectiousDiseaseWebinar2

Choice of Antibiotics: Perfect or Imperfect?

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Infectious Diseases

Experienced panelists from various regions provided invaluable guidance on antibiotic choice principles for participants.

IPA Webinar on Antimicrobial Resistance
ESBL Infections in Children
Moderator: **Dr. Bernard Ebruke** (Africa)
SAVE THE DATE! **1.30-2.30 PM UTC** 12 August 2024
Speakers: **Dr. Mehreen Ashraf** (Pakistan), **Dr. Julia Bielicki** (Switzerland), **Dr. Anggastini Alam** (Indonesia)
Panelist: **Dr. Bernard Ebruke** (Africa)
All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Zoom Closed Caption translations are now available in many languages!
REGISTER NOW bit.ly/AMRWebinar2

ESBL Infections in Children

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Antimicrobial Stewardship

Thorough explanations about the diagnosis, management, and current challenges of ESBL infections in children were discussed by prominent experts.

IPA Newborn Webinar Series: Race Towards Achieving SDG Goals
WEBINAR #8
BUBBLE CPAP: THE SOLUTION FOR BABIES WITH RESPIRATORY DISTRESS
SAVE THE DATE! **21 AUGUST 2024** 2 - 3 PM UTC
Moderator: **Hema Magge, MD** (United States)
Speakers: **Srinivas Murki, MD** (India), **Mustopha Mahom, B.Sc., RN** (Ghana)
All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Attendance or streaming of 9 of 12 sessions will generate a certificate from IPA.
REGISTER NOW <https://bit.ly/NewbornWebinar8>

Bubble CPAP: The Solution for Babies with Respiratory Distress

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Respectful Care for Every Mother and Newborn

The eighth monthly webinar featured an in-depth discussion about bubble CPAP, a non-invasive ventilation strategy for newborns.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT & PATIENT SAFETY WEBINAR SERIES
Working with Clinical Teams for Quality Improvement
Friday, 23 August 2024 | 2.00-3.30 PM UTC
Speakers: **Nigel Livesley** (Kenya), **Rajesh Mehta** (India)
Moderator: **Himasa Chowdhury** (United Kingdom)
All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Zoom Closed Caption translations are now available in many languages!
REGISTER NOW bit.ly/QIPatientSafetyWebinar4

Working with Clinical Teams for Quality Improvement

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Quality Improvement & Patient Safety

The webinar highlighted the benefits of working with clinical teams in order to improve patient management quality.

Early Childhood Development Webinar Series
Nurturing Care Practices in Multiple Settings
FRIDAY, 30 AUGUST 2024 | 2-3 PM UTC
Speakers: **Dr. Sharmila B. Murkhejee** (India), **Dr. Lama Charafeddine** (Lebanon)
Moderator: **Dr. Antonio Rizzoli** (Mexico)
All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Zoom Closed Caption translations are now available in many languages!
REGISTER NOW <https://bit.ly/ECDWebinarQ3>

Nurturing Care Practices in Multiple Settings

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Early Childhood Development

Explored real-time situation updates and the challenges of nurturing care practices in India and Lebanon.

IPA Webinar on Infectious Disease
TORCH Infections in Neonates
Moderator: **Dr. Tanu Singhal** (India)
SAVE THE DATE! **2.30 - 4 PM UTC** 12 September 2024
Panelists: **Dr. Raki Hanna Wajeh** (Lebanon), **Dr. Eda Kefenekli** (Turkey), **Dr. Alessandro Soriano** (Costa Rica)
Convener: **Dr. Bakul Parekh** (India), **Dr. Abhay Shah** (India)
All webinars will be recorded and made available on the Zoom and IPA Webinar Platform. Zoom Closed Caption translations are now available in many languages!
REGISTER NOW bit.ly/InfectiousDiseaseWebinar3

TORCH Infections in Neonates

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Infectious Diseases

The participants followed an inspiring discussion about the management of TORCH infection in neonates held by pediatric experts from around the world.



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT & PATIENT SAFETY WEBINAR SERIES
Celebrating World Patient Safety Day
Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety
Friday, 13 September 2024 | 1.30-3.00 PM UTC

SPEAKERS

NEELAM DHINGRA
GENEVA

HARDEEP SINGH
TEXAS

MODERATOR
PETER LACHMAN
WELLAND

REGISTER NOW
bit.ly/WorldPatientSafetyWebinar

adminoffice@ipa-world.org

Celebrating World Patient Safety Day: Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety

Organized by: IPA Working Group on Quality Improvement & Patient Safety

As a form of celebration for World Patient Safety Day, the webinar discussed the importance of improving diagnosis for patient safety now and then.

IPA Newborn Webinar Series: Race Towards Achieving SDG Goals
WEBINAR #9
HIGH RISK FOLLOW UP

SAVE THE DATE!
18 SEPTEMBER 2024
2 - 3 PM UTC

MODERATOR
OSWALDO REVELO
El Salvador

SPEAKERS

"Discharge preparation / discharge planning"
Ana Quiroga
Argentina

"Developmental follow up"
Ana Lucia Diaz
Guatemala

REGISTER NOW
<https://bit.ly/NewbornWebinar9>

adminoffice@ipa-world.org

High Risk Follow Up

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Respectful Care for Every Mother and Newborn

The prominent experts shared enlightening recommendations for discharge preparation and developmental follow-up planning.

Early Childhood Development Webinar Series
Unraveling Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Diagnosis, Management and Cultural Implications
24 September 2024 | 2-3 PM UTC

SPEAKERS

Dr. Gurpreet (Preeti) Salh, MD, FRCPCC
Developmental Pediatrician
Canada

Dr. Aleya Remtulla, MD, M.Med, M.Phil
Developmental Pediatrician
Tanzania

MODERATOR
DR. SUSAN WAMITHI
Kenya

REGISTER NOW
<https://bit.ly/ECDWebinar4>

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Unraveling Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Diagnosis, Management, and Cultural Implications

Organized by: IPA Program Area on Early Childhood Development

The discussion brought up practical ways to manage fetal alcohol spectrum disorder adapted to various cultural settings.



IPA International
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IPA Regional Activity Recap May-August 2024

African REGION

UNAPSA

The Union of African Paediatrics Societies and Association (UNAPSA) held its Congress along with the Botswana Paediatric Association (BPA) from August 6th-9th in Gaborone, Botswana. The ceremony was declared open by the Minister of Health from Botswana, Dr Edwin Dikoloti. Scientific sections were held covering various areas of the care of the child. The theme for the congress was; **"Global and Local Perspective on Holistic Paediatric and Neonatal care."**

New Executive members of UNAPSA were elected at the end of the UNAPSA/BPA congress. The current President is Dr Gody Jean Chysostome from the Central African Republic Paediatric Society.

Dr John Appiah from Ghana Paediatric Association was unanimously supported as President elect while Dr Bridget Okoeguale, Executive Director of UNAPSA was unanimous re-elected for a second tenure of five years.

IPA Regional Activity Recap

North America REGION

AAP

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) would like to highlight key activities of our global work over the past few months.

From August 10-11, the AAP hosted its second Global POCUS workshop and Global Health Education Course (GHEC) at its headquarters. GHEC had 34 attendees while the POCUS course had 28 learners. Expert faculty from the US and East Africa led the annual course, which received high ratings and great feedback. Participants learned about topics from dealing with disasters and managing children in conflict settings to

emerging and re-emerging diseases. Those that joined in person participated in a global health procedural skills workshop where they learned how to perform a few simple procedures using equipment available in low-resource settings. They also heard from an expert panel on global health careers.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) awarded AAP a Blue Sky Research Grant for a new 3-year research study on adolescent mental health in Ethiopia. In close collaboration with the Ethiopian Pediatric Society, Nationwide Children's Hospital, and Northwestern University, AAP will assess the feasibility and acceptability of a new



IPA Regional Activity Recap

North America Region

culturally adapted combined suicide screening and safety planning package for Ethiopian youth across four regional hospitals. This project will present an opportunity to conduct cutting-edge intervention and implementation science research to adapt existing evidence-based practices and referral pathways for the Ethiopian context.



Senior Vice President of Global Health and Clinical Skills, Dr Beena Kamath-Rayne, and other global health experts, participating in one of the panels for the AAP's Global Health Education Course.

In addition to the AFSP new grant, the AAP was awarded a new 3-year grant from the Hilton Foundation to continue our early childhood development (ECD) work in East and Southern Africa collaborating with pediatric associations in Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania. In addition Merck awarded AAP a new grant to adapt our vaccine hesitancy simulation curriculum in Eastern Europe alongside the Albanian Pediatric Society.

Essential Newborn Care (ENC) trainings were held in Mexico and Rwanda. In Mexico, Dr Carlos Ramos supported expansion of a network of trainers in ENC in Tabasco. In Rwanda, in collaboration with Laerdal Global Health and the World Health

Organization (WHO), an ENC 1 workshop was held at the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) regional conference on Sept 26.

An AAP-supported pre-service early child development (ECD) course of the East Central and Southern Africa College of Pediatrics and Child Health (ECSAPACH) was completed by 82 participants from Kenya, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Botswana. ECSAPACH is currently in the process of engaging the remaining participants to gather their feedback and contributions to gain more insights from participants. Overall, feedback was extremely positive (95.8% highly satisfied or satisfied) and learners scored high on post-lecture quizzes (average score for all three lectures 90% or greater) translating to effective course delivery and content.

In June 2024, AAP visited Suriname to facilitate pediatric society capacity building workshops with Vereniging Kinderartsen Suriname (VKS - Association of Pediatricians in Suriname). The 3-day workshops were held with 12 of the 16 pediatricians in Suriname and used human-centered design principles to develop VKS's first mission statement, to identify professional association priorities, and



to develop the first strategic action plan for the Association.

A local nurse during the AAP ENC1 workshop at Palenque, Chiapas.



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IPA Regional Activity Recap May-August 2024

Asia Pacific REGION

APPA

The 7th APPA Executive Committee (EC) and Standing Committee (SC) Zoom Meeting

The 7th APPA EC & SC Zoom Meeting was held on May 12, 2024. The meeting was organised to discuss issues pertaining to APPA which included the update on the 18th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (APCP) to be held in Cebu, Philippines from November 14-17, 2024, World Immunization Week (WIW) from APPA members, APPA e journal update (Asia Pacific Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health), reports on Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on APPA Constitution Amendment, 17th Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics (APCP) 2022 Accounts and other matters.



1st South Asian Pediatric Association (SAPA) Congress & 26th Annual Scientific Congress of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians (SLCP), June 9-11, 2024, at the Shangri-La Colombo, Sri Lanka (SAPA-SLCP International Paediatric Congress 2024)



APPA Standing Committee (SC) members at work during the SAPA-SLCP Congress. APPA President, Prof. Iqbal Memon (left) Prof. Manzoor Hussain, APPA SC member (Bangladesh) (right).



Group photo



APPA SC member from Pakistan, Prof. Muhammad Ashraf Sultan (right) during a dialogue session.

The 7th Asia Dengue Summit (ADS) 2024, June 5-7, 2024. "Towards Zero Dengue Deaths: Innovation, Collaboration, Action in Asia."

With over 390 million infections annually, dengue remains one of the most widespread and fastest-growing vector-borne diseases globally. To



IPA Regional Activity Recap **Asia Pacific Region**

address the growing threat of dengue, over 500 leading dengue experts from 20 countries including clinicians, academia, researchers, public health leaders and policymakers gathered at the 7th Asia Dengue Summit 2024 that was held at the Double Tree Hilton Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from June 5-7, 2024.

The Topic Highlights included: Epidemiology of Dengue, Dengue Human Infection Models, Aedes Mosquito Interactions, Pathogenesis and Immunity in Dengue Virus Infection and Dengue Vaccines.

The 7th ADS was officiated by the Malaysian Deputy Minister of Health, Lukanisman Awang Sauni. The Summit was a success!



Prof. Dr. Zulkifli Ismail (5th from right) with the Malaysian Deputy Minister of Health and Committee of the 7th ADS 2024



The three-day summit opened with a speech by Prof. Dr. Zulkifli Ismail, Chairman of the Asia Dengue Voice and Action (ADVA)

33rd Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Immunization and Vaccine-preventable Diseases in the Western Pacific region, June 18-21, 2024, Manila, Philippines/Hybrid

Prof. Emeritus Dr. Lulu Bravo from the Philippines represented the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (APPA) during the 4-day meeting. **The objectives of the meeting were:**

- To understand progress and identify challenges in implementing the strategies and achieving the goals of the Regional Strategic Framework for Vaccine-preventable Diseases and Immunization in the Western Pacific 2021-2030
- To determine a way forward in strengthening routine immunization systems, leveraging good practices and lessons identified from Covid-19 vaccination to reach the unreached through targeted routine immunization, protecting more people along the life course and through the introduction of new vaccines.
- To address the epidemiologic changes, challenges and risks of VPD outbreaks post pandemic through regional visions and strategies for integrated and comprehensive VPD surveillance.



