



Last month, we looked at the topic of patient safety and hygiene practice. We compiled valuable reports and recommendations by experts and parent representatives. And very soon, the world is going to unite for preterm babies on World Prematurity Day. We support this year's global claim to prioritise on investments for preterm birth prevention and care as a key to achieve the new global goal for the survival of newborns. We are looking forward to a joyful, purple and peaceful World Prematurity Day 2016!



Your EFCNI team

## Bavarian State Medal for Silke Mader

Great incentive: Silke Mader receives the Bavarian State Medal for Services concerning Health and Long-term Care. The Co-founder and Chairwoman of the Executive Board of the European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants (EFCNI) was awarded by Melanie Huml, the Bavarian State Minister for Health and Long-term Care during an official ceremony in Nuremberg on 14 October 2016.

[View more](#)



## Global Conference on Maternal Infant Health

The *Global Conference on Maternal Infant Health* from 4 to 6 November in Florence, Italy, focused on improving living and health conditions of women, infants and children worldwide. One of the main objectives of this conference by the *International Federation of Gynecology & Obstetrics (FIGO)* and the *World Health Organization (WHO)* was to prepare a declaration which will be handed over to the G7 for the G7 summit in mid-2017 in Italy. In her talk, EFCNI Chair Silke Mader discussed 'The word of the mothers in the global setting of care.'

[View more](#) (Global Conference on Maternal Infant Health)



## Stakeholder meeting in Vatican City in preparation of G7 conference

Following the *Global Conference on Maternal Infant Health*, EFCNI Chair Silke Mader joined the meeting 'Leaving no one behind: New

*models of development and inclusiveness for maternal and newborn health'* in Vatican City. In preparation of the next G7 summit, participating stakeholders from the private sector, foundations, governments, international agencies, NGOs, civil society, religion and culture discussed new models for effective healthcare aiming to reduce maternal and newborn mortality in low and middle income countries.



## Third SHIPS project meeting in Tallinn

From 10 to 12 October 2016, the team of the *SHIPS* project (*Screening to improve Health In very Preterm infantS in Europe – SHIPS*) met in Tallinn, Estland for the third time. During the meeting, the project partners discussed the ongoing analysis and dissemination of the two-year follow-up, and next project steps, in particular the outreach to the families of very preterm infants whose children are now 5 years of age.



[View more](#)

## Visit to Tallinn's Children's Hospital

During her stay in Tallinn, Estonia, EFCNI's Vice Chair, Nicole Thiele was given the great opportunity for an informal visit to the Neonatal Department of *Tallinn's Children's Hospital* (Tallinna Lastehaigla). A heartfelt thank you to Dr Liis Toome and to Livia Laas from the parent organisation *MTÜ Enneaegsed lapsed*. Many thanks also to Dr Maila Raidmäe, Head of Clinic of Paediatrics, who explained the structure and work on her unit.



[View more](#)

## Leaflet on financial support for families of preterm babies in Ireland

Valuable advice on financial support possibilities for families of preterm babies in Ireland: Our partner organisation *Irish Neonatal Health Alliance (INHA)* just released a new Financial Supports Leaflet. It will be distributed in all 19 NICU's in Ireland in addition to the online version available for download on their website.



[Download the leaflet](#) (INHA website)

## Congratulations, Professor Manuel Sánchez Luna

We congratulate our Scientific Advisory Board member Professor Manuel Sánchez Luna for receiving the medal of merit by the

Spanish Ministry of Employment and Social Security. He was honoured by the Spanish Minister of Employment and Social Security, Fátima Báñez, for his merits and his 'socially significant and exemplary' work as Medical Director of the Neonatology Division at the Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón.

[View more](#) (La Revista, Redacción Médica, in Spanish)



## Welcome, Early Birds

A warm welcome to our new partner, the Ukrainian Preemie Parent Organisation *Early Birds (Ranni Ptashky)*. Their mission is to elevate the standards of care of preterm babies in the Ukraine by organising information campaigns to raise awareness, provide support to families, and establish an effective dialogue between governmental bodies, professionals, industry partners and parents of preterm children.

[View more](#)



## Welcome to our network, PEARL

We are happy to welcome a new supporting organisation of the *European Standards of Care for Newborn Health* project and network partner *Pain in Early Life - PEARL*. This group of researchers, mainly from the Nordic countries, is dedicated to help children to a life without pain. *PEARL's* expertise lies within the fields of non-pharmacological pain management, pain assessment, and the role of parents in pain management.

