



We were overwhelmed by the success of the 1st Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies (jENS) in Budapest. It was an honour to welcome more than 2,500 participants from 83 countries. A big thank you to everyone involved for a fantastic congress and for your high interest in the conference as well as in the Socks for Life campaign. Socks for Life now continues its journey to the World Congress of Perinatal Medicine in Madrid. Another particular highlight of the year will be World Prematurity Day on 17 November 2015. Let's come together worldwide to celebrate this special day dedicated to preterm babies.



Your EFCNI team

1st Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies (jENS)

The 1st joint European Neonatal Societies Congress (jENS) took place in Budapest from 16 to 20 September 2015. For the first time, the European societies in neonatology ESPR, ESN, UENPS, and EFCNI organised a joint congress together with the national perinatal and neonatal societies and the international nursing organisation COINN. EFCNI had the honour to organise pre-courses and congress sessions with well-known experts from different fields.



- [Summary of jENS congress 2015](#)
- [Pre-course Making it meaningful](#)
- [Pre-course Family-centred care](#)
- [Silke Mader at the pre-course for nurses](#)
- [Parallel sessions](#)

EFCNI visits Hungarian NICUs and a neonatal transport centre

While being in Budapest, EFCNI had the great opportunity to visit three neonatal intensive care units and a neonatal transport centre at different hospitals in Budapest. We enjoyed the warmly welcome and thank everyone involved for this very nice experience.

- [Perinatal Intensive Care Unit \(PIC\) of the Medical Centre, Hungarian Defence Forces](#)
- [1st Department of Paediatrics, Semmelweis University](#)
- [NICU, II. Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Semmelweis University](#)
- [Peter Cerny Foundation for neonatal transport services](#)



Interview with Professor Tibor Ertl on neonatal care in Hungary

On the occasion of the jENS congress, Professor Tibor Ertl from the Department of Neonatology, University of Pécs, and President of the Advisory Board on Neonatology for the state Secretary on Health, Hungary, gave an interview on the neonatal care situation in Hungary and reported on his experience with kangaroo care as a family-centred care intervention in his unit at the University Hospital in Pécs.

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Budapest Declaration - Refugees and Children's Right to Health Care

More than two thousand paediatricians, neonatologists, nurses, and parents from Europe and from all over the world came together for the joint European Neonatal Societies Congress (jENS) to discuss all aspects of newborn health. Together they created the *Budapest Declaration - Refugees and Children's Right to Health Care*.

[View more](#) and [sign the Declaration](#)

World Prematurity Day 2015

World Prematurity Day, celebrated worldwide on 17 November has become one of the most important days in the year to raise awareness for the challenges of preterm birth. We warmly invite you to join us and to celebrate this special day. To help you promote your events, we developed a special toolkit and free promotional material in 35 languages. Stay tuned and visit our website for an overview of worldwide events!

[View more](#)

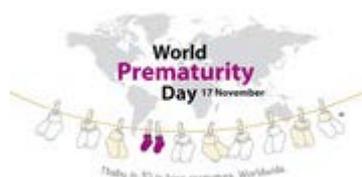
Socks for Life: International kick-off at jENS and exhibition at WCPM

At the jENS congress, we celebrated the international kick-off of our Socks for Life campaign. It sparked the visitors' interest: More than 2,600 people were reached at the congress. More than 33,000 people worldwide followed the campaign's social media communication. A special exhibition of Socks for Life images and *Little Heroes* is now showcased at the World Congress of Perinatal Medicine in Madrid in November.

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50 year anniversary of Neonatal Unit of Rigshospitalet Copenhagen

On 5 September 2015, the neonatal unit of the Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen celebrated its 50th anniversary. The first baby was treated at the specialised neonatal unit in December 1965. Since then the unit cared for more than 50,000 infants. Today, patient-



and family-oriented care is central to the unit's care and treatment concept.

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Visit at Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, University Hospital Heidelberg

On 25 September 2015, EFCNI had the great opportunity to visit the Division of Neonatology and the Perinatal Centre at the University Hospital Heidelberg, both situated in the Centre for Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine.



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Symposium of European Association for Developmental Care (EADCare)

Professionals involved in the care of children and families met at the 5th Scientific Symposium *Early intervention in Developmental Care of the European Association for Developmental Care (EADCare)* in Brescia, Italy. Silke Mader presented on *Living with a growing up preterm infant*. A heartfelt thank you to the parent organisations Vivere onlus, Piccino Picciò Onlus and to Professor Petra Hüppi, Professor Stéphane Sizonenko (EADCare), Professor Elisa Fazzi and Dr Gaetano Chirico for the kind invitation.



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Congress of the Paediatric Association of Macedonia

The 6th Congress of the Paediatric Association of Macedonia in Struga, Macedonia, brought together over 500 physicians, including experts in neonatology and paediatrics from 13 countries. Participants discussed the latest academic, professional and human accomplishments in the field of paediatric medicine. EFCNI Vice Chair Nicole Thiele had the honour to speak about how empowering parents can make a difference – in the daily care of newborns but also to tackle the challenges within the countries.