Prof. Emeritus Dr. Lulu Bravo



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IPA Regional Activity Recap Asia Pacific Region

APPA Bulletin (Newsletter)

The latest APPA Bulletin (Volume 91 May-August 2024 No. 81) has been published and circulated digitally to all APPA members and IPA Administrative Office on September 20, 2024.



JPS

New Leadership of the Japan Pediatric Society: A Commitment to Global Pediatric Care

Professor Junko Takita Appointed as First Female President of the Japan Pediatric Society



In a historic moment for the Japan Pediatric Society (JPS), Professor Junko Takita from the Department of Pediatrics at Kyoto University was appointed as the first female president in April 2024. With women constituting 40% of the Society's membership, her appointment has been met with excitement and enthusiasm for the future.

Professor Takita's appointment is not just a milestone for gender equality but also a testament to her dedication and expertise in pediatric care. She brings a fresh perspective and a resolute vision to the role, aiming to advance the field of pediatrics both nationally and internationally.

A Strong Message from the New President

In her inaugural message, Professor Takita expressed deep gratitude and a strong commitment to uphold the esteemed legacy of the JPS. She emphasized the Society's mission to advance pediatric research, promote the well-being of children, and foster mutual exchange among members. Tackling the pressing issues of declining birth rates and increasing cases of severe bullying and child abuse in Japan, she stressed the importance of collaborative efforts

Asia Pacific Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health (APJPCH), the official APPA e-journal

APJPCH is a quarterly e-journal published regularly since September 2018- www.apjpch.com. The April-June 2024 issue is now online, compiled by Fairos Nazri (Executive Secretary, APPA) and approved by Prof. Dr. Zulkifli Ismail (Secretary General, APPA).





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with government bodies to protect and nurture every child's health and future.

Leadership Trio Dedicated to Global Pediatric Excellence

Alongside Professor Takita, Professor Kimihiko Oishi from the Jikei University School of Medicine and Professor Yoshiyuki Takahashi from Nagoya University, both serving as directors of the International Affairs Committee, are pivotal in driving international collaboration. Their united efforts aim to strengthen ties with the IPA and promote global exchanges that will benefit

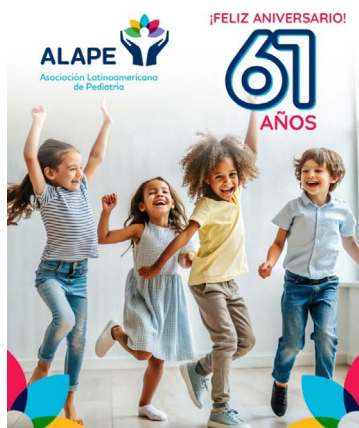
pediatric care worldwide.

Under this dynamic leadership, the JPS is poised to make significant strides in pediatric healthcare and is dedicated to being at the forefront of Pereira research. Professor Takita's vision includes initiatives to address the unique challenges facing pediatric care today, such as the need for advanced treatment for rare diseases and improved healthcare services for children and adolescents. We look forward to their powerful contributions and the continued growth and success of the JPS under their inspiring leadership.

IPA Regional Activity Recap

Latin America REGION

ALAPE



A new board of directors took office during the last Assembly of ALAPE delegates at the XX Latin American Congress of Pediatrics ALAPE along with the 55th National Congress of Pediatrics of C O N A P E M E

Congress in Guadalajara México. During this last period the new authorities have been focused on laying the foundations for the work plan of this administration.

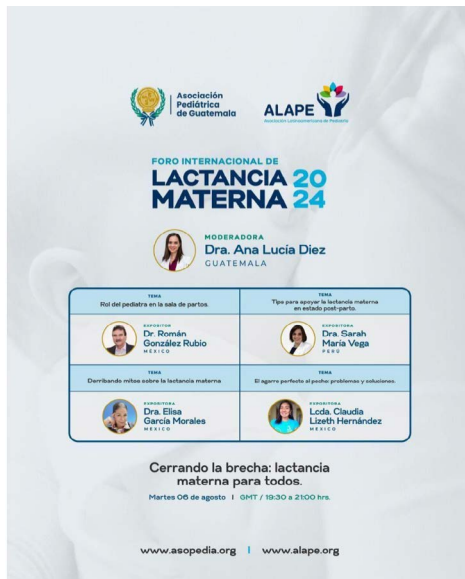
Starting with the renewal of our committees, each one held elections to elect their board of directors and a call to all our affiliates to add members to the committees was launched. The response was incredible, and our committees has incorporated into its ranks pediatricians from multiple counties, allowing greater inclusion and representation of all countries in the region. We are excited to see the upcoming events and activities they have prepared.



