

ECFS NEWSLETTER - Issue 53 - January 2017

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01. Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

I hope you had a good start of the year.

2016 was another busy year for the European Cystic Fibrosis Society, with not only the Basic Science Conference in Italy and the Annual conference in Basel, but a number of special projects and Working Group meetings were held and some selected updates are given below.

Later in this newsletter, you will read about our new website layout, the meetings of the ECFS Registry, CTN and Standards of Care Group. We also have a report from a beneficiary of an ECFS Short-Term Fellowship.



There will be Board elections in 2017 as Marcus Mall and Kevin Southern are ending their terms in office. I would like to encourage you all to consider your own nomination or to nominate an ECFS member you believe would benefit the ECFS community by being actively engaged in the Board. We strongly encourage allied health members to consider standing for a Board position. Please consider how important these elections are for the future of the Society. Further information about the elections is included later in the Newsletter.

Also, I personally will finish my term as President in 2018 and the new President will be elected this year in order to have a smooth transition.

Planning for the 2017 Conference is well underway with all necessary information available on the website. I would like to thank all those who have submitted abstracts and all the speakers who have accepted to contribute to the conference. There was a record number of abstracts submitted this year and we expect a record number of attendees. We have excellent programmes planned and we look forward to your participation.

We have a lot to do over the coming months and I hope you will join us for some of the activities listed below.

Many thanks, as always, to Dr. Henry Ryley for compiling the current references in Cystic Fibrosis contained in this Newsletter

Please contact us if you have news items you would like to have included in future Newsletters or published on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Kris De Boeck

ECFS President

02. Upcoming Events

- ECFS Diagnostic Network Working Group Meeting - 16- 18 February 2017, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 11th European Young Investigators Meeting - 15-17 February 2017, Paris, France
- ECFS 14th Basic Science Conference - 29 March - 01 April 2017, Albufeira, Portugal
- ECFS Board Elections - **!! Nominations until March 30th!!** See more information in point 4 below
- ECFS Board Meeting - 06 June 2017 - Seville, Spain
- 40th European CF Conference - 07-10 June 2017 - Seville, Spain



03. Deadlines

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| - Nomination ECFS Award | 01 March 2017 |
| - Nomination Gerd Döring Award | 01 March 2017 |
| - Nomination ECFS Elections | 30 March 2017 |

04. ECFS Board Elections - Call for nominations



The ECFS cordially invites nominations for the following Board positions.

2 Board Positions: Marcus Mall and Kevin Southern will finish their first terms on the Board in 2017.

President Elect: Kris De Boeck will finish her term as President in 2018.

Job Descriptions and person specifics are available for both the President and Board members.

[President's Job Description](#) | [Board Member's Job Description](#).

Nominations should be sent to the ECFS Executive Director Christine Dubois (christine.dubois@ecfs.eu) by 30 March 2017 together with a motivational statement, confirmation that the candidate has agreed to the nomination, and a curriculum vitae. All nominated candidates must be current members of the ECFS. Information about the nominated candidates will be sent to the membership in early April. Elections will be possible online only via a secured system and open to members of the ECFS (except Corporate members) until the day prior to the Annual General Meeting on 9 June where the results will be announced.

05. ECFS Award - Call for nominations

The ECFS Award is given annually to honour a person who has made an outstanding contribution to our basic understanding of cystic fibrosis or to the treatment or care of patients with cystic fibrosis. The winner of the award will be invited to present a lecture at the Opening Plenary on 7 June 2017 of the annual conference in Seville.

You are cordially invited to nominate a candidate for this award. The deadline for proposals is March 1, 2017. Please mail your proposal, accompanied by a detailed motivation and curriculum vitae of the candidate to the ECFS Executive Director Christine Dubois (christine.dubois@ecfs.eu).

06. Gerd Döring Award - Call for nominations

The Gerd Döring Award is an initiative of the European Cystic Fibrosis Society and will be given annually to honour an exceptional early career young European scientist. The Award, a monetary donation of 5,000 euro to support research, will be presented at the Opening Plenary of the annual ECFS conference in Seville.

The award will be judged primarily (80%) on a paper published in the previous 3 calendar years (2014-2016) which has made a significant impact on the understanding or treatment of Cystic Fibrosis. Personal motivation and CV will make a 20% contribution to the scoring.

The award is open to PhD students and post-doctoral researchers with up to a maximum of four years' academic research experience following the completion of their PhD, or be of equivalent professional standing at the date of publication of the paper.

We encourage mentors, supervisors and co-workers of today's most exceptional early career European scientists to send in nominations for this competition. Self-nomination is also encouraged. The deadline for proposals is March 1, 2017. Please mail your proposal, accompanied by a detailed motivation, a PDF of the nominated paper and curriculum vitae of the candidate to the ECFS Executive Director Christine Dubois (christine.dubois@ecfs.eu)

