

28th Summer Stroke School – Healthy Lifestyle and Prevention of Stroke and Other Brain Impairment

Place and date

Inter - University Centre
Don Frane Bulića 4, 20 000 Dubrovnik, Croatia
June 5-9, 2017

Brief description of target audience and educational objective

The School directors are renowned experts: prof. Roman Haberl from Munich, prof. Kurt Niederkorn from Graz, prof. David Russell from Oslo, prof. Tatjana Rundek from Miami, dr Hrvoje Budinčević from Zagreb and founder and coordinator of the program, prof. Vida Demarin. They are committed to the promotion of brain health, education of young professionals from several european countries about this problem and the dissemination of knowledge and its application in their communities, especially inspired by the words of Thich Nhat Hanh: 'Happy Teachers Will Change The World'.

The audience of the Summer Stroke School includes neurologists in training, clinical neurologists, academical neurologists, neuroscientists, other scientists and research associates, general practitioners and other interested physicians. The educational objectives of the course were to encourage cooperation and to promote exchange of knowledge and comparison of stroke data between participants from different countries. Lectures and workshops discussed all major aspects of stroke risk factors, as well as new insights in epidemiology, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of stroke. Some of the main themes were: carotid atherosclerosis and stroke, stroke mimics, cervical artery dissections, vascular cognitive impairments, monitoring the brain during surgery, stroke service in Europe, thrombectomy in rural areas, neuroimaging, atrial fibrillation and stroke, anticoagulant therapy, cryptogenic stroke, silent brain infarctions, critical issues in endovascular stroke treatment. As brain diseases are increasing in number and became a major medical and public health and financial problem, learning objectives included other brain disorders as well: Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's dementia, migraine, multiple sclerosis, brain and art, including a series of interesting clinical cases . Apart from excellent lectures given by course directors Prof.Vida Demarin, Prof.Kurt Niederkorn, Prof.David Russell and Dr.Hrvoje Budicevic, other eminent lecturers held excellent lectures and workshops each in their area of expertise. An extraordinary contribution was given by Dr. Frank Kraus from Munich, who

presented the Tempis Project (telemedicine project for integrated stroke care in the region of South-East Bavaria) and the most important themes of the ESO Congress held in Prague last month. Dr. Gordian Hubert from Munich organized a great workshop about the organization of emergency care for stroke patients in some neighboring countries. Professor David Russell and Dianne Hanson held excellent ultrasound hands-on workshops. Professor Cristina Tiu from Bucharest and Professor Serefzur Ozturk from Ankara held interesting lectures and workshops with case scenarios. Professor Dragutin Kadojić from Osijek and Assistant Professor Marinko Dikanovic from Slavonski Brod gave significant contributions about the epidemiology of neurological diseases and the problems of diagnosis and treatment of stroke and complications. Hans van Elst showed the latest innovations in ultrasound.

The course allowed knowledge transfer between respected scientists from western countries and colleagues from central and east European countries working with stroke. After the lectures, the late afternoons were reserved for a rich cultural program with the goal to promote contacts and future cooperation between participants from various countries.

Approximate number of attendees

65 (sixty-five) participants from several countries: Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey.

Name of any supporting institution:

World Stroke Organization (WSO)

European Stroke Organization (ESO)

European Academy of Neurology (EAN)

World Federation of Neurology (WFN)

International Institute for Brain Health (IBRAIN)

University of Zagreb School of Medicine

Croatian Stroke Society

Central and Eastern European Stroke Society (CEEES)

Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Inter University Centre Dubrovnik

Brief comment on success, and if relevant impact on government policy, government action, or public awareness

The feedback from the participants was excellent regarding the quality of organization, relevance of topics, quality of the presented topics, relevance of the course for their future work and selection of lecturers. The Summer Stroke School got very good media coverage this year as well, including the Croatian radio television, Dubrovnik Television (Dubrovnik TV), Radio Dubrovnik, Radio Ragusa and daily newspapers, allowing the Course to raise stroke awareness in the general population and increase the knowledge of stroke risk factors and warning signs.

Photographs of the activity



one voice
One World Voice for Stroke



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