



These weeks, one highlight is followed by the next: the 2nd Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies (jENS) took place in Venice, Italy. Almost 2,000 participants gathered together for listening to new findings and exchanging views. As part of the organising institutions, we had the honour to hold several courses and a plenary session. Now, World Prematurity Day on 17 November is knocking at the door. We are more than happy to continue our large-scale initiative *A Strong Start for Little Heroes* with 170 participating hospitals in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. We wish all of you who plan events and campaigns a successful World Prematurity Day.



Your EFCNI team

Venice, la Serenissima, hosted this year's jENS Congress

The 2nd Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies in Venice, Italy, is over. Five days of remarkable sessions, impressive talks and lively discussions lie behind the almost 2,000 participants from about 85 countries. As part of the organising societies and executive committee, EFCNI had the honour to organise and chair a pre-course, several parallel and one plenary session. In addition, EFCNI interviewed the presidents of the different societies and the scientific committee about the congress and its unique features.

[View more](#)



Let them thrive! World Prematurity Day 2017

On 17 November, we will once more unite for *World Prematurity Day*. We warmly invite you to share this year's global theme "*Let them thrive!*" We will highlight the value of *respectful care for preterm babies* and their families provided by healthcare professionals and thank them for their work. Respectful care encompasses mothers, babies, and families as a unit, from pre-pregnancy through labour, delivery, as well as treatment and care of the child. Please find more information on our website and send us a summary of your events by **3 December** via this [survey](#).

[View more](#)



Neven Subotic Stiftung and EFCNI: raising awareness for hygiene

On the occasion of *Global Handwashing Day* on 15 October, we

had the pleasure to launch the first campaign with our new cooperation partner *Neven Subotic Stiftung* from Dortmund, Germany. We presented a poster introducing the five key steps for effective handwashing at the *Westphalian Children's Centre* in Dortmund. (Copyright image: Vera Dammborg/N2S)

[View more](#)

[Download the poster](#) (in German)



Festive reception at the Bavarian State Chancellery

In the beginning of October, the Bavarian award winners of the innovation competition *Germany – Land of Ideas 2017* were invited to a festive ceremony at the impressive historic domed hall of the Bavarian State Chancellery. The Minister of State Dr Marcel Huber honoured the innovative spirit of the 15 Bavarian award-winning projects and highlighted the *European Standards of Care for Newborn Health* project by EFCNI.

[View more](#) (Website *bayern.de*, in German)



Involvement of parents in research projects

For a meaningful and ethical interaction, the involvement of parents in research projects should be guided by values and principles. In order to setup a beneficial partnership of both parties, parents and researchers, the position paper *Involvement of parent representatives in neonatal research* was developed by EFCNI in close collaboration with parent representatives.

[View more](#)



7th EADCare Symposium in Paris

The *7th European Symposium for Developmental Care in Neonatology and Pediatrics* from 28 to 29 September 2017 in Paris, France, was rich in exchanges and new knowledge from speakers involved in various areas of child development. EFCNI Vice Chair Nicole Thiele was invited to speak about *Parents as Partners in the Neonatal Care Team*.

[View more](#) (website EADCare symposium)



13th World Congress of Perinatal Medicine (WCPM) in Serbia

In a session about the current status of neonatology at the *13th*

World Congress of Perinatal Medicine (WCPM) in Belgrade, Serbia, EFCNI Chair Silke Mader highlighted the unmet needs in the NICU and presented the EFCNI project *European Standards of Care for Newborn Health*. Many thanks to our co-speakers, the organisers and special thanks to Professor Milica Rankovic from the *Institute of Neonatology* in Belgrade for the kind invitation to the congress.

[View more](#) (WCPM congress website)



EFCNI welcomes new team members

We are more than happy to introduce two new team members: Philine Jaeger and Paloma Celeste Baldoce de Lara Manrique de Lara joined EFCNI in October 2017. While Philine supports the scientific department as *Project Manager for Maternal and Newborn Health*, Paloma strengthens the corporate management & administration department as *Financial Officer*. We wish Paloma and Philine a good start at EFCNI!