IPA Regional Activity Recap

Latin America Region

In August ALAPE celebrated the 61st anniversary of its creation on August 1st, 1963, according to the signing of the Quito minutes at the Pediatric Congress of Ecuador.



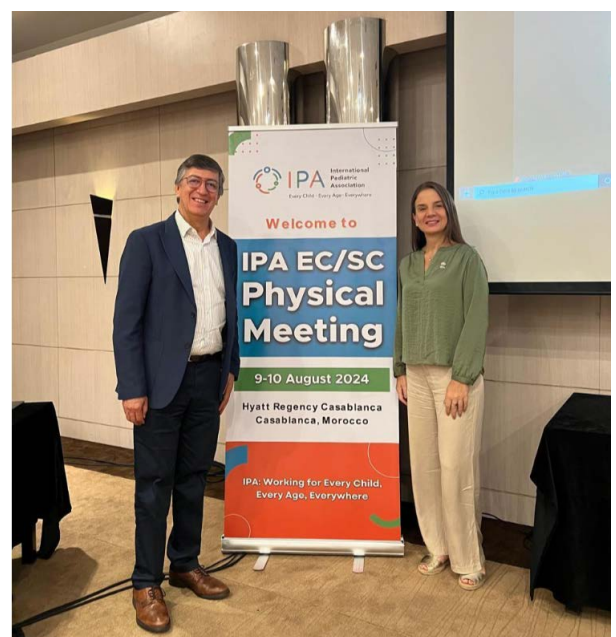
Continuing with the celebrations and recognising World Breastfeeding Week, the Breastfeeding Committee held the International Breastfeeding Forum 2024 where hundreds of Spanish-speaking pediatricians enjoyed topics such as the “Role of the pediatrician in the delivery room”, “Tips to support breastfeeding in a postpartum state”, “Tearing down the myths about breastfeeding” and “Perfect latching: problems and solutions”.

In its work with IPA, ALAPE’s President Dr. Marcela Fama and Past President Dr. Carlos Alonso, (both members of the Standing Committee) continue to represent the Latin American region and its interests including the following areas of work:

1. Increase, protect and promote breastfeeding through the commitment of the various pediatric associations around the world.
2. Promote vaccination using global strategies to raise awareness about the diseases that

could be prevented by vaccination and use its impact as mechanism to be accepted.

3. Create a committee to reinforce the importance of the First 1000 days as strategy to start a healthy life from birth that contributes to prevent non-communicable diseases.
4. Include Pediatric Palliative Care, needed by many children in low- and middle-income countries.
5. Establish alliances with international organizations such as PAHO/WHO and Save the Children, among others, to advocate together for the rights of the children and adolescents.
6. CONAPEME’s program “Doctor reader” contributes with plans and programs to encourage reading on children living in rural and urban zones, creating bridges in remote communities that facilitate installation of libraries with donated books to support children’s learning in their community.





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Latin America Region

The Global Health Conference of the Americas was held from September 3rd – 5th, 2024 at the Graham Center Modesto A. Maidique Campus of the Florida International University. Developed by the Global Health Consortium of the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work of the FIU in partnership with different allies including ALAPE, this annual event gathers leading public health, academic and medical experts to discuss the challenges and opportunities in global health to improve the health of the communities.

Representing ALAPE, Dr. Marcela Fama Pereira (President), Dr. Ingrid Lizama (member of the board of directors) of ALAPE and Dr. Ileana Curiel (Social Pediatrics and Global Health

Committee) attended this event and participated in the academic programme and the different workshops. Some of the subjects discussed were health and climate change, cancer in young populations, non-communicable diseases, mental health, vaccination among others.

Academic alliances were made, and we strengthened the ones already existing with different participating institution, creating projects with the goal to educate, motivate, defend, and propagate knowledge regarding the most critical health problems affecting children and adolescents. We will be sharing further information about this exciting project on our website www.ala.org and social media.



Dr. Lourdes Dueñas pediatric infectious disease specialist, President Dr. Marcela Fama and Dr. Ingrid Lizama (El Salvador) Neonatologist and member of BD of ALAPE.



