



Celebrating 10 years of EFCNI: 2018 has been a year full of highlights, like the anniversary of EFCNI and of World Prematurity Day, the launch of the [European Standards of Care for Newborn Health](#) and of the [Call to Action for Newborn Health](#) in the European Parliament in Brussels, and our [10-Year Anniversary Conference](#) "Neonatology of the future".

We would like to say thank you for your continued support and interest. We wish you a happy Holiday Season and a peaceful and healthy New Year!

Your EFCNI team

EFCNI



STANDARDS FEATURED IN THE LANCET

Launch of European Standards of Care for Newborn Health and Call to Action

With events at the Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the European Union and the European Parliament in Brussels at the end of November, we launched the [European Standards of Care for Newborn Health](#) and a [Call to Action for Newborn Health in Europe](#). These new practical recommendations for the care of preterm and ill babies will have a decisive influence on the lives of future generations. The [whole set of published standards](#) and a [project report](#) are freely accessible on the [project website](#) and have been featured in an editorial by *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*.

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EFCNI SYMPOSIUM

10-Year Anniversary Conference "Neonatology of the future"

To celebrate the 10-year anniversary of EFCNI, a two-day conference took place at the Klinikum Dritter Orden Munich, Germany with the title

„Neonatology of the future – following new paths“ ("Neonatologie der Zukunft - neue Wege gehen"). At the EFCNI anniversary symposium, experts discussed trends and challenges in neonatology. If you would like to learn more about upcoming congresses in 2019, visit our [congress calendar](#).

VIEW MORE



MUNICH

Roundtable and factsheet on neonatal parenteral nutrition

Due to very preterm birth or an illness affecting the digestive tract, some newborn babies require parenteral nutrition (nutrition through the veins). In July, experts from various European countries came together in Munich, Germany, for the EFCNI roundtable on neonatal parenteral nutrition. The goal was to develop a concept for a position paper, which will highlight the importance of this life-saving treatment for preterm and severely ill babies. Later in August, EFCNI published the factsheet Parenteral nutrition for very preterm and ill babies describing this feeding method to parents.

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NEW MEMBER OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Professor Andreas Flemmer

Professor Andreas Flemmer is Head of Neonatology at the Children's Hospital and Perinatal Centre at the Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU) Munich, Germany. He is a board certified neonatologist and paediatrician. In 2018, he became Chair of the collaboration between EFCNI and the *International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement* (ICHOM) for the measurement of patient-focused health outcomes.

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NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Reinforcement for EFCNI's communication, scientific and administration teams

We would like to introduce our three new team members at EFCNI: Christine Schwaiger joined EFCNI's communication team as Senior Content Editor, Simone Cramer joined the scientific team as Senior Project Manager for Maternal and Newborn Health, and Sylvie Baranger-Strobel joined the Corporate Management & Administration Department as Team Assistant. Welcome on board!

In the picture (top down): Christine Schwaiger, Simone Cramer, Sylvie

Baranger-Strobel

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NOVARTIS TEAMS UP WITH EFCNI

Novartis new Premium Partner of EFCNI

We warmly welcome Novartis among our Premium Partners. The mission of Novartis is to discover new ways to improve and extend people's lives. They use science-based innovation to address some of society's most challenging healthcare issues. They discover and develop breakthrough treatments and find new ways to deliver them to as many people as possible.

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WORLD PREMATURETY DAY

Ten years World Prematurity Day

Parents as well as healthcare professionals and researchers have been teaming up this year for the 10th World Prematurity Day to support the global motto – “Working together: Partnering with families in the care of small and sick newborns”. In recognition of World Prematurity Day, "Every Preemie – SCALE" has published its latest technical brief on "Family Participation in the Care of the Inpatient Newborn" in the "Do No Harm series". This year, for the first time, one of the most famous landmarks of Munich, the Olympic Tower, was illuminated in purple on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of World Prematurity Day. Our particular thanks go to the Olympiapark München GmbH for making the illumination possible.

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EFCNI CO-EDITOR OF GLOBAL REPORT

Survive and thrive: transforming care for every small and sick newborn

We are honoured to announce that EFCNI is among the co-editors of a new report by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, representing the voice of parents whose children have been affected by preterm birth. The report shows that nearly 30 million babies are born too soon, too small or become sick every year and need specialised care to survive. Key findings of the new report "Survive and Thrive: Transforming Care for Every Small and Sick Newborn" were launched at the Partners Forum, hosted by the Government of India on 13 December in New Delhi.