[View more](#) (PEARL website)



## 27th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting in Bologna

Silke Mader and Nicole Thiele represented EFCNI at the 27th Annual *NIDCAP (Newborn Individualized Developmental Care and Assessment Program)* Trainers Meeting and at the *NIDCAP Federation International (NFI) Membership Meeting* in Bologna, Italy. Topics ranged from *NIDCAP Beyond the NICU to Science to Membership*. We were pleased to meet our partner *Vivere Onlus* on this occasion and we warmly congratulate Deborah Buehler, PhD, who was elected new president of the NFI.

[View more](#) (NIDCAP Federation International)



## New members of the EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board



We are glad to continue our series about these new members of the EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board. We highly appreciate the participation of the international experts.

[View more](#)

## EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Professor Mats Eriksson

Reducing pain: Mats Eriksson is professor in nursing science, with a special focus on paediatric nursing, at Örebro University, Sweden. He was the first Swedish nurse to bring the NIDCAP concept to Sweden. His research mainly focuses on pain and stress in newborn infants and older children, but also on breastfeeding and the support of parents. He is the leader of the international research group PEARL – Pain in Early Life.



[View more](#)

## EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Dr Aleid van Wassenaer- Leemhuis

Beyond the perinatal stage: Dr Aleid van Wassenaer-Leemhuis, MD, PhD, is a paediatrician and the head of the follow-up programme of NICU graduates at the *Emma Children's Hospital, Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam*. She is consultant to the Expertise Center for Post discharge developmental Support (EOP-NI, Expertise centrum Ontwikkelingsondersteuning voor Prematuren)



[View more](#)

## EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Professor Manuel Sánchez Luna

Professor Manuel Sánchez Luna is an Accredited Associate Professor in Pediatrics at the Complutense University of Madrid and the Medical Director of the Neonatology Division and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón. His interests of research are: bronchopulmonary dysplasia, respiratory physiology, sepsis, shock, and personalised nutrition.



[View more](#)

## EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board: Welcome Professor Umberto



## Simeoni

From heart to heart: Umberto Simeoni is Professor of Paediatrics at Faculté de Biologie et de Médecine, University of Lausanne and Director of the Division of Pediatrics and of the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD) Research Unit at CHUV University Hospital in Lausanne Switzerland. His research is oriented towards the *Developmental Origins of Health and Disease* (DOHaD), with a special focus on the developmental programming of the cardio-vascular system in conditions of perinatal disease.

[View more](#)



## World Prematurity Day

In a few days, on 17 November, the world will celebrate the 6th World Prematurity Day. Many events around the globe will take place. It is important to show the world the united voice of all those committed to preterm babies and their families: Please help us in putting together a complete review of the worldwide activities, by taking part in our [survey](#).

[View more](#)



## News from the EFCNI Changemaker Map

Countless individuals and organisations have already added their events and milestones to this interactive map. They show the world that a strong and international community works together to change the situation for preterm infants and their families. The latest entries come from the Arabic peninsula where for example the Children's Hospital of the King Fahad Medicine City in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, takes part in World Prematurity Day for the first time ever.

[View more and add your events ore milestone](#)



## A Strong Start for Little Heroes

1,200 socks were knitted and more than 45,000 give-aways were packed: *A Strong Start for Little Heroes*, EFCNI's large-scale initiative on this year's World Prematurity Day, is in progress. More than 150 German and Austrian hospitals with neonatal intensive care units have registered for this initiative. They all will organise events on 17 November 2016 to celebrate with (former) preterm infants, parents, healthcare professionals and other visitors.

[View more](#)



## Workshops on the European

## Standards of Care for Newborn Health

In September and October, EFCNI held two training workshops in line with the European Standards of Care for Newborn Health project. About 30 parent representatives from about 25 countries came together to work towards the establishment and implementation of binding national standards of care for newborn health in their countries. The active participation and commitment was great.

[View more about the project](#)



## New colleague for EFCNI: Verena Lindacher

New *Project Manager for Maternal and Newborn Health*: Verena Lindacher recently joined the growing EFCNI team. She holds a Bachelor degree in Communication Science with a special focus on health communication and a Master degree in Public Health from the LMU Munich. We warmly welcome Verena and wish her a great start at EFCNI.

[View more](#)



## Greetings from the EAPS

The 6th *Congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies – EAPS* took place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 21 to 25 October 2016. More than 2,400 participants from nearly 100 countries were counted. EFCNI is proud of having been among the contributing societies. In the interdisciplinary session on *family-centred care*, Silke Mader spoke about the *Parental Perspective - what it means to get a preterm infant*. You can already sign in for receiving further information on the EAPS 2018 in Paris, France.

