Welcome to the new edition of our EFCNI Newsletter. Last month we were thrilled by the news of the World Health Assembly endorsing the Every Newborn Action Plan. Furthermore, we are proud and honoured to have contributed to the Lancet's Every Newborn Series, which was released promoting the Every Newborn Action Plan. We are also happy to introduce you to recent developments in research and the activities of our partner organisations. Happy Reading!

Your EFCNI-Team

Every Newborn on world's agenda
Great news for newborn health all around the world: 194 member-states of the 67th World Health Assembly have endorsed the Every Newborn Action Plan mid May. EFCNI and our partner organisations contributed to the document which was presented to politicians all around the world. By the end of June 2014 the plan will be launched in South Africa.

EFCNI contributes to Lancet Every Newborn Series
Accompanying the Every Newborn Action Plan, the Lancet published the Every Newborn series. The medical journal researched the progress in newborn survival worldwide. EFCNI was a member of the advisory group and contributed to the paper “From evidence to action to deliver a healthy start for the next generation”. The complete series is available to the general public online.

SOCKS FOR LIFE in Lübeck
After our successful opening of the exhibition at the European Parliament in Brussels in April, we were thrilled to celebrate the second opening at Dräger headquarters in Lübeck. On Monday 5 May, 2014 many guests welcomed our artwork: “It is great to see that so many artists around the world joined forces for this very important cause,” said Prof. Dr. Egbert Herting, Director of the Pediatric University Hospital in Lübeck.
The EU is asking for your support!
Submit your contribution now! The EU intents to initiate a guidance on integrated Child Protection Systems. The aim is to learn where and when the EU can support its member countries and how those can contribute to EU activities. To draft this document, the institution holds a public consultation. You can submit your comments and recommendations online until 3 July, 2014.

New Edition of Pregnancy Brochure
We are happy to announce that the second edition of our German Healthy Pregnancy booklet will be available soon. After the successful pilot phase since December 2013, we will launch the new edition at the end of June. We collected feedback from numerous health professionals and pregnant women to amend the chapters according to their suggestions. Furthermore we added a chapter about the 'First 1000 days of life', 'Second Trimester Screening', 'Skin Care' and about the 'Obstetricion'. The brochure will be available in print and online in German language. Additionally, the content of the booklet will be translated into English and we will make it available on our website soon.

First NIDCAP symposium in Germany
The event in Tübingen on 23 and 24 May, 2014 introduced the audience to NIDCAP and Primary Nursing. Essential in the discussion on the care concept were the implementation, benefits and challenges. Silke Mader delivered a presentation on the importance of NIDCAP and Primary Nursing from a patient's point of view and stressed, how it is crucial for the bonding between parents and their baby in the hospital.

International Workshop on Prenatal Screening with EFCNI
On 23 and 24 May, 2014 Thermo Fisher hosted the event on Perinatal Screening, which focused on the scientific progress of prenatal screening and detecting pre-eclampsia at an early stage in pregnancy. The prevention of preterm birth, consequences of the condition on mother and child as well as continuing care were key topics during the workshop. Silke Mader gave a talk on the patient’s view on pre-eclampsia. She drew attention to the lack of knowledge among pregnant women...
Welcome: New EFCNI colleague
We are happy to introduce you to our new team member Raphaela Maurer. She started in March as Project Manager Corporate Communications. Raphaela worked for international communication agencies, consulting worldwide acting companies in corporate and social media communications.

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Training day for healthcare professionals by SOS Préma
Our partner organisation SOS Préma in France, successfully implemented a training day for medical staff in their country. Parents who underwent the traumatic experience of having a preterm born child speak about their personal history. Giving advice to healthcare professionals on how to handle distressed or grieving parents, the speakers always get standing ovations by the attendants. The trainings are booked out very quickly. The next event will take place 25 September 2014 in Boulogne-Billancourt.

View more (French)

Collaboration in Lithuania for children with special needs
Our Lithuanian partner organisation Neišnešiotukas has launched a new collaboration with other organisations in their country to combat discrimination against children with special needs. The charity fund "Algojimas" and the parent organisations "Kitoks vaikas", "Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus" and the "Organisation of People with Down Syndrome" met up to draft a memorandum. It urges politicians to form an inter-institutional working group to improve the situation of families with special needs children. The document was already handed to the President of Lithuania.

View more (Lithuanian)

Healthy Pregnancy in Macedonia
More than 1000 pregnant women and their partners have visited healthy pregnancy workshops which are hosted by our partner organisation Lulka in Scopje, Macedonia. The organisation already organised 25 workshops in the past two years. The participants learn about what lies ahead of them during pregnancy and childbirth. They are informed about the medical, psychological and emotional factors that affect pregnancy.
Topics like breastfeeding, preterm birth and postpartum depression are also covered. An important part of the workshop is prevention: How to protect the pregnant woman and the unborn baby.

View more (Macedonian)

Event for preterm babies in Bulgaria

“Give a little magic” for preterm babies. Our partner “Our premature children” organised a big charity bazar. On the International Children’s Day 1 June, 2014 many people gathered in South Park in Sofia to celebrate. The event was also part of the new campaign “The biggest heros are the smallest” which features Bulgarian celebrities united to raise awareness for premature infants.

View more (Bulgarian)

State of the World Mothers Report

Save the Children published its annual report in May, raising awareness for the inequalities of maternal and newborn health worldwide. Along with the report they launched a video involving models which has become a viral hit on Youtube.

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Trends in Maternal Mortality

In May, the WHO cooperating with further organisations published the report “Trends in maternal mortality 1990 to 2013”. The paper also takes a look at new data that was not considered in previous reports. Furthermore the authors applied improved estimation methods for estimating birth and female death occurrences.

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Report on Midwifery worldwide

The State of the World's Midwifery Report, which was released at the beginning of June 2014, sheds light on the profession in 73 countries. It evaluates the progress and developments since the first report in 2011. The paper was produced by UNFPA, the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), the World Health Organization (WHO) and several other organisations.

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EMA: Confirmed Restricton Recommendations
The CMDh, a medicines regulatory body representing the EU Member States, affirmed recommendations to restrict the use of domperidone-containing medicines. The CMDh agreed that these medicines should only be used to relieve symptoms of nausea and vomiting. Furthermore doses and length of treatment should be restricted. They should be adjusted carefully by the patient’s weight especially when prescribed for the use in children.

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Decline in under-5 deaths
A review published in the Lancet (Wang et al., 2014) showed that child death rates dropped by 48% worldwide between 1990 and 2013. However, 6.3 million children still died before the age of 5 in 2013. The report was part of the Global Burden of Disease study and was published together with the Trends in Maternal Mortality report. It analyses global, regional and national levels of neonatal, infant and under-5 mortality from 1990 to 2013 and estimate rates for the year 2030.

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Mark your calendar
Receive an overview on congresses and conferences in 2014 and find out where to meet EFCNI.

Awareness days in 2014

Special thanks to our corporate partners for their kind support: