



## National Societies Virtual Meeting 2020 – Main Discussion Points

Thursday, October 08 – 14:00 – 17:45 hrs.

GoTo Meeting Platform

Meeting Chair: Patrick Bontems – ESPGHAN International Affairs Representative

### Part 01 – Updates and Outlook on ESPGHAN Initiatives and the National Societies Network

Presenters: Patrick Bontems, Christina Hauer, Sanja Kolacek, Alexandra Papadopoulou, Mike Thomson

- The importance of National Societies for ESPGHAN and the work done by the previous IAR Christina Hauer was highlighted at the start of the meeting.
- The objective of the collaboration between ESPGHAN and the National Societies is to promote high level clinical practice, high standards of education and high-quality research within Europe, promote recognition of the subspeciality, reach subspecialists not member of ESPGHAN, spread initiatives of the Public Affairs Committee.
- The most important tasks related to the IAR that were discussed during an IAR transition meeting were identified as follows
  - Organization of an annual Eastern European Summer School aiming to spread knowledge and provide networking opportunities to Health Care Providers from Eastern European countries.
  - Continuous data bank update of the National Societies structures and representatives.
  - Support for networking and exchange provided by ESPGHAN with currently two dedicated meetings for representatives per year. The involvement of National Societies in ESPGHAN related activities such as the new Quality of Care project, scientific cooperation or education will be pursued.
  - Standardized template made available by ESPGHAN to National Societies to facilitate translation of ESPGHAN guidelines and educational materials.
  - The number of countries in which PGHN was accepted as a subdiscipline in the past three years has significantly progressed. Effort to have recognition in all countries will continue.
- New information from ESPGHAN was given to attendees:
  - Three new Council Members (Education Secretary, IAR and Hepatology Committee Chair) were introduced to the representatives.
  - ESPGHAN has launched a new webinar format as well as an Endoscopy Fellowship, both open for application to all members. **Detailed information for both initiatives can be found on the ESPGHAN Website.**
  - Education Committee and Research Committee were newly established within the society.
- HCP Advice Guides were presented as one of the key activities of the ESPGHAN Public Affairs Committee (PAC). A translation template for these guides was developed but thus far, only a fifth of the societies had made use of this option of dissemination for the Hepatitis C Guides. **More collaboration in the distribution will be highly appreciated. It was again highlighted that ESPGHAN cannot be responsible for any translation but only for the provision of an easy to edit template. A specific logo was**

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**established and made mandatory for use on guideline translation. The logo can be requested from SPINK or the ESPGHAN Office.**

- Parental Nutrition Guides and Hepatitis B Guides are the next to be ready for distribution.
- On-going EU engagement and monitoring by the PAC is crucial to establish ESPGHAN as the go-to partner for PGHN related issues discussed in the EU Commission and EU Parliament.
- **The PAC invites the National Societies to provide content relevant to the PGHN community for dissemination on the ESPGHAN Twitter channel.**
- Alexandra Papadopoulou presented a survey that was conducted in 98 PGHN training centers on infrastructure, manpower, patient – and procedural volume in 19 countries (Europe/Israel).
  - It was highlighted that interpretation of the data collected must be done very carefully as the data only represents the level of care in individual centers. As various national centers are not represented in the survey, the data is not a representation for the level of care on a national level.
- A summary was given on the survey conducted among the representatives on the structures of their societies and the preferred communication tools with ESPGHAN. Based on the outcome, a newsletter dedicated to the National Societies will be developed for 2021. **Please contact the ESPGHAN Office if you wish to obtain the results.**

## Part 02 - ESPGHAN Quality of Care Initiative

Presenter: Sybille Koletzko; Chair of the Quality-of-Care Task Force

- The ESPGHAN Quality of Care (QoC) project was introduced in detail as one of the most important ESPGHAN projects being undertaken. The dedicated task force is chaired by Sibylle Koletzko. The aim of the project is to align and harmonise ESPGHAN initiatives to improve the practical delivery of quality care to all children suffering disorders in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.
- Improving the QoC already forms the core of the range of ESPGHAN initiatives from workstreams and outputs of the working/special interest groups through to strategies for education and the Public Affairs Committee. The main strategic goal for the QoC task force is to align these initiatives within each of the sub-specialities and ensure they best translate to actual QoC in patients from countries that span the ESPGHAN membership. The following topics have been chosen for the initial project:
  - Hepatology – Biliary Atresia: Time to/age at Kasai.
  - Gastroenterology – Coeliac Serology.
  - Nutrition – Measurement of weight and height (incl. when/timeframe and method).
- The National Societies will be a crucial part of the studies and surveys have been sent to gauge interest in the project. All correspondences will be sent with the ESPGHAN IAR in copy to ensure full awareness of the engagements.
- It was highlighted by Sibylle Koletzko and Sanja Kolacek that no contracts will be signed with the participating centers, due to the voluntary nature of their participation.
- **The structure of the network and related tasks such as data collection procedures or data base management were presented during the meeting. If you wish to obtain more detailed information, please contact the ESPGHAN Office.**

