



We hope you could all soak up enough sun this summer as cooler breezes and shorter days are already giving notice of autumn. But that's no reason to be gloomy, as September is always a busy and eventful month for us. From a committee meeting in Leiden, to congresses in Berlin and Stockholm, to an international symposium in Paris, there is plenty to tell you about. We also launched our factsheet on pre-eclampsia and are delighted that it has been received so well. Moreover, our German speaking brochure on *Bonding and care for the preterm infant* got a touch-up and is now, shiny and new, ready to download. A good bridge to invite you to check our website regularly for content updates!



Your EFCNI team

Neven Subotic Stiftung and EFCNI: raising awareness for hygiene

We are happy to announce our cooperation with the *Neven Subotic Stiftung*. It was founded by the professional football player Neven Subotic and aims to permanently improve the lives of people, especially children and adolescents in Ethiopia by gaining access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. EFCNI is working together with the foundation to raise awareness for the importance of (hand)hygiene. Soon we will launch our first joint project on the occasion of *Global Handwashing Day* on 15 October. We had the opportunity to interview Neven and talked about our future collaboration. (Copyright image: Vera Dammborg)

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RECAP preterm: Steering Committee Meeting in Leiden

The *RECAP preterm project* (Research on European Children and Adults born Preterm) had its steering committee meeting in Leiden, the Netherlands, this month. The platform that shall be built for harmonising and utilising data of different European cohorts and to register data of children and adults born preterm is already taking shape. During the meeting all partners were able to exchange on the accomplished tasks and what will lie ahead. The outlook is promising: all working packages are on track and the first goals have been achieved. Don't miss our brandnew project page on our website!

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Hypertension in pregnancy: ISSHP congress in Berlin

From 6 to 9 September, the *European Congress of the International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy (ISSHP)* took place in Berlin. The EFCNI team was on-site with our own booth and hosted a symposium. EFCNI's Chairwoman Silke Mader held a very personal presentation on her experiences of *Having pre-eclampsia and a preterm birth*. We warmly thank the conference Chairs for this great opportunity.

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EFCNI launched factsheet on Pre-eclampsia

The *ISSHP* European Congress in Berlin offered a worthy setting for launching a factsheet on pre-eclampsia for (pregnant) women. The factsheet deals with causes and risk factors, symptoms, screening tests, prevention and further aspects of this complication in a pregnancy. It can be downloaded free of charge. We warmly thank Dr Dietmar Schlembach and Dr Stefan Verlohren for their valuable support and advice.

[Download the factsheet](#)



Happy Birthday SHIPS!

On 1 September, two years ago, the EU-funded research project SHIPS (Screening to Improve Health in Very Preterm Infants in Europe) came into being. The importance and impact of follow-up programmes for very preterm children is what SHIPS analyses and clarifies. In doing so, SHIPS makes a big contribution to long-term follow-up research and care on a multinational and multidisciplinary level. The participating children, their families and last but not least, EFCNI and all their partners want to wish SHIPS a VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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EFCNI at the National Clinical Study Conference in Stockholm

The Swedish research and health collaboration *Clinical Studies Sweden* has held a conference on the future of clinical studies in the Swedish capital, Stockholm, in the beginning of September. EFCNI Chairwoman Silke Mader, was given the opportunity to perform as a speaker on the topic "Future collaborations between health care, industry and patients for faster and better results", where she urged for a caregiver-patient interaction on an equal footing.

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Shire upgrades partnership with EFCNI



We can proudly declare that our long-time partner *Shire* recently upgraded their partnership. The company, focused on providing treatments in neuroscience, rare diseases, gastrointestinal, and internal medicine, is now Premium Partner of EFCNI. *Shire's* strategy is to focus on developing and marketing innovative specialty medicines to meet significant unmet patient needs.

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DSM: New corporate partner

In September, EFCNI announced the partnership with their latest Silver Partner *DSM*. *Royal DSM* is a global science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials. The company delivers solutions that nourish, protect and improve performance in global markets such as food and dietary supplements, personal care, feed, medical devices, life protection, alternative energy and bio-based materials.

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Bindung und Pflege von Frühgeborenen: Re-launch

Our download section has also had an addition to the family: the brochure *Bindung und Pflege von Frühgeborenen* (*Bonding and care for the preterm infant*, available in German only) got a new, fresh look and – most important – we could add some interesting new articles to it. Please have a look yourself and download your copy [here](#).



