REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ON HEADACHE AND RELATED DISORDERS

For the first time, the International School on Headache and Related Disorders was held in Zagreb, Croatia, October 4-6, 2012. The School was organized by the University Department of Neurology, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Center, Croatian Society for Neurovascular Disorders of the Croatian Medical Association, and European Headache Federation. The primary objective of the Course was to promote current knowledge on headache and related disorders and to exchange knowledge among participants from different countries. We were honored that nineteen invited lecturers from Denmark, Italy, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia joined us at this 3-day event, giving us a valuable opportunity to be able to have direct interactions with these worldwide well-known headache experts. The Course was attended by 51 participants from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, mostly young neurologists or neurology residents and general practitioners.

The main topic of the first-day program was migraine, on the second day tension type headache and on the third day autonomic cephalalgias. The lectures thoroughly covered the epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical picture, comorbidities and treatment of these primary headaches. Furthermore, lectures covering secondary headache disorders such as cervicogenic headache, medication overuse headache, headache caused by ophthalmologic and ENT diseases and cervicogenic headache were very interesting because the lecturers indicated their (sometimes) overlapping nature with primary headaches. Other interesting topics were cranial neuralgias, drug interactions in headache patients, side effects of antiepileptics, and headaches in children. Furthermore, Rigmor Højland Jensen gave an overview of the results from the Danish Headache Center on idiopathic intracranial hypertension and hypotension as well as on the organization of headache service; experiences from the Danish Headache Center showed how a headache center of excellence should be organized. Fabio Antonaci gave an excellent lecture on diagnostic and therapeutic mistakes in primary headache. The workshops provided interesting case reports, followed by a vivid discussion by the participants.

This Course has proved that headache disorders deserve more attention among physicians, especially concerning strategies leading to accurate diagnosis and treatment.

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