

## THE 22<sup>nd</sup> SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE OF PAEDIATRICIANS FROM THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: PAEDIATRICS IN FAMILY MEDICINE

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Scientific Expert Conference of Paediatricians from the North-Eastern Region of Bosnia and Herzegovina took place on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015, in the Congress Hall of the Tuzla Hotel in Tuzla.

The meeting was very well organized, under the auspices of the scientific journal *Paediatrics Today*, University Clinical Centre, Tuzla, the Department of Paediatrics and the Association of Family Medicine of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Tuzla branch. The welcome address and introductory word were given by Academician Husref Tahirović, emeritus professor of paediatrics, and editor-in-chief of the journal *Paediatrics Today*, and Dr. Muamera Mujčinagić on behalf of the Association of Family Medicine of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Tuzla branch.

There was wide variety of topics presented in Tuzla, starting with the lecture given by Prim. Novak from the Zagreb Clinical Centre, when the audience had an opportunity to hear about and discuss current recommendations for paediatric reanimation procedures, with a very well documented case series. After that lecture the audience had the opportunity to hear about hypertension in school aged children, from Dr Vera Musil, from the Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, Zagreb. In her lecture she once again stressed the importance of measuring blood pressure in paediatric medicine, with appropriate algorithms for further evaluation of these patients. Later in the programme we had the opportunity to learn about the surgical point of view regarding acute appendicitis, with all age dependant specificities, from Associate Professor Nešad Hotić, who shared the most common diagnostic dilemmas that may be seen in current practice. After a short break we continued with a very informative lecture by Mevludin Hasanović, professor of psychiatry from Tuzla Medical Faculty, about

maladaptation, altered behaviour, and various forms of substance and drug abuse in adolescents. The audience had an unique opportunity to hear about the specific Tuzla model they have developed that has been recognized by the wider international scientific community. After all these (if I may comment freely) outstanding lectures, I had the “problem” of maintaining the high scientific level set by all the previous speakers (and others that followed me) when I spoke about Absence Epilepsy in childhood, and the challenges in diagnosis and treatment. The meeting continued with a very well documented lecture given by Alma Toromanović, associate professor of paediatrics from Tuzla, about the most common problems related to growth, with a “red flag” message about how important it is to measure body height and weight, and some interventions that might be performed if a problem is noticed. At the end, last but not least, we had an opportunity to hear a lecture about headaches, by Prim. Dr. Nevzeta Mustafić, from Tuzla, who shared with the audience the most common dilemma - is it just a symptom or a reason for concern?

This meeting was an unique opportunity, not only to hear up to date information about very interesting topics, but also to meet colleagues, exchange ideas, spend some time together and, I believe, to establish connections that may help all of us bridge some gaps, and primarily, to help the patients we treat. In the end, I would like to use this opportunity to thank Academician Husref Tahirović, who was the real “spiritus movens” behind this scientific event, and all our other hosts who made this meeting happen.

Belgrade 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

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