Meet EFCNI @ these congresses

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

Meet the EFCNI team @

- [*7th Symposium for Developmental Care in Neonatology and Pediatrics - EADCare*](#) from 28 to 29 September 2017 in Paris, France
- [*5. Gießener Neonatologie Symposium*](#) on 13 October 2017 in Gießen, Germany
- [*13th World Congress of Perinatal Medicine \(WCPM\)*](#) from 26 to 29 October 2017 in Belgrade, Serbia
- [*2nd Congress of the joint European Neonatal Societies \(jENS\)*](#) from 31 October to 4 November 2017 in Venice, Italy



A new chapter on our website about a new chapter in life: going home

A new section has popped up on our website! It is all about advice

for new parents on what to consider when their baby is being discharged from the hospital. Going home with a preterm born child differs from going home with a baby born term in many aspects. Our chapter on going home will make you aware of the many things, some small, some bigger, to bear in mind when discharge comes close.

[View more](#)

The Butterfly Guidelines - now available in German

The Butterfly Guidelines – a guide for health professionals to support parents, bereaved of a baby from a multiple pregnancy, is now available in German. EFCNI is proud to be one of the international collaborators of the Butterfly Project and has now accomplished a German translation of the guidelines for health professionals. They are ready to download on our [website](#) and on [neonatalresearch.net](#).

[View more](#) (website [neonatalresearch.net](#))

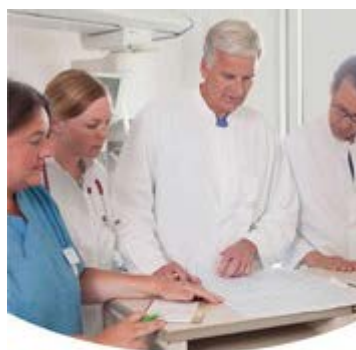
11 months - 11 topics: Education and training

This time, we focused on *Education and training of the multidisciplinary team working in neonatology*. We looked at what simulated trainings in neonatal care look like in practice and talked about the changes after the introduction of the *Family and Infant Neuro-developmental Education (FINE)* training programme. We also talked about the status quo of the *Newborn Individual Development Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP)* training in Germany and will present you an advanced training programme for psycho-social counselling of parents in neonatology. Read more below.

My name is Paul, I will train your skills

Simulators play a key role in the education and training of several professionals. Even in neonatology, infant-like manikins have found their way into education and training. Measuring 35 cm (about 15 inches) and with a weight of 1,000 grams (2.2 lb), *Paul* simulates a preterm baby, born in the 27th week of gestation. We spoke with the neonatologist Dr Jens-Christian Schwindt, who developed *Paul* together with further experts in the fields of neonatology, special effects design and animatronics.

[View more](#)



Education and training of the multidisciplinary team working in neonatology

EFCNI



Adapting caregiving to the needs of little patients

Practising family-centred care in hospitals is a topic very close to the heart of our foundation. Last year, the Paediatric and Youth Medicine Clinic at *Klinikum Dritter Orden*, Munich, introduced the *Family and Infant Neuro-developmental Education (FINE)* programme in Germany. The project was funded by private donations received by EFCNI. We are delighted to have the opportunity to talk to Dr Susanne Rücker from the *Klinikum Dritter Orden* about what has changed since introducing the FINE training in their hospital.

[View more](#)



NIDCAP in Germany and Europe - an inventory

The *Newborn Individual Development Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP)* was developed more than 30 years ago. In line with our main topic for September, we spoke with Professor Christian Poets and Natalie Broghammer from the University Children's Hospital Tübingen about the current status and their vision for the future.

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Training for professionals on psycho-social counselling of parents

Since 2014, perinatal centres in Germany have to ensure a professional psycho-social counselling of parents. A continuous qualification enables the involved staff to strengthen their know-how and to adopt the latest state of science. The German Federal Association *Das frühgeborene Kind e. V.* in close collaboration with the German association *Gesellschaft für Neonatologie und pädiatrische Intensivmedizin (GNPI)*, has developed a comprehensive advanced training programme for professionals working with parents.

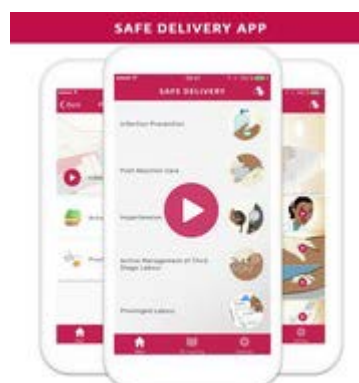
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Digital approaches to improve maternal health

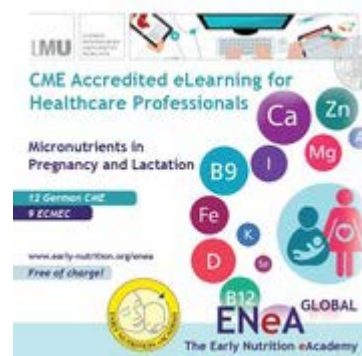
How can pregnant women in low-income settings and/or with limited access to antenatal care service get access to medical information about pregnancy and birth? How can birth complications be reduced and maternal health improved when resources and infrastructure are missing? In line with our featured topic of the month "education and training", we introduce effective and innovative approaches tackling these challenges.