Image: (c) UNICEF/UNI139096/Chute

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PROJECT NEWS

EFCNI Academy

This fall, our newly established EFCNI Academy has started off with the first module "Nutrition". In the two German pilot workshops paediatricians, lactation consultants, as well as other healthcare professionals were educated about the setup and organisation of human milk banks. More modules and workshops are planned for 2019 and beyond.

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NEW FACTSHEET

The first 1,000 days

The first 1,000 days of life – the period between conception and a child's 2nd birthday – have an enormous short- and long-term impact on the health and well-being of unborn babies, infants, and young children, as well as on pregnant and lactating women. Our new factsheet *Why the first 1,000 days of life matter* features this unique window of opportunity to support child development and long-term health.

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NEWS FROM THE EFCNI DONATION PROGRAMME

Kangaroo sweaters for Hungarian hospital

Thanks to numerous donors and the support of Laura Bavalics on behalf of her late husband's "Zack Boukydis' memory fund", we were able to supply the NICU in Miskolc, Hungary, with so-called "Benjamin Kangaroo Sweaters". These sweaters facilitate skin-to-skin care by maintaining the mother's mobility.

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NETWORK



Help us with a heart – a campaign by Nedoklubko

For the eighth time, our Czech partnering parent organisation Nedoklubko hosted and organised a conference in anticipation of World Prematurity Day 2018 at the prestigious Žofín Palace and a festive event for families in Prague. 150 neonatal nurses participated in this year's conference with a

focus on psychology and communication. Nedoklubko also launched their new campaign "Help us with a heart". At the charity dinner in the evening, several awardees received the Purple Heart Award 2018. EFCNI is happy, grateful and also proud to be one of the awardees and says thank you for this gesture of appreciation.

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Ukraine: Preterm babies in the focus

In October, the Ukrainian Preemie Parent Association "Early Birds", the Association of Neonatologists of Ukraine, the "Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology of NAMS of Ukraine", DP "IPAG NAMS of Ukraine" and Shupyk National Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education organised the international conference "Modern approaches to rehabilitation of preterm babies and children at an early age: Ukrainian realities" in Kiev, Ukraine. The conference was a big success and a great opportunity for Ukrainian doctors and parents to exchange knowledge and experience. Moreover, in December, "Early Birds" hosted a photo exhibition "Dads in the focus", kindly supported by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, the Association of Neonatologists of Ukraine, as well as by the main perinatal centres and maternity hospitals.

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Mother-baby bonding supporting rooms

Our partnering parent organisation "Premature Bebek" made a huge contribution to the establishment of mother-baby bonding support rooms at the Istanbul Medicine Faculty Hospital, one of the major university hospitals in Turkey. View more in a guest article by Ilknur Orkay.

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SCIENCE



Highlights of 11 months - 11 topics

As part of our communication motto "11 months – 11 topics" in 2018, we introduced the concept of lighthouse projects. Every month, we featured one or more lighthouse projects. These are projects realised by members of our network active in neonatal care. They can be a source of inspiration, a motivator or a role model for others. To show you some highlights, we compiled a summary of lighthouse projects in 2018.

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Horizon Europe will follow on Horizon 2020

The European Commission has announced a successor to the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. For the next long-term EU budget covering 2021 to 2027, the Commission is proposing € 100 billion for the new programme called *Horizon Europe*.

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Legislation on medicines for children and rare diseases open for public consultation

Open for public consultation until 11 January 2019: An evaluation by the European Commission covers the legislation on medicines for special purposes, in particular medicines for children and medicines to treat rare diseases. The evaluation will assess to which extent the EU legislation is efficient and effective and considers whether it is fit for the purpose in the light of developments in the area of pharmaceuticals. It will look in particular into the impact of incentives introduced for research, development and marketing, for these specific medicines.

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Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year

Supported by our ever-growing and powerful network and the experience of the past ten years we are convinced that together we can achieve so much and improve the future of ill and preterm born children. We hence want to express our sincere thanks for your trust and support in 2018 and cannot wait to continue this journey with you in 2019. We wish you a joyous Holiday Season and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

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Support Paul!

Paul is a simulator doll representing a preterm baby born in the 27th week of gestation. Thanks to Paul, healthcare professionals can train several emergency scenarios under real-life conditions. We want more healthcare professionals to get access to this outstanding training opportunity. You can help: make an earmarked donation for [preterm baby simulator doll Paul](#).



Thanks to your donation, EFCNI will be able to promote neonatal emergency trainings with Paul!

Special thanks to our corporate partners for their kind support:

Platinum and Premium Partners:



Silver Partners:



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Project Partners:



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