



World Prematurity Day 2016 on 17 November is getting closer and EFCNI is working on a new project: As in the past, we invite neonatal intensive care units to celebrate this special day with in-house events. This year, for the first time, EFCNI offers hospitals in Germany and Austria a free diverse toolkit for their own celebration. In June, EFCNI gave the go-ahead for a new milestone project – the development of a basic framework for the best possible setup and operation of breast milk banks in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. These are just two of the newsworthy topics of this month. Please find below other news that attracted our attention.



Your EFCNI team

World Prematurity Day 2016

A strong start for little heroes: At the annual meeting of the German neonatal society - *42. Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Neonatologie und Pädiatrische Intensivmedizin (GNPI)* in early June, we proudly presented our large-scale initiative for this year's World Prematurity Day on 17 November 2016. EFCNI warmly invites the neonatal intensive care units in Germany and Austria to celebrate this special day with in-house events and offers them a diverse action package for the celebration.

[View more](#)



Release of World Prematurity Day 2016 materials

If you'd like to get inspired for your *World Prematurity Day 2016* celebrations, you're welcome to visit our special section www.efcni.org/worldprematurityday and download graphics in about 40 languages. In this section you'll also find a brand new edition of the *World Prematurity Day* factsheet. Graphics in even more languages and further updates will soon be available. We'll keep you posted.

[View more](#)

**World
Prematurity
Day 17 November**

Breast milk banks

Great kick-off meeting for another milestone project: On Monday, 20 June 2016, well-known experts in the fields of lactation, nutrition, and neonatology came together at the EFCNI office for the first time. The long-term goal of the project is to develop a basic framework for the best possible setup and operation of breast milk

banks in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

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Review of ECPM Congress Maastricht

In the middle of June, healthcare professionals in the field of perinatal medicine met at the *European Congress of Perinatal Medicine (ECPM)* in Maastricht, the Netherlands. EFCNI was co-organising partner of this congress by the *European Association of Perinatal Medicine (EAPM)*. We were happy to welcome Gert van Steenbrugge from the Dutch parent organisation *Vereniging van Ouders van Couveusekinderen (VOC)* at our booth for a day.

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New members of the EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board

EFCNI is growing. We are glad to introduce the new members of the EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board (in alphabetic order). We highly appreciate the participation of the international experts. Thank you very much for your valuable contribution and commitment. The introduction will be continued in the next editions of the newsletter.

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EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Professor Fiona Alderdice

Enhancing health and experience of care of women and children: Professor Fiona Alderdice holds a Chair in Perinatal Health and Well-being at the *School of Nursing and Midwifery Queens University Belfast*. She leads a strand of research on *What works for parents* as part of a large interdisciplinary research group at Queens at the *Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation*.

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EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Dr Onno Helder

Fighter against infections: Dr Onno Helder is a nurse scientist at the *Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's Hospital*, Rotterdam, The Netherlands and lecturer at *Rotterdam University of Applied*

Sciences. His interests in research are the prevention of infections, the implementation of strategies, systematic literature studies, and return transportation.

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EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Professor Ann Hellström

Reducing blindness of preterm infants: Professor Ann Hellström is a full Professor of Pediatric Ophthalmology at the *Sahlgrenska Academy*, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. She also heads the *Sahlgrenska Center for Pediatric Ophthalmology Research at the Institute of Neuroscience and Physiology*. Professor Hellström is an expert in the field of Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP).

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EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Professor Moshe Hod

Management of gestational diabetes: Professor Moshe Hod is Director of the Maternal Fetal Medicine Division at the *Helen Schneider Women's Hospital, Rabin Medical Center* and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, *Tel-Aviv University*, Israel. His main interests are the research and management of diabetes and pregnancy.

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Redesign of Socks for Life materials

Socks for Life is our ongoing, year-round campaign for the cause of preterm children and those around them. We just released redesigned editions of the *Socks for Life* factsheet and booklet. The factsheet gives you an idea of how to join the campaign. In our booklet you will find inspiration and recommendations on how to achieve your individual goal of improving newborn health. Use the graphic material of this international campaign and recognised voice for preterm infants for any of your events you organise throughout the year.

[View more](#)

**Socks
for Life**

New Team Assistant - Welcome to our team

We warmly welcome Gertrud Dörr, our new Team Assistant, who joined our EFCNI team in June. Gertrud holds a diploma as Foreign Language Correspondent and lived and worked in the USA for a few years, where she gained experience in Customer Support and Sales. Back in Germany, Gertrud was Administrative Assistant in a local theatre, hosting cultural events, and Management Assistant to a performing arts agency, based in Munich.

[View more](#)



Meet EFCNI @ these congresses

We will participate in several [congresses](#) within the coming months and would be happy to see you there!

Meet the EFCNI team @

- [*Conference Nutrition and nurture in infancy and childhood bio-cultural perspectives from 23 to 25 August 2016 in Dalarna, Sweden*](#)
- [*Conference The Power of Programming 2016 – Developmental Origins of Adiposity and Long-term Health from 13 to 15 October 2016 in Munich, Germany*](#)
- [*6th Congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies from 22 to 25 October 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland*](#)
- [*Global conference on maternal infant health from 4 to 6 November 2016 in Florence, Italy*](#)



Childhood memories become works of art

The Romanian organisation *Asociația Unu si Unu* arranged a unique charity event. In collaboration with the NGO *Povestasi*, which is focused on the topic of childhood, they invited VIPs and philanthropists to take pictures with the dearest and most beloved toy from their childhood. The photographs were sold in a high-class auction for the benefit of preterm children in Romania.

