



GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

SPRING MEETING 2021

LARNACA, CYPRUS / VIRTUAL JULY 3, 2021

10.30 - 12.00 CY / 09.30 - 11.00 CET

List of attendees attached

1. **Welcome** by the President – Adamos Hadjipanayis
2. **Remarks/Approval of the final agenda** – the agenda was approved.
3. **Remarks/Approval of the GA minutes Winter Meeting 2020** - the minutes were approved.
4. **President's report** - Adamos Hadjipanayis.

4.1. Updates on EAP Statutes

- a. The new EAP Statutes were approved on 27/10/2020
- b. Articles of the association were officially amended on: 31/12/2021
- c. The Royal decree confirmed the amendment of the EAP articles of association: 02/04/2021
- d. Publication of the new articles of association in the annexes of the Belgian State Gazette: 17/06/2021
- e. The new, inclusive EAP Statutes welcome individual members from all EAP's National Societies as automatic members of the EAP.
- f. EAP can be regarded as pan-European Association.
- g. The non-EU countries welcomed this change and thanked the EAP for its role in harmonizing the training, medical services across Europe and for being allowed to be under the umbrella of the EAP.
- h. The EAP welcomed all European countries to join the association as national members.

4.2 IPA

- a. The president elaborated on a closer collaboration between the International Paediatric Association (IPA) and the European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP).
- b. The audience was honoured to welcome Prof. Aman Pulugan, the Executive Director of IPA, who also attended the EAP Spring Meeting 2021 virtually, to the proceedings of the General Assembly .
- c. IPA EC unanimously decided to officially give the one of the two seats of Europe to the European Academy of Paediatrics.
- d. The decision was ratified unanimously by the standing committee of IPA.
- e. EAP officially represents the region of Europe.
- f. The Structure of IPA was elaborated: Executive Committee consists of 9 members; the Standing Committee consists of 21 members and the EC members; 6/7 Regions shall include the President plus one duly elected representative to represent Member National Pediatric Societies within their geographic region. Asia-Pacific region has 2 additional representatives elected by the CD. Therefore, regional representation accounts for 16 total seats on the SC. The remaining five seats are duly elected representatives of the Member International Pediatric Specialty Societies. 1 delegate per country can serv on the Council of Delegates. (Read more on [the IPA website](#))

4.3 Collaboration between ECPCP and EAP

- a. There were 2 joint statements between EAP and ECPCP that formed a part of a new collaboration.
- b. EAP and ECPCP statement Risks for children's health during the COVID-19 pandemic and a call for maintenance of essential pediatric services.
- c. SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in minors (children and adolescents) – a joint statement of the European Academy of Paediatrics and the European Confederation for Primary Care Paediatricians
- d. The future of the collaboration entails the publication of more statements, running of a joint EAPRASnet study amongst others.

4.4 EU Projects

a. Core-MD

EAP Representative: Berthold Koletzko

Manufacturers of medical devices need to test their products before being allowed to market them. Specifically, they require clinical data showing their medical device is safe and efficient. In this context, the EU-funded CORE-MD project will translate expert scientific and clinical evidence on study designs for evaluating high-risk medical devices into advice for EU regulators.

b. ImmuHubs

EAP Representatives: Vasiliki Papaevangelou; Lukasz Dembinski ; Stefano del Torso ; Hans Juergen Dornbusch; Sian Copley; Liesbeth Siderius; Yiannis Trimithiotis (Project Manager); Loraine Lugasi (EAP Secretariat / Paragon)

EAP is a member of the Consortium running the EU Commission H2020 project entitled: Innovative Immunisation Hubs. The past year has highlighted that specific groups in European society have limited access to vaccines due to socioeconomic, cultural, geographic or health reasons. The Innovative Immunisation Hubs (ImmuHubs) project, which is designed to run for three years, has been set up in response to this. The project's aims are to: establish partnerships with citizen groups, public health agencies and the public to improve access for specific population groups in eight countries; create innovative immunisation actions to increase vaccine uptake; develop sustainable solutions for vaccine protection. Among the targeted countries are Cyprus, Greece, Finland, Portugal & Poland. Actions taken will be monitored and the project has quantifiable targets such as increasing the uptake of childhood vaccines by 10 percent.

The ImmuHubs Coordinator is Barbara Rath, MD PhD HDR, Co-founder & Chair, The Vienna Vaccine Safety Initiative.

c. RIVER-EU

EAP representatives: Stefano del Torso, Hans Juergen Dornbusch; Adamos Hadjipanayis, Yiannis Trimithiotis (Project Manager)

EAP is a member of the Consortium running the EU Commission H2020 Project entitled River-EU: Reducing inequalities in vaccine uptake in the European Region – Engaging Underserved Communities.

The RIVER-EU project aims to tackle barriers in health systems for vaccine uptake among minority groups in Europe. The five-year project focuses specifically on the MMR and HPV vaccinations in selected communities (migrant community in Greece, Turkish females and Moroccan females in the Netherlands, Ukrainian minority in Poland and Roma community in Slovakia). The aims of the project include: to increase understanding of the reasons for low vaccine uptake in specific contexts; to develop strategies to increase vaccination rates in these contexts; to develop recommendations that other health authorities can implement. The RIVER-EU Coordinator is Danielle Jansen, Assistant professor of the Department of Health Sciences at University Medical Centre.

d. Immunion project

EAP representative : Stefano del Torso

EAP is a leading member of the Scientific Advisory Board for the Immunion project which aims to increase the uptake of vaccines by European citizens. The EAP is also leading the development of the SEKI education platform.

The Immunion project, designed by the Coalition for Vaccination, aims to improve immunisation cooperation in the EU. The project will notably strengthen joint efforts amongst Coalition for Vaccination member associations to improve the uptake of vaccines by European citizens. Specific objectives of Immunion include improving the dissemination of validated vaccination training materials and resources to health professionals across Europe; strengthening the Coalition for Vaccination; increasing training opportunities for health professionals and students on vaccination communication; enhancing collaboration with media on vaccination; understanding drivers of vaccine inequalities within countries.

4.5 EAP Publications

- a. The official journal of the EAP is *Frontiers in Paediatrics* (open access journal, impact factor 2.349)
- b. Associate Editor in *Frontiers in Pediatrics* on behalf of EAP: Zachi Grossman (General Pediatrics and Pediatric Emergency Care); Adamos Hadjipanayis (General Pediatrics and Pediatric Emergency Care); Oana Marginean (Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition)
- c. Publications of EAP include the following:
 - Joint EAP and ECPCP statement: Risks for children's health during the COVID-19 pandemic and a call for maintenance of essential pediatric services
 - Front-of-pack nutrition labelling – A position statement of the European Academy of Paediatrics and the European Childhood Obesity Group
 - COVID-19 and the use of masks by children. Statement from the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region and the European Academy of Paediatrics.
 - Promoting breastfeeding and interaction of pediatric associations with providers of nutritional products. Joint position statement of the EAP, the ESPGHAN, the ESPID, the ESPNIC, the ESPN, the ESPR, and the EUSEM.
 - Off-label use of medicines in neonates, infants, children, and adolescents.
 - Physical Activity in the Prevention of Childhood Obesity: The Position of the ECOG and the EAP.
 - How can primary care practitioners address substance use by adolescents? A position paper of the EUROPEAN academy of PAEDIATRICS. Vaccine confidence among parents: large scale study in eighteen European countries.
 - Choices for adding long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids to infant formula. A position paper of the European Academy of Pediatrics and the Child Health Foundation. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*

4.6 Other Initiatives/Projects

- a. Increasing the focus on integrated care for children with complex care needs: a position paper of the European Academy of Pediatrics: a team venture coordinated by Prof. Maria Brenner, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin is undertaken by EAP senior members, the young EAP and the ECPCP Vice President Laura Reali.
- b. WHO recommendations from the European Technical Advisory Group for schooling during COVID-19: 3 prominent EAP National Delegates, including the EAP's president, Adamos Hadjipanayis (Cyprus) Russel Viner (United Kingdom), and Pierre Andre Michaud (Switzerland) form a part of this endeavour.

4.7 EAP-UNICEF: Building Vaccine Confidence

- a. There was a declaration of Intent between EAP and UNICEF (signed on 21 April 2021 by EAP President and UNICEF Representative to the United Nations)

- b. UNICE ECARCO will develop campaigns concept and messages, which will be consulted with EAP; Develop a set of visual assets for each campaign, using testimonies (and images) of health workers and caregivers supporting vaccination; Implement the campaign using its regional social media platforms, and through rollout in countries in the region; Monitor and measure campaigns results on UNICEF platforms, based on social media analytics.
- c. EAP will suggest, review, and provide inputs to social media campaigns concepts, key messages, and approaches; Collect and share testimonies from health workers and caregivers to support development of visual assets; Roll out the campaign through its social media platforms and networks; Monitor and measure campaigns results on EAP platforms, based on social media analytics.
- d.