Dr. Ileana Curiel (Colombia) ALAPE's Social Pediatrics and Global Health Committee and Dr. Marcela Fama.



Dr. José Brea Past President of ALAPE, Dr. María Luisa Ávila SLIPE's President and Dr. Marcela Fama.



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IPA Regional Activity Recap May-August 2024

Europe REGION

EAP

“We Have a Lot to Do, But We Can Do It. Together.”

The European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP) was honoured to participate in the 74th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, where leaders from across the region gathered to discuss a new strategy for Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing.



Follow this link to view the full video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Q_wbkWVfOU

3 Takeaways from Prof. Berthold Koletzko's Remarks

- 1. Investing in childhood brings huge societal benefits.** Strong evidence shows that investing in health during the first 1,000 days, from preconception to early childhood, has lifelong advantages. It lowers the risk of non-communicable diseases like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease, while increasing productivity. We must act on this knowledge.
- 2. We need more well-trained professionals.** There's a growing shortage of paediatricians, child psychiatrists, nurses, and other specialists across Europe. We must attract more young

people to these vital careers and create working conditions that retain them.

- 3. Collaboration is key.** The European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP) is ready to support WHO's child and adolescent health agenda. By working together, we can ensure a healthier future for our children.

Focus on EAP Publications

World Sexual Health Day | 4 September

WHAT ADOLESCENTS NEED REGARDING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (SRH)

- Comprehensive Sexual Education:** Train healthcare professionals and Educators to provide accurate sex education and educate on pregnancy and STI prevention.
- Youth-friendly Healthcare:** Ensure youth-friendly healthcare and early multidisciplinary care.
- Free Contraception:** Advocate for free access to contraception.
- Consultation for managing unwanted pregnancies:** Ensure confidential counseling and safe options are accessible to all.
- Support and Anti-stigmatization:** Support adolescent parents with employment, education, training, shelters, parental rights info, and anti-stigmatization campaigns.

#PrioritizeChildAndAdolescentHealth
#ProtectFutureGenerations

European Academy of Paediatrics
Paediatric Section of U.E.M.S.
www.eapaediatrics.eu

Just in time for World Sexual Health Day, Young EAP, EAP, and ECPCP have released two important papers addressing a critical adolescent health issue: teenage pregnancy.

The first paper examines the ongoing challenges in preventing adolescent pregnancies, emphasizing the need for comprehensive sexuality education, better access to contraception, and the vital role healthcare providers play in supporting young



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IPA Regional Activity Recap Europe Region

people to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health.

The second paper explores the broader impact of teenage parenthood, highlighting the importance of providing tailored support for young parents and their children.

Add these insightful reads to your autumn list:

Preventing Pregnancies:

https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pediatrics/articles/10.3389/fped.2023.1119500/full?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR2mJXoJnsZLhqKuEqNK4ZWikCrRVvYezxnwNKtQVz4qqB7bJfx1CjvcMeU_aem_XosfIH5HNOjUSHCIWLZ2Q

Support for Teenage Parents:

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pediatrics/articles/10.3389/fped.2024.1418552/>

[full?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR1hNpl7aaGSbBa_ewIDIVEeqCf-IBnQfCKgWdvavv-Am4GEh8HMxUP3e1o_aem_PCjq1rzM1NVgPeYzbtF9tA](https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pediatrics/articles/10.3389/fped.2023.1119500/full?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR1hNpl7aaGSbBa_ewIDIVEeqCf-IBnQfCKgWdvavv-Am4GEh8HMxUP3e1o_aem_PCjq1rzM1NVgPeYzbtF9tA)

As paediatricians, we advocate for much-needed policy changes and stronger educational efforts to ensure a safe and healthy future for adolescents across Europe and beyond. Adolescent sexual and reproductive health is a key factor in their long-term well-being.

Healthcare professionals are crucial in preventing unplanned pregnancies by providing comprehensive family planning and sexuality education. By offering accurate, age-appropriate information, we can empower adolescents to make informed decisions about their bodies and futures.



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International Subspecialty Pediatric Societies

ISTP

Since the term of the current ISTP president (and

member of the IPA Standing Committee), Prof. Rajeshwar Dayal, it has been a goal to have the presence of ISTP felt in scientific conferences,

particularly in Asia and other tropical countries. This initiative aims to raise awareness of the challenges faced by children in the tropics and provide updated recommendations and potential solutions for diseases such as TB, diarrhoea, malnutrition, and vector-borne diseases.

The following activities and achievements are noted:

1. 7th Asia Dengue summit in Kuala Lumpur in June 2024. Organised by Dr. Zulkifli Ismail
2. Drs. R. Dayal, Mortada Elshabrawi, Iqbal Memon, Ashraf Sultan, Vasant Khalatkar, Mansoor Hussain and Nikhil delivered lectures at the South-East Asian Pediatric Association (SAPA) convention held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from June 9-11, 2024.
3. Prof. em. Usa Thisyakorn delivered a lecture at the conference of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) held at Bangkok, Thailand in June 2024
4. Dr. R. Dayal moderated an IPA webinar on Diagnosis of Paediatric Tuberculosis in July 2024 which was attended by over 500 participants globally
5. Dr. Mortada Elshabrawi, the former President of ISTP from 2020-2023, has been elected as a member of the International Election Committee of the IPA.
6. The ISTP in collaboration with Arab Union of Physicians has designed a curriculum for a course in "Paediatric Nutrition" directed by Professor Nehal El Koofy. The facilitators include Prof. Rajeshwar Dayal, Prof. Mortada Elshabrawi and Prof. em. Michael B. Krawinkel. It will be rolled out soon.

The ISTP has also been involved in the organization of the 18th Asia Pacific Conference on Pediatrics (APCP), to be held on November 14-17, 2024 in Cebu City, Philippines. Prof. Lulu Bravo, the Executive Director of the ISTP, together with Dr. Daniel Go has organized a vaccinology master course to discuss various principles related to vaccines and surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases. Various symposia on Japanese Encephalitis (JE), dengue, and vaccine hesitancy are included in panel discussion, symposia and plenary topics.

IAAH

The International Association for Adolescent Health (IAAH), a specialty society member of IPA was founded in 1987 as a multidisciplinary global organization dedicated to improving the health, development and wellbeing of adolescents and young adults in every region of the world through evidence-based practices and policies (www.IAAH.org). IAAH is committed youth participation in leadership and to ensuring that young voices inform our work.

IAAH sponsors [International Adolescent Health Week](#) (IAHW), scheduled for October 7-13, 2024. Young people from more than 60 countries are serving as youth ambassadors, leading events in their countries, communities, and schools. This year's IAHW is the first held in partnership with WHO. IAHW 2024 also commemorates the 1-year anniversary of the PMNCH led Global Forum for Adolescents (GFA) and the Call to Action for Adolescent Health and Wellbeing. IAAH is working closely with IPA on IPA led 2023 GFA health care professional societies' commitment to improve adolescent health.

IAAH is also working with WHO on global consultation towards revisions of WHO's 2015 global adolescent health standards of care and core competencies guidelines; new publications

and tools are due to be released in May 2025 at the World Health Assembly.

The [2025 IAAH World Congress](#) will be held November 6-8, 2025, in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The call for abstracts and workshops is now open for submissions for this meeting. A call for nominations for IAAH Regional Vice-Presidents and Council members, and for leadership positions in the IAAH Emerging Professionals Network will be launched in coming months.

2024 is an exciting year for IAAH and for global adolescent health. You can stay informed by signing up for the [IAAH newsletter](#); or consider becoming a member of IAAH at [iaah.org/memberships](#) to help support or to get involved in IAAH activities.

FISPGHAN



The ESPGHAN Annual Congress in Milan, Italy, hosted a total of 5,602 participants, with 5,314 attending in person and 288 joining online.

Free online access was once more offered to delegates from Ukraine. Attendees represented 104 countries across various continents, emphasizing the meetings global reach. Continuing its tradition, the event was preceded by a full day of educational postgraduate courses in gastroenterology, hepatology, nutrition, and Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), along with specialized programs for Allied Health Professionals (AHP) and Young ESPGHAN members.

Alongside the courses, all 20 ESPGHAN Working Groups held their meetings, some open to external attendees, demonstrating the organization's ongoing initiatives. In 2024, ESPGHAN invited six external societies to host joint sessions, expanding the congress' scope and promoting collaboration within the field of GHN. The new IUS Learning Zone debuted this year gaining instant popularity and prompting

continuation in 2025. The congress received a total of 1,675 abstract submissions, with 1,547 accepted for presentation, including oral and e-posters, during dedicated sessions and e-poster stations.