[View more](#)



The Early Nutrition eAcademy (ENeA)

The *Early Nutrition eAcademy* (ENeA) offers CME accredited eLearning modules covering a wide range of nutrition related topics. ENeA recently published new focus modules: *Micronutrients in Pregnancy and Lactation* introduces critical micronutrients for this period and their consequences for optimal fetal and infant development. The second new module deals with *long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids* (LC-PUFAs).



[View more](#) (LinkedIn)



Days are getting shorter and the leaves are changing colour - Socks for Life wishes you a cosy time. [Download and share the graphics](#)

Treatment with low-dose aspirin decreases risk for pre-eclampsia

Pre-eclampsia is still a central cause of complications or even death for mother and child. In many cases the mother is very likely to give birth before 37 weeks of gestation which puts the preterm born infant at risk. Until now it remains challenging to diagnose pre-eclampsia timely and to treat it effectively. Rolnik, Wright, Poon, et al. were now able to specify a low-dose aspirin treatment in order to diminish the occurrence of pre-eclampsia.

[View more](#)



New study on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)

9th September was Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day – a day shedding light on a very worrisome issue: each year approximately 119,000 children are born with FAS. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) has conducted a very interesting study concerning FAS and related disorders – of which there are more than 400 – providing a worldwide estimate of this 100% preventable birth defect. Sadly, Europe as a WHO region, is in the lead in this matter.



[View more](#) (CAMH Website)

Expert interview about medical care and clinical practice

In this interview, Professor Luc Zimmermann, Professor Lena Hellström-Westas, and Professor Giuseppe Buonocore give us an insight about *medical care and clinical practice*. They are Chairs of the respective Topic Expert Group of the *European Standards of Care for Newborn Health* project and work on 12 selected medical topics in neonatology.



[View more](#) (YouTube)

New findings on neurodevelopmental outcome at 2 years for preterms

A large, French cohort study has analysed data of preterm born children at the (corrected) age of 2, revealing that despite increasing rates of survival as well as survival without severe or moderate neuromotor or sensory disabilities during the past two decades, especially children born moderately preterm remain at high risk of developmental delay. The data was collected from the forerunner cohort-studies EPIPAGE and EPIPAGE-2.



[View more](#)

Sleep disorders during pregnancy and risk of preterm birth

Many women suffer from sleep disorders during pregnancy, like insomnia, also known as sleeplessness. According to a study by researchers from the *University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)*, pregnant women who are diagnosed with sleep disorders could be at risk for delivering babies before reaching full term, that is before 37 weeks of gestation.



[View more](#)

Discovery of genes linked to pregnancy length and preterm birth

In a landmark study by the *University of Gothenburg* involving more than 50,000 women, the genes that regulate the length of pregnancy and the likelihood of preterm delivery, have been identified. The research published in the *New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)* is a scientific breakthrough and could lead to improved health and survival among children.



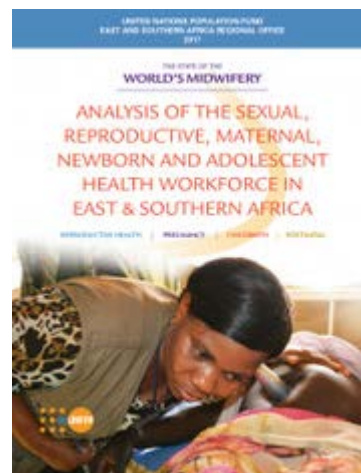
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The State of the World's Midwifery

This new report provides a comprehensive assessment of the

current state of the East and Southern Africa region's sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn and adolescent health workforce in 21 countries. It was commissioned by the *United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) East* and the *Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO)*.

[View more](#) (*Healthy Newborn Network Website*)



Mark your calendar

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

[Awareness days 2017](#)



Landmark 2017 in the Land of Ideas

EFCNI is one of the most innovative "Landmarks 2017" of the initiative *Germany – Land of Ideas*.

[View more](#) (website *Germany - Land of Ideas*, in German)



Special thanks to our corporate partners for their kind support:



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