[View more](#)



## 6th International Congress of UENPS

The 6th International Congress of UENPS will be held in Valencia, Spain, from 23 to 25 November 2016. More than 60 international speakers and experts in the fields of Neonatology and Perinatology are promising a valuable platform for a fruitful exchange of new scientific findings and views.

[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 @



- [9th International DIP Symposium on Diabetes, Hypertension, Metabolic Syndrome and Pregnancy from 8 to 12 March 2017 in Barcelona, Spain](#)
- [1st World Congress on Maternal Fetal Neonatal Medicine from 24 to 26 April 2017 in London, UK](#)
- [2nd Congress of joint European Neonatal Society \(jENS\) from 31 October to 4 November 2017 in Venice, Italy](#)

## Guest articles featuring patient safety and hygiene practise

This month, we focused on the newborn health topic of *Patient safety and hygiene practise*. We talked to renowned experts in this field and featured issues like hygiene, safety culture, or the prevention of healthcare-associated infections.

- [Helping newborn babies to fight against bacteria](#), by Professor Christoph Bühler
- [Parent statement on patient safety and hygiene practise](#), by Dr Eleni Vavouraki
- [Campaign SAVE LIVES: Clean your hands](#), by World Health Organization (WHO)
- [Information on medications during pregnancy](#), by Professor Christof Schaefer
- [Information in German by the Centre Embrytox \(Pharmakovigilanz- und Beratungszentrum für Embryonaltoxikologie\)](#)



Patient safety and  
hygiene practice

EFCNI

## Don't eat for two, but think for two

Within the project EarlyNutrition, researchers from 35 institutions in 14 countries have joined forces to study how early nutrition and lifestyle factors impact the rates of obesity and related disorders. Recently, several short recommendation videos have been released. They are showing evidence-based recommendation for nutrition in the four crucial stages preconception, pregnancy, breastfeeding period, and infancy with particular reference to health-related outcomes at a later stage.

[View more](#)



## The burden of healthcare-associated

## infections

A recently published study by Cassini and colleagues from the *European Centre for Prevention and Control (ECDC)* has shown the burden of six common healthcare-associated infections (HAI) on population health. As reported in *PLOS Medicine*, the most current HAI were healthcare-associated pneumonia, health-care associated urinary tract infections and neonatal sepsis.

[View more](#)



## More than just a cold: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

The season of the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) has started. RSV is a respiratory virus that infects the lungs and breathing passages. It is widely spread and especially common during the cold autumn, winter and spring months. Preterm infants are at higher risk of severe infections from RSV. On our website, we provide information on how to help prevent the virus and how to reduce the risk of an infection with RSV.

[View more](#)



## Midwives Voices, Midwives Realities Report 2016

*World Health Organization (WHO)* launched the new 'Midwives Voices, Midwives Realities Report 2016'. This global survey documents the voices of 2,740 midwives in 93 countries, and describes, from their perspective, the barriers they experience to providing quality respectful care for women, newborns and their families.

[View more](#)



## Paediatric drug development: EMA consultation - guideline ICH E11(R1)

The *European Medicines Agency (EMA)* has released for public consultation an *ICH E11(R1) guideline on clinical investigation of medicinal products in the paediatric population: Step 2b*. The document open for consultation is available by clicking [here](#). Comments should be provided using this [template](#). The completed comments form should be sent to [ich@ema.europa.eu](mailto:ich@ema.europa.eu) Please note, that the deadline for comments is **13 April 2017**.



## Election of the ESPR council

Congratulations Dr Charles Christoph Roehr and Professor Petra Hüppi! On the occasion of the 6th EAPS congress in Geneva, Switzerland, Dr Charles Christoph Roehr from the University



Hospitals in Oxford, United Kingdom and Charité University Medical Center Berlin, Germany, was elected President - Elect of the European Society for Paediatric Research. Professor Petra Hüppi from the Division of Child Development and Growth, Paediatrics, Geneva, Switzerland, was elected Vice-President. Both are members of the EFCNI Scientific Advisory Board. EFCNI congratulates them and wishes all the best for their new positions.



[View more](#) (ESPR)

## Advanced trainings on early nutrition

Professional eLearning for free: The *Early Nutrition eAcademy* (ENeA) offers CME accredited eLearning modules. The open distance learning tool covers a wide range of topics in the areas of early nutrition and lifestyle for healthcare professionals. All modules are written in English and peer-reviewed by leading international experts in the field. Some modules are also available in Mandarin, Chinese and Turkish.



[View more](#)

## Mark your calendar

Receive an overview on [congresses and conferences in 2017](#) on maternal and newborn health.



[Awareness days](#)

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