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Transatlantic Conference on Personalized Medicine (TCPM2015)

In October, opinion leaders and decision makers from science, society, health care, policy, and industry met within the scope of the 2nd Transatlantic Conference on Personalized Medicine (TCPM2015) in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The conference addressed the need to create platforms and pathways for introducing applications of personalized medicine in prevention, cure and care. Silke Mader spoke about *Improving the Empowerment of Parents*.



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New EFCNI Team Member

Ulf Schönberg joined EFCNI in October 2015. He studied Applied Media Sciences in Ilmenau, Germany, and Metz, France, and holds a diploma degree. After his graduation, he finished a traineeship in a PR agency. Later, he worked for several NGOs and enterprises. Born preterm, Ulf knows the challenges for parents and has a strong interest in this field. Due to his personal background, he wants to inform the public about the topic of preterm infants and thereby support the EFCNI mission. Welcome to our team!



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Meet EFCNI @ these congresses

We will participate in several congresses within the coming months and would be happy to see you there! Meet us @



- *the 12th World Congress of Perinatal Medicine from 3 to 6 November 2015 in Madrid, Spain*
- *the German Congress on Perinatal Medicine (DGMP) from 1 to 3 December 2015 in Berlin, Germany*
- *the conference Nutrition and nurture in infancy and childhood bio-cultural perspectives from 23 to 25 August 2016 in Dalarna, Sweden*
- *the conference The Power of Programming 2016 – Developmental Origins of Adiposity and Long-term Health from 13 to 15 October 2016 in Munich, Germany*

New association Melletted a helyem – Right(s) beside you

On 16 September 2015, the new association Melletted a helyem – Right(s) beside you was founded in Budapest. The organisation unites neonatologists, paediatricians, obstetricians, nurses, psychologists, parents of preterm children and other healthcare professionals. These interdisciplinary backgrounds were also represented by the 14 founding members. A press conference was held during the jENS conference, which four of the founding members, Professor Tibor Ertl, Dr Miklós Szabó, Dr Csaba Nádor, and Lívía Nagy, introduced the organisation and its mission.



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Hungarian organisation KORE at the jENS Congress

The EFCNI team was fortunate to meet KORE, the Hungarian parent association for preterm babies and one of EFCNI's partner organisations, at the jENS congress in Budapest.

Nikoletta Ágh, Anna Damásdi and Rita Sándor-Varga presented beautiful new KORE Hungarian projects on their booth at the



congress. The aim of KORE is to reduce the risk of preterm birth and to advocate kangaroo care and family-centred care in Hungarian NICUs.

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Night marathon for preemies

More than 6,000 people ran for a good cause in a big night marathon *Hellenic Bank Running Under the Moon*, and a mini kids marathon in the capital of Cyprus, Nicosia. One of the biggest banks of the island donated one Euro per participant to our partner organisation *Friends of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit* and doubled the donation. The beautiful, happy, and powerful event closed with an after party. Thanks to all runners and volunteers who supported this great initiative!

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SOS Préma organises mind-changing Caregiver Days

The French association SOS Préma organised *Caregiver Days* in Nice, France, focusing on *Preterm birth and future development: Parental experiences*. More than 220 healthcare professionals from all over France, Belgium and Switzerland and representatives of parent organisations followed the invitation. The two-day event put the parental experience of preterm birth and living with a preterm born child in the centre.

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Latest projects of Ukrainian Velvet Hearts Organisation

Participating in the annual 42 km Kyiv Marathon, a team of sportsmen supported the Ukrainian Velvet Hearts Organisation and collected money for preterm babies to purchase glasses for phototherapy of preemies. Another great idea is the organisation's *Squids* project in which volunteers and schools students crochet special squids for preterm babies.

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New cooperation with Mutter-Kind-Hilfswerk e.V.

We are delighted about our new cooperation with Mutter-Kind-Hilfswerk e. V. in Neuhaus/Inn, Germany. This non-profit organisation provides free consultation when applying for mother/father and child cures and supports socially less advantaged patients financially during their treatment at a health resort.

[View more \(German\)](#)



CURhE develops new global Rh disease prevention programme

Rh disease (also called Hemolytic Disease of the Fetus and Newborn) has been a major cause of infant death and stillbirth. Rh disease can occur in Rh-positive newborn infants whose mothers developed Rh antibodies in a previous Rh-positive pregnancy. To combat this disease, research scientists, healthcare professionals and centres as well as industry representatives have founded the Consortium for Universal Rh disease Elimination (CURhE).

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New WHO guidance on maternal peripartum infections

The WHO recently launched new guidance on interventions for women to treat and prevent infections occurring during the peripartum period. Bacterial infections around the time of delivery cause about ten percent of maternal deaths. Therefore, maternal sepsis remains a life-threatening condition for both, women and their children.

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Public consultation on access to health services in the EU

The European Commission and the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health (EXPH) have launched a public consultation on the preliminary opinion on the *Access to health services in the European Union*. All interested parties are invited to submit their contributions by 6 November 2015.

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Mark your calendar

Receive an overview on [congresses and conferences in 2015](#) and find out where to meet EFCNI.

[Awareness days in 2015](#)



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