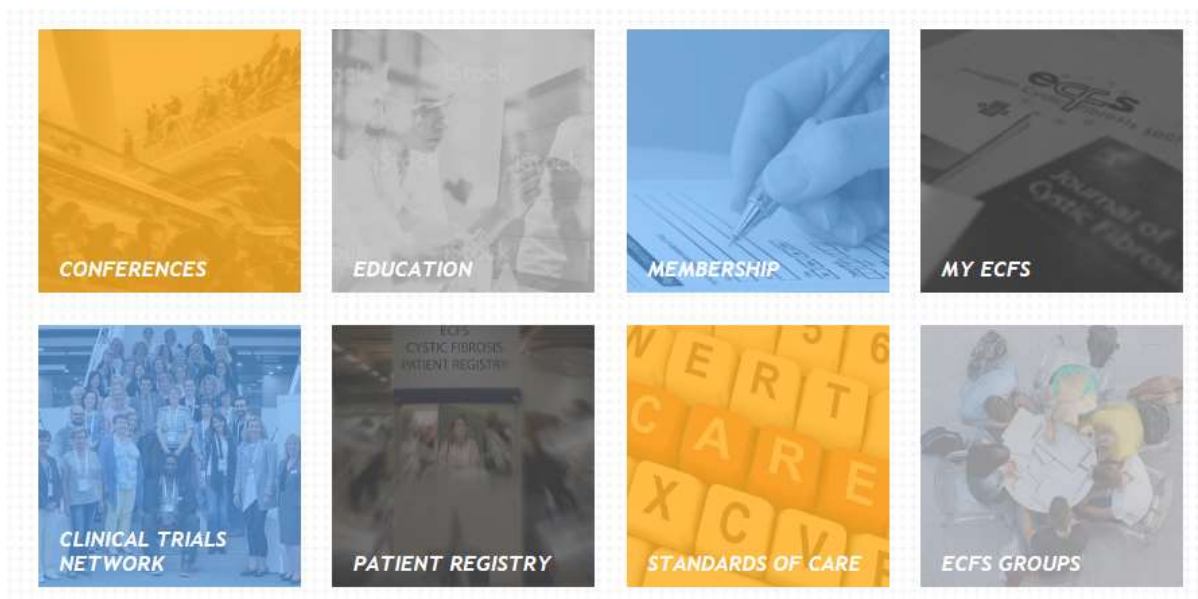
07. ECFS Meetings - CTN, Patient Registry, Standards of Care

The ECFS Clinical Trials Network and the ECFS Patient Registry Steering Committees met on 26-27 January in Lisbon for their annual winter meetings. The ECFS Standards of Care Group also organised meetings of some of its subgroups during these days. This was an excellent opportunity to meet across ECFS projects, discuss common subjects and find new and even better opportunities for cooperation.



CTN Steering Committee Lisbon January 2017

08. New Website coming soon!



Our website is undergoing a makeover and will soon be released. We are happy to have new layout that will enable us to more effectively communicate news and inform about the ECFS activities and projects. The new design will provide an easier access to our contents. We will be looking forward to receiving your feedback about the new website and any suggestions you might have to make it better.

09. ECFS Short Term Clinical Fellowship

Here is a short report sent by a recipient of the CF Preceptorship Programme:

My name is Maria Victoria Arenal I am a paediatrician working in a cystic fibrosis centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina; also this year I have started a career as a paediatrician specialising in pulmonology.

In the middle of September the European Cystic Fibrosis Society gave me the opportunity of participating in the Preceptorship programme called: "Managing the care of children and adults with cystic fibrosis". This programme was carried out in London over three weeks; the CF course was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel for one week and the clinical placement was at the Royal Brompton Hospital - both paediatric and adult centres, for two weeks.

Firstly, the CF course was held over five days, every day we had classes from morning until evening. Each day there was a multidisciplinary approach to all aspects of the cystic fibrosis disease, from management issues - including new therapies and diagnostic methodology to the follow up of CF comorbidities.

Every lecture was given by a professional specialising in the particular subject. Most of the faculty were from different London CF centres, others were from other countries of the European continent. They gave us their experience of many years of work, the specific knowledge of every aspect of the disease and its progress.

The course was a combination of lectures and active participation in workshops, with plenty of time for questions at the end of every session. Course participants were also given a difficult case to discuss and present to the class at the end of the course. From the beginning of the course we had

formed working groups and during the week each group debated, trying to find a resolution to the case before presenting it.

The second part of the course was to go to the Brompton hospital for two full weeks, Monday through Friday as an observer in both the paediatric and adult clinics. My sponsors were Dr. Siobhan Carr in paediatrics and the consultant nurse Dr. Susan Madge within the adult team.

During this time I joined outpatient clinics, often sitting in the room with a patient or in the case of children, with their families as well, and saw the various professionals interacting with patients and each other. Before clinics there were MDT meetings organised to update the team on different aspects of each patient attending the CF clinic that day. I also participated in ward rounds seeing inpatients, how they were followed up, treatments they received and how were handled in an interdisciplinary way. I also attended a radiology round where different patient`s images were discussed.

I would like to explain the importance of a good transition because I think we have to be sure that we do it properly for the patient`s future. I had the opportunity to observe a joint paediatric/adult MDT meeting where every professional discussed each patient prior to their transition from paediatric clinic to adults. They were organised and worked together, I have not seen this kind of transition before, I think it was the best I have ever seen.

Moreover, I also had the opportunity to observe how the paediatric team managed a new CF diagnosis and the different stages they followed according to the Brompton guidelines. I also spent time with one of the clinical nurse specialists in the adult team who was running the adult sweat test clinic.

Finally, I had the chance to spend the day with a physiotherapist, in the morning we discussed the different uses of airway clearance devices and in the afternoon I observed the exercise programmes that are given to patients while they are in hospital.

It was a wonderful and amazing experience for me; I have learnt so much and I think all this information that I have received will be useful to improve the quality of health in our CF population.

Victoria Arenal

10. ECFS Mental Health Working Group

The ECFS Mental Health Working Group has now its dedicated webpage. Just have a look [here](#)

If you have an interest in Mental Health and would like to be included in the group`s mailing list or receive further information, please contact the ECFS office at info@ecfs.eu.

11. Job Posting

The CF Centre in Skopje, Macedonia is looking for an adult pulmonologist. Please contact Dr. Oliver Zafirovski through the ECFS office.

12. Current references in CF

Please scroll to next page for full list

CF Reference List

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