4.8 Communication/Advocacy

- a. The EAP has monthly Meetings LOW (PR Consultancy)
- b. Contact has been made with Stella Kyriakidou from the EU cabinet.
- c. DG SANTE Breastfeeding
- d. EAP Twitter (in collaboration with LOW): Increase of EAP followers on TWITTER by 62.19% (from 1,283 followers at the end of 2019 to 2,081 at the beginning of March 2021), including high-profile accounts such as the UEMO, Danone EU, LEGO Policy, the European Pharmaceutical Students' Association, UNICEF Europe Central Asia, and others. The number of 2,000 followers was reached in early 2021.
- e. Newsletter was published in May 2021
- f. COVID 19 Resource Centre update
- g. #EAP4vaccinations toolkit/campaign in national languages
- h. There are fully-fledged EAP-owned social media campaigns on:
 - Vaccinate Your Child campaign
 - COVID-19 Update Webinar series
 - EBP exam
 - Happy Health Home tips

4.9 Meetings

4.9.1 Mastercourse and Congress 2021.

- a. **MasterCourse Dates:** 22-23 April 2021 (**Congress Dates:** 23-25 April 2021, **Resident's workshop:** 24 April 2021)
- b. Location: Virtual, Whova Event platform (mobile & desktop)
- c. **Attendees:** 1250 from 77 countries (**MasterCourse participants:** 423, **Congress participants:** 1222)
- d. Over 40 presentations from Invited speakers
- e. 70 Oral presentations from abstract submitters; 249 posters
- f. 18 parallel sessions; 7 plenaries; 2 sponsored symposiums
- g. 59% of respondents to a post-congress evaluation found the congress to be extremely useful, approximately 60% rated the Mastercourse and Congress programmes as "excellent" and almost 70% found the organization "excellent".

4.9.2 EAPS 2022, Barcelona

- a. The 9th Congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies (EAPS) is scheduled to take place from 7-11 October 2022 in Barcelona.
- b. Organizing Committee of EAPS 2022: Adamos Hadjipanayis (EAP) – Chair; Pierre Tissieres (ESPNIC)- Co Chair; Charles C. Roehr (ESPR) - Co-Chair.
- c. EAP Scientific Committee: Tom Stiris; Ann De Guchtanaere; Zachi Grossman.
- d. Full EAPS Scientific Committee: Martin Kneyber, Netherlands - Chair (ESPNIC); Deidre Murray, Ireland – Co-Chair (ESPR); Tom Stiris, Norway – Co-Chair (EAP); Ann de Guchtanaere, Belgium (EAP); Zachi Grossman, Israel (EAP); Zoltan Gyorgyi, Hungary (ESPNIC); Paulien Raymakers-Janssen, Netherlands (ESPNIC); Miguel Saenz de Pipaon, Spain (ESPR); Agnes van den Hoogen, Netherlands (ESPR)

- e. Collaborating Societies of EAPS are:
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
 - European Society for Paediatric Nephrology (ESPN)
 - European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology (ESPA)
 - European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN)
 - European Society for Emergency Medicine (EUSEM) Paediatric Section
 - European Association of Palliative Care (EAPC)
 - European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS)
 - European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE)
 - European Association for Pediatric and Congenital Cardiology (AEPC)
 - Spanish Association of Paediatrics
 - Catalan Paediatric Society
- f. Programme Structure: pre-congress courses on 6 October & 7 October, Opening Ceremony & Plenaries on 07 October, Scientific sessions from 8-11 October to include:
- Educational Symposia
 - Sim Lab
 - Plenary
 - Core societies session
 - Long Scientific Symposia
 - Short Scientific Symposia
 - Short Oral Sessions
 - Interdisciplinary Sessions
 - Industry session
 - E-Poster Discussion Sessions
 - Poster Viewing – Poster Boards
 - Tomorrow's World Sessions

4.9.3 Upcoming EAP Winter Meeting (2021)

- a. The upcoming Winter Meeting is provisionally scheduled to take place in Brussels during the first weekend of December (3-4 December 2021)
- b. The hopes are that the meeting will be in-person, with vaccine programmes throughout Europe well underway.
- c. The EC will monitor the situation closely and the final decision will be made closer to the time in September/October 2021.
- d. The structure and date of the meeting depends on the Covid-19 pandemic and travel restrictions which can only be determined closer to the time.

4.9.4 Upcoming EAP Spring Meeting (2022)

- a. The upcoming Spring Meeting is scheduled to take place in Malta during in 2022, the date will be confirmed closer to the time.
- b. Other potential candidates to host upcoming Spring Meetings are Montenegro and Estonia.
- c. These hosts will be given consideration after the meeting in Malta, and we hope that the kind hosts mentioned above will still be willing to host us in 2023.