[View more](#)



Show your engagement

World Prematurity Day is just around the corner. We are so excited to see all the events and campaigns you surely work hard for. As in previous years, we will collect the events around and on World Prematurity Day and will publish a selection of them on our website. Therefore, we kindly ask you to add your activities on the EFCNI Changemaker Map and to participate in our survey.

[Link to the survey](#)

[Link to the EFCNI Changemaker Map](#)



New EFCNI factsheet on RSV

Winter season is RSV season. In order to highlight the particular importance of the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and to provide parents with comprehensive and practical information, EFCNI has developed a factsheet on RSV. The publication is now available for download for free.

[Download the factsheet](#)



New ESPR President: Professor Charles Christoph Roehr

This year's jENS congress in Venice also marked a change in the Council of the *European Society for Paediatric Research (ESPR)*: Professor Luc Zimmermann handed over the Presidency to his

successor Professor Charles Christoph Roehr. On this occasion, we would like to sincerely thank Professor Luc Zimmermann for his continuous commitment and strong support during the past years and we wish Professor Charles Christoph Roehr all the best for his new role. We furthermore look very much forward to our collaboration and many important common projects ahead.

[View more](#) (ESPR website)



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 @

- [*35. Münchner Konferenz für Qualitätssicherung*](#) from 23 to 24 November 2017 in Munich, Germany
- [*28. Deutscher Kongress für Perinatale Medizin*](#) from 30 November to 2 December 2017 in Berlin, Germany
- [*XXVI. European Congress of Perinatal Medicine \(ECPM\)*](#) from 5 to 8 September 2018 in St. Petersburg, Russia



Accelerating social entrepreneurship

The *RuhrSummit* on 19 October in Dortmund, Germany, was an innovative conference that brought together startups and investors with special guests like the comedian and physician Dr Eckart von Hirschhausen. One part of the conference was the *ImpactSummit*, a match making event for social entrepreneurs. EFCNI Chair and Ashoka Fellow Silke Mader, represented EFCNI in the panel and workshop "ChangeMaker Company". We feel honoured that the cooperation between Philips Avent and EFCNI was presented as a best-practice example for the "co-creation" between social entrepreneurs and companies.

[View more](#) (website RuhrSummit)



App for siblings of preterms

The German Federal Association "Das frühgeborene Kind" e. V. recently launched the app "Hallo Frühchen" (hello preemie) addressed to siblings of preterm babies. "Hallo Frühchen" tells the story of Amelie, a young girl attending kindergarten, whose brother is born preterm. Amelie is accompanied by her stuffed tiger Tassilo. Realised in comic-style, Tassilo the tiger explains the complexity of preterm birth in a language to suit children.

[View more](#)

20 years of parent power in Finland: Kevyt celebrates anniversary

We are happy to announce a festive family event: on 18 November 2017, the parent organisation *Kevyt* from Finland invites more than 100 participants to a research-lecture, interesting speeches, and a magic show for kids. The party will also be an excellent opportunity for families to get to know each other. *Kevyt* will give a badge of merit for one of the very active members and announce this year's prize of the "preemie influencer" of the year.

[View more](#) (Facebook page of Kevyt)

Ireland: extension to maternity leave for mothers of preterm infants

As our partnering organisation the *Irish Neonatal Alliance* recently reported, mothers of preterm infants in Ireland will, in future, benefit from the revised *Maternity Leave Entitlements for Mothers of Preterm Infants* in Ireland: the additional period to be added will be the number of weeks from the baby's actual date of birth up to two weeks before the expected date of confinement.

[View more](#)

Books for good: fundraising campaign by Neišnešiotukas

Our Lithuanian partner organisation *Neišnešiotukas* won the support of the biggest book stores of the chain "Pegasas". In a two months fundraising campaign, the stores around the country donated a part of the revenues of their book sales to *Neišnešiotukas*. The money will be used for vital hospital inventory and for music therapy education in Lithuanian NICUs.