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All you knit is love

Following last year's huge success, the Greek parent organisation *Ilitominon* held another *All you knit is love* event on *World Wide Knit in Public Day*. On 18 June 2016, groups of knitters from eight cities all over Greece knitted in public to raise social awareness for prematurity and to promote the aims of *Ilitominon*. The cross-generational event for a good cause was great fun.



[View more](#) (in Greek, *Ilitominon*, Facebook)

KOREXPO event in Budapest

In May, one of our Hungarian partner organisations, *KORE*, held an event called *KOREXPO 2016* in Budapest. It was opened by the commissioner Barbara Czeizel. A former preterm child recited a poem, followed by lectures on newborn health topics. In addition, special activities for children and a photo exhibition on *Life after the NICU* were presented.

[View more](#)



National Neonatal Intensive Care Days in Finland

Kevyt, the Finnish association for parents of preemies, took part in the *National Neonatal Intensive Care Days* at *Kuopio University Hospital* in May. The Chairwoman of *Kevyt*, Heli Kauppinen, also had the chance to visit the clinic's new neonatal intensive care unit. *Kevyt* had taken part in the design process at its early stages by collecting feedback and ideas from preemie parents.

[View more](#)



Slovakian summer camp

Slovakia's parent organisation *Malicek* organised a weekend full of fun and recreation for more than 70 participants from all across the country. Several experts from the areas of psychology, physiotherapy, nutrition, and first aid offered workshops, individual discussions, and group sessions for families.

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Ashoka releases social impact profiles

Ashoka Deutschland recently published their fellow's social impact profiles of 2015. The reports are based on the *Social Reporting Standard (SRS)*. In the brochure, you will find portraits and information of the social impact of all German *Ashoka Fellows* and social entrepreneurs, among them our Chairwoman Silke Mader.

[View more](#) (in German, *Ashoka Deutschland*)



Wissen was wirkt | Wirkungsgroße 2015 der Ashoka Fellows

Ashoka. Heimat der changemaker



In June, we featured the topic *Medical care and clinical practice*. On this occasion, we are pleased to refer to our website content on *Continuing Care*.

[View more on *Continuing Care*](#)

Background information on medical topics

RSV, ROP, NICU, surfactant: Parents of preterm born infants hear a lot of abbreviations and medical terms they usually didn't know before their baby's stay in the neonatal intensive care unit. EFCNI's website provides you with easy to understand information on different topics – written especially for parents and people who are concerned but who might not be familiar with the medical terminologies. Beyond this, a glossary provides a fast overview on the common terms and abbreviations.

- [View more on *Treatment & Care*](#)
- [View the glossary](#)

Surfactant - a lifesaver for preterm infants

Few drug developments have saved more lives of preterm born infants than the invention of pulmonary surfactants. This substance regulates the surface tension in the alveoli, the tiny, delicate sacs in the lungs, and prevents them from collapsing on exhalation. Before the invention of a surfactant drug, Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS), a lung condition, was the leading cause of death for preterm infants.

[View more](#)

Launch meeting of eNewborn Project

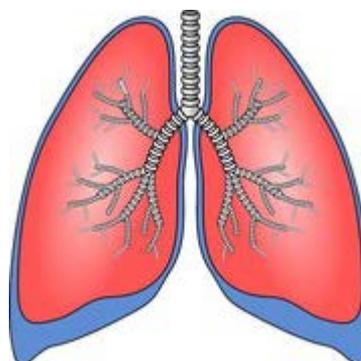
On 6 May 2016, the first network launch meeting of the International Neonatal Benchmarking and Evaluation Programme *eNewborn* took place in Brussels. Neonatal Collaborative leads, researchers, and clinicians have been invited to the launch meeting. Overall, 32 people from 12 countries were involved in open discussions about the future plans and network collaborations in the area of preterm health. The project is led by Professor Dominique Haumont (Belgium), Professor Neena Modi (UK), and Dr Mark Turner (UK).

[View more](#)



Medical care and clinical practice

EFCNI



Second FINE training at Dritter Orden Clinic Munich

Thanks to a donation to EFCNI and the commitment of the hospital management, the *Children's Hospital at Dritter Orden Clinic Munich* was able to initiate a training programme for the entire clinic team in family-centred care by the *Family and Infant Neuro-developmental Education (FINE)* programme. In June, the second part of the training took place, focusing on practical skills in family-centred developmentally supportive care. The workshop was led by Dr Nikk Conneman, Monique Oude Reimer, and Natalie Broghammer.

[View more](#) (Facebook)



Common rules for parental leave

The EU's common rules on minimum parental leave should be better enforced in the entire European Union, says the *European Parliament* in a resolution voted in May 2016. The resolution recommends member states to guarantee working parents the right to take four months off, unpaid, regardless of where and how they are employed. Fathers in particular should be encouraged to apply for it.

[View more](#)



UNICEF publishes the 2016 State of the World's Children Report

This year, the 17 *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* – adopted by world leaders in 2015 at an historic UN Summit – officially came into force. *UNICEF* now published the *2016 State of the World's Children Report* warning that 69 million children could die from mostly preventable causes by 2030 unless world leaders turn rhetoric into reality.

[View more](#) (UNICEF)



Mark your calendar

Receive an overview on [congresses and conferences in 2016](#) and find out where to meet EFCNI.

[Awareness days in 2016](#)



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