4.9.5 MasterCourse and Congress (2023)

- a. The upcoming Congress and MasterCourse taking will take place in 2023.
- b. The topic will be: The Acute Unwell Child

4.10 The president closed his report by thanking the EAP Executive Committee, Leaders of the EAP Working Groups, National Delegates, Individual Members Paragon & Low Europe.

5. Secretary General/ Executive Director's report – (Ann de Guchtenaere / Stefano del Torso - information was included in the president's report due to the time constraint with a virtual meeting)

6. Treasurer's report – Arunas Valiulis

- a. The EAP/UEMS -SP has the following accounts:
- b. Bank Paribas Fortis in Brussels (programme account)
- c. Bank International of Luxembourg (EAP Programme / Conferences subaccount & EAP Individual Membership subaccount)
- d. EAP has a PayPal/Stripe account in addition, which is used to collect fees for the online exam.
- e. The EAP is financially sound, despite the pandemic, with a slightly positive trend.
- f. This year the winter meeting was in January 2021 and the financial documents were uploaded on the EAP's website & presented to our external reviewers (Karin Geitmann & Artur Mazur).
- g. The total account balance slightly exceeds half a million EURO.
- h. The main income was from Congresses and Events.
- i. There was an educational grant from Abbot (sponsorship income)
- j. Membership income is mainly from National Societies.
- k. There are questions that will be raised for future considerations about how the income from National Societies will be split between the EBP & UEMS / EAP
- l. The income streams in 2019 & 2020 are considered stable and the stream of revenue is more balanced and sustainable than in the past.
- m. Main expenses over the past period were related to the Exam (especially Secretariat Services).
- n. There were comments regarding the founding of a research fund for EAP where young people can apply for funding. This will be discussed further by the Executive Meeting.

7. Permanent Councils, Working Groups and Projects (if GA approval is needed) – no business arose

8. Any other important report from the working groups (if GA approval is needed) - no business arose

9. Young EAP Report (if GA approval is needed) - no business that needed GA approval arose

10. Upcoming EAP Meetings (full report included in the president's report)

- a. The EAP Congress and MasterCourse topic in 2023 will be "The Acute Unwell Child" (see the president's report).
- b. The scientific committee has not yet been established.
- c. The venue and new destination will still be decided. There was a proposal to have the Congress and MasterCourse in Italy, an update will be provided in future.
- d. The Secretary General proposed that the EAP Mastercourse presenters should each write 2 questions for the EAP Learning App, based on their talk.
- e. The President furthermore expanded the idea by suggesting reaching out to past MasterCourse Presenters to provide questions.
- f. It was requested that the virtual voting element will still be preserved for the upcoming Winter Meeting to accommodate those who cannot attend due to last-minute changes in travel restrictions due to the pandemic.

11. Any other business – no further business.

List of Attendees:

TIMESTAMP	NAME	SURNAME	CONFIRMATION
7/3/2021 8:34	Joana	Rios	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:34	Meri	Kalajdjieva Zip	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:34	Dr Mark	Buttigieg	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:35	Geitmann	Karin	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:38	Mark	Turner	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:40	Ana	Neves	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:41	Sergey	Sargsyan	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:44	Liviana	Da Dalt	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 8:54	Martin J	White	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:01	Jordi	Antón	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:04	Suleyman	Yıldız	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:08	Lars	Gelander	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:10	Sachi	Mogha	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:10	Peter	Hoyer	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:12	Chris	Pruunsild	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:13	SOFIA	SANI	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:13	Sian	Copley	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:14	tom	stiris	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:14	Kieffer	isabelle	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:19	Leena	Patel	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:22	Lia	Syridou	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:22	Risto	Lapatto	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:29	Robert	Ross Russell	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:31	Koray	Boduroglu	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:32	RUBEL	Francis	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:43	Georgios	Konstantinidis	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:43	Tomasz	Szczepanski	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:50	Lia	Syridou	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:52	Meri	Kalajdjieva Zip	I confirm my attendance
7/3/2021 9:59	Ellen	Crushell	I confirm my attendance
In person	Adamos	Hadjipanayis	Attendance confirmed
In person	Marina	Mamenko	Attendance confirmed
In person	Bert	Koletzko	Attendance confirmed
In person	Ivan	Bambir	Attendance confirmed
In person	Yevgenii	Grechukha	Attendance confirmed
In person	Ann	De Guchtenaere	Attendance confirmed
In person	Miguel	Martins	Attendance confirmed
In person	Artur	Mazur	Attendance confirmed
In person	Aida	Mujkic	Attendance confirmed
In person	Liesbeth	Siderius	Attendance confirmed
In person	Arunas	Valiulis	Attendance confirmed
In person	Karoly	Illy	Attendance confirmed
In person	Ivanna	Romankevych	Attendance confirmed