



Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter in 2014. During the start of spring in Europe, a lot has happened - politically, in the scientific world as well as in the patient community. We are especially proud to present you the latest news regarding the SOCKS FOR LIFE exhibition in the European Parliament which will take place just next week. Enjoy reading! Your EFCNI team



7 April 2014: SOCKS FOR LIFE Exhibition Opening

Only very few days to go until the opening of the SOCKS FOR LIFE exhibition in the European Parliament in Brussels! A last-minute call to vote for the Call for Action for Newborn Health may have increased the number of people giving their voice for preterm babies and their families. A formal handover of the votes will be one highlight on 7 April. We are looking forward to this big event! You will find highlights, happenings and special moments of the ceremony in our next EFCNI newsletter.

Follow us on facebook and twitter to receive updates from the exhibition!



SOCKS FOR LIFE art

SOCKS FOR LIFE, our European art campaign for preterm babies has gained new artists and supporters even within the last days before exhibition begin. Have a look yourself and [find out more on our blog](#) about the latest exceptional artwork donated by many artists all over the world. Here you see rabbit Pinki.P by internationally famous designer and director Robert Wilkson. Thanks to all who made this initiative such a big success and especially to the artists who have contributed to this art campaign!



Newborn health workshop: Conference documents available

In November 2013, peaking World Prematurity Day, Mrs Mariya Gabriel (EPP, Bulgaria) invited to the conference "Newborn Health - a challenge for Europe".

Now the summary of the whole conference day as well as all individual presentations are available for download.

[view more](#)



Medicines in Europe: More transparency and better public access to information

The European Medicines Agency (EMA), responsible for authorising medicines on the European market, has published the first summary for the public of the risk-management plan (RMP) of a newly authorised medicine. This summary describes what is known and not known about the medicine's safety and states what measures will be taken to prevent or minimise its risks. After a pilot in 2014, the EMA will start publishing RMP summaries also for medicines that had been centrally authorised before 2014.

[view more \(EMA press release\)](#)



Congratulations to XXS: A big success in Portugal

Join us in congratulating the Portuguese parent organisation XXS for their outstanding work: On 19 March 2014, the C.A.R.E. project (Cuidados de Apoio a Recém-nascidos Em risco) was launched. The project aims to improve the provision of specialized care for preterm infants and the support of their parents. We hope this will serve as an example for other countries!

[view more](#)



"A baby's messages to their parents": Italian parent organisation published guidebook

A must-read not only for parents: the Italian national parent



organisation Vivere Onlus published a wonderful booklet for parents how to read their babies. Many parents whose babies are in hospital in the intensive care unit, sometimes many months, need help in understanding their baby and being able to read the babies' needs when they are born preterm or sick.

[view more \(English pdf version of guide book\)](#)

10th EFCNI Parents Organisations Meeting

For the tenth time, national parents' organisations representatives gathered together for three days over the weekend of Valentine's Day to discuss, share and elaborate on ideas, make new plans and work out strategies.



[view more](#)

Welcome: Prof. Berthold Koletzko

We welcome Dr. med. Dr. med. habil. (MD PhD) Berthold Koletzko, Professor of Paediatrics at University of Munich and Head of the Division Metabolic and Nutritional Medicine at Dr. von Hauner Children's Hospital, University of Munich Medical Centre in Germany, to the EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board. He is coordinator of several international research consortia and President of the European Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition (ESPGHAN) and Managing Director of the Early Nutrition Academy.



[view more](#)

Welcome: Inge Tency

Inge Tency, MSc PhD, graduated as a midwife in 1999. Subsequently, she started a master in Medical Social Science, option health education and promotion at Ghent University (2002) and obtained a teaching certificate in 2003. In 2005 she left clinical practice and worked on diverse scientific projects at the Women's Clinic of Ghent University Hospital. Since December 2012 she works as a lecturer in midwifery education where she also coordinates the international Midwifery program. We are happy to inform that from now on she is also in our Scientific Advisory Board.



[view more](#)

Welcome new partner: Early Nutrition eAcademy (ENeA)

We are happy to welcome a new partner to our network: the Early Nutrition eAcademy (ENeA). ENeA is an e-learning co-operation initiated by the Early Nutrition Academy (ENA) and the Dr. von Hauner Children's Hospital at the LMU Medical Center Munich. It provides CME accredited e-learning modules on topics in the area of early nutrition by translating the latest scientific findings from international research collaborations into practical application.

[view more](#)



Welcome new partner: "Harl.e.kin"

EFCNI is proud to present Harl.e.kin as new partner, a very low-threshold programme in Germany that supports families in transition between hospital and home. Its major aim is to strengthen the parents' competence to care for the child at home to prevent developmental risks of preterm infants.

[view more](#)



Welcome new partner: PMNCH

The Partnership (PMNCH) joins the reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) communities into an alliance of more than 550 members. The Partnership enables partners to share strategies, align objectives and resources, and agree on interventions to achieve more together than they would be able to achieve individually.

[view more](#)



EJOG Obstetrics Resource Centre

We would also like to introduce to you the EJOG Obstetrics Resource Centre, a digital e-learning platform aimed to increase clinical knowledge in obstetrics by providing free selected research findings and original articles, reviews, selected must-reads, lectures and a congress planner.

[view more](#)



New guidelines in Germany

We would like to share good news from Germany: EFCNI as collaborating institution supported the creation of the German guidelines for social-paediatric aftercare services of extremely preterm babies with a birthweight under 1000 grams. These recommendations are intended as guiding support for practice

of health care professionals, especially resident paediatricians and other professionals involved such as midwives, neonatologists, psychiatrists, gynaecologists etc.

[view more \(in German\)](#)



Parental involvement varies in Europe

EFCNI supported a European survey and documentation analysis about decision making and parental involvement during preterm birth. Gallagher et al. found that there is little consensus as to how active intervention after birth at 22 to 25 weeks of gestation is managed. In most countries parents were not included in the development of the policy.

[view more \(article\)](#)



Skin-to-skin (Kangaroo) Care with newborns cuts down procedural pain

A [systematic review](#) done by the [Cochrane collaboration](#) suggests that skin-to-skin care reduces the pain response of preterm babies and other newborns that must spend time in the NICU and undergo medical procedures causing pain.

[view more](#)



EFCNI at German midwifery congress

Punctually for International Women's Day, 400 midwives joined the Midwifery Congress "Prevention in Pregnancy and Childbed" in Soest, Germany and EFCNI was there!

[view more](#)



The Power of Programming 2014

In EFCNI's home city Munich, the Early Nutrition Congress "Power of Programming 2014" took place from 13-15 March. The term programming effect refers to the finding that nutrition

and lifestyle during pregnancy and infancy can affect a range of different bodily functions of the baby. The congress brought together international experts from clinical science, basic research and epidemiological studies with a joint focus on long term consequences of early nutrition and lifestyle factors on obesity and related disorders.

[view more](#)



Ultra-Early Intervention Conference in Stockholm

The Karolinska NIDCAP Training Center organized on 17 March 2014 in Stockholm the annual Ultra-early intervention conference with support of EFCNI. Interdisciplinary and internationally speakers presented and discussed with the audience about executive functions and autism spectrum disorder in preterm infants.

[view more \(conference webcast\)](#)



Mark your calendar

Receive an overview on [congresses and conferences in 2014](#) and find out where to meet EFCNI.

[Awareness days 2014](#)



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