ESPGHAN's annual activities extend beyond the annual congress. The Working- and Special Interest Groups, producing evidence-based guidelines and position papers, continue to be among the society's most important components. Educational initiatives also remain a key focus with 14 educational events and a variety of webinars held throughout 2024. Approximately 2,200 individuals completed the first ESPGHAN MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on Enteral Nutrition, with more MOOCs planned in the future.



SIOP

In May, SIOP was represented by Dr. Rashmi Dalvi and Dr. Maja Beck at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA). Dr. Dalvi delivered a powerful statement emphasizing the necessity of integrating childhood cancer strategies within global health agendas highlighting the urgency of recognising this as a public health priority. Additionally, SIOP supported 8 other constituency statements ensuring visibility of childhood cancer, particularly under the framework of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC) as well as in the broader NCD agenda as a “Best Buy” intervention for NCDs. SIOP also co-sponsored and participated in a side-event on Nutrition in Childhood NCDs at the WHA.

On World No Tobacco Day 2024, on 31 May, SIOP raised awareness about the dangers of tobacco use for children and childhood cancer survivors while advocating for stronger tobacco control measures globally. In July, SIOP partnered with Childhood Cancer International (CCI) to host a webinar focused on the unique needs and challenges faced by childhood cancer survivors. This session brought together experts and survivors to highlight the importance of comprehensive care that extends beyond treatment, ensuring that survivors receive the necessary support for their physical and emotional well-being.

From June to August, SIOP collaborated with CCI to analyse submissions from the International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD) campaign to identify challenges and inequalities faced by individuals dealing with childhood cancer. The collected data was segmented by regions and demographic groups to better understand disparities and the barriers to care experienced in various contexts. We encourage you to follow our social media channels as we share the findings throughout Gold September.

Through these initiatives, SIOP reaffirms its commitment to advancing childhood cancer

care and fostering collaboration within the global health community. For more information or to get involved, please contact us at advocacy@siop-online.org. Together, we can improve health outcomes for children with cancer worldwide.

WOFAPS

The WOFAPS Newsletter from January to June 2024 celebrates the 50th anniversary of the World Federation of Associations of Pediatric Surgeons (WOFAPS), established in 1974. The newsletter highlights key organizational details, including the current office bearers and executive council members. It outlines the objectives of WOFAPS, which include promoting high standards in pediatric surgery, encouraging ethical practices, enhancing education and training, and supporting pediatric surgical research.

The inaugural World Pediatric Surgery Day was celebrated globally on April 7, 2024, with the theme “Who is a Pediatric Surgeon?” and “What is Pediatric Surgery?” The newsletter details the wide participation across various countries, marking the day with activities, public lectures, and media coverage to raise awareness about pediatric surgery.



WOFAPS continues to endorse conferences and workshops worldwide, focusing on pediatric surgical education and innovation. The newsletter lists recent endorsed events, such as the Live Exstrophy Bladder-Epispadias Workshop in Bangladesh and the 8th International Conference on Stem Cells and Cancer in New Delhi, India.

The newsletter also reports on the regular executive meetings and regional activities of WOFAPS, showcasing the organization's commitment to global pediatric surgical care. It outlines the organization's scholarships, mentoring opportunities, and plans for future congresses, including the 8th WOFAPS Congress scheduled for 2025 in Antalya, Turkey. Overall, the newsletter emphasizes WOFAPS's mission to unite pediatric surgeons worldwide in their dedication to improving surgical care for children, highlighting achievements, ongoing initiatives, and future plans to continue advancing the field of pediatric surgery globally.

IPALA (International Pediatric Academic Leaders Association)

IPALA aims to empower pediatric leaders in Global Child Health through education, research,

and practice. In June 2024 IPALA ran its first Virtual Leadership Conference: Reimagining Pediatric Leadership. The conference had more than 400 enrolments representing every global region, and were privileged to have many members of the IPA Standing Committee contributing to content. Recordings from the conference are available online. <https://www.youtube.com/@ipala3827>

Alongside the conference IPALA have run an education and a research focused webinar series to pediatricians to build their capability as educators (<https://ipala.org/education>) and researchers (<https://ipala.org/research>). The final event for each series will be coming in the coming months. Alongside this IPALA wrapped up their 2nd annual Leadership Academy in September. The program is free to IPALA members and planned on an annual basis. <https://ipala.org/leadership>



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Announcement

2024

4-7 December 2024



6-7 December 2024



2025

20-24 January 2025



4-5 April 2025



8-11 May 2025



16-19 October 2025



5-8 November 2025