[View more](#) (Facebook, in Lithuanian)

Happy Birthday Harl.e.kin

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of *Harl.e.kin* in



Kaufbeuren, Germany, EFCNI's Vice Chair Nicole Thiele complimented representatives of the programme for their valuable commitment. *Har.le.kin* is a very low-threshold programme that supports families with preterm babies in transition between hospital and home. Its major aim is to strengthen the parents' competence to care for the child at home. We wish the Har.le.kin team all the best for the next ten years!



[View more](#)



Join us for World Prematurity Day on 17 November. [Download our materials in 40 languages.](#)

11 months - 11 topics: Patient safety and hygiene practice

The year keeps proceeding and so does the EFCNI calendar. In October, all eyes were focused on *Patient safety and hygiene practice*. Hygiene plays a crucial part in the wellbeing and healthy development of preterm infants. Their immune system is operating at full stretch and additional external challenges like germs and bacteria can weaken it at all hazards with lethal consequences. In line with our monthly topic one can learn about risks and measures to improve hygiene and patient safety.

- [Parent statement](#) (Facebook)
- [Safer Pregnancy website](#) by Sands UK
- [Video on how to avoid nosocomial infections](#) (in German), by BVMed - Bundesverband Medizintechnologie e. V.
- [Safe Childbirth Checklist Implementation Guide](#), by the World Health Organization (WHO)



Patient safety and
hygiene practice

EFCNI

The less invasive surfactant application (LISA) in preterm infants

Infants born without enough surfactant may develop a condition called respiratory distress syndrome (RDS). RDS occurs in preterm infants due to the immaturity of their lungs and the inability to make

sufficient surfactant. On the occasion of our topic of the month October *Patient safety and hygiene practice*, we spoke with the neonatologist Dr Angela Kribs, who together with further experts investigated a less invasive surfactant application protocol (LISA) in extremely preterm infants.

[View more](#)

Research on preventing wrong-patient orders in the NICU

The failure to correctly identify a patient in the hospital or other health-care environments can occur under multiple circumstances. Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) are at particularly high risk for wrong-patient errors. Researchers from New York and Ohio conducted a quality improvement study to learn more about the frequency and risk factors of wrong-patient-errors in the NICU and to assess the effectiveness of different interventions for preventing these errors.

[View more](#)

Levels and trends in child mortality

A new report from UNICEF and its partners in the Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME), *Levels and Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2017*, shows the full scope of child and newborn mortality across the world. In addition to global estimates for under-five, infant and newborn mortality, the report, for the first time, contains estimates on mortality rates among children aged 5 to 14.

[View more](#) (UNICEF website)

Fetal Medicine Foundation invites to annual advances course in London

The Fetal Medicine Foundation (FMF) closes this year with its annual advanced training courses in London, UK. From 2nd until 3rd December, leading international experts will present and discuss the latest advances in fetal medicine.

For this year's advances course, FMF has extended its educational portfolio with two internet-based educational courses. One on screening for preeclampsia in the first, second and third trimesters of pregnancy and another one on fetal abnormalities.

[View more](#)



The Lancet Maternal Health Series: Global Research and Evidence

The *Lancet Maternal Health Series: Global Research & Evidence* will present a range of maternal health experts and evidence across disciplines including epidemiology, health systems, economics, advocacy, programming, obstetrics and midwifery. Using videos, articles, mini-lectures and discussions, an online course explores the state of maternal health globally, based on *The Lancet Maternal Health Series*. Users will review the latest evidence from experts and learn what is needed to ensure good-quality, woman-centred maternal healthcare for all.

[View more](#) (website PMNCH)

Mark your calendar

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

[Awareness days 2017](#)

THE LANCET
MATERNAL HEALTH SERIES



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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