Section on Pediatrics, EAACI 2009 – 2010 Annual Report

Board members:

Susanne Halken, Chair of the Section
Graham Roberts, Secretary of the Section
Susanne Lau, Member
Angel Mazon Ramos, Webmaster of the Section
Paolo Rossi, Member
Odilija Rudzeviciene, Member
Luis Miguel Borrego, Member
Mara Xatzipsalti, Junior Member Affiliate (JMA)

The Section on Pediatrics-EAACI has currently around 1000 members with voting rights.

The Section has been concentrating its efforts on activities of education, research and scientific meetings collaborating with other interest groups / sections / sister societies.

The Education and Training Committee in Pediatric Allergy (ETC-PA) has continued to evaluate pediatric allergists in order to harmonize standards according to the Training Syllabus for European Pediatric Allergists. All applications are made through national delegates, a list of which is available from Jose Lopes Dos Santos, the Secretary of ETC-PA. To this end the Section is participating in the accreditation activity established by European Pediatric Societies (EAP), which evaluates and approves training centers for pediatric allergy in Europe. The process has started in Spain where at present five European Centres have been certified according to the “European Visitation Programme of Centres in Paediatric Allergology” and more than 300 colleagues in Europe are certified. This work is continuously ongoing.

We strongly encourage pediatric allergists from other European countries to apply for certification. Application should be made through their national delegates at the Educational and Training Committee.

The Syllabus is currently being revised by Arne Høst, Phillipe Eigenmann, Antonella Muraro, and national delegates at the ETC-PA.

At the Annual 2010 Congress in London many pediatric sessions covering a broad spectrum of pediatric allergology were organized successfully. More than 150 pediatric abstracts were accepted and included in several oral symposia, poster discussion sessions and poster sessions.
PAPRICA is an ongoing initiative from the Section to Promote Pediatric Allergy among Europe Primary Care Physicians. The last meeting took place in Hungary 20th June 2009, Russia July 2009 and Malta September 2009. Countries willing to participate in this allergy programme for General Pediatricians and General Practitioners can contact the Section on Pediatrics and Philippe Eigenmann, who will continue to coordinate it.

The “EAACI-Clemens von Pirquet Foundation” was established with the assets remaining from the former ESPACI. The Foundation aims to support Education and Research in Pediatric Allergy and Immunology, in close collaboration with the EAACI Section on Pediatrics. An International Consortium for Promotion of Research in Pediatric Allergy (iPAC) was formed as a joint initiative between the SP EAACI and the AAAAI. The iPAC aim is to provide a research platform for promoting specific research project in the field of pediatric allergy (see also EAACI – Clemens von Pirquet Foundation Report from Philippe Eigenmann).

Section’s Task Forces:

The Task Force on “Anaphylaxis in Children” is still open for implementation activities. Members of the Section or National Pediatric Societies who are willing to host such sessions are welcome to contact the Chair or the Secretary of the Section.


Food Allergy Clinical Practice Guidelines: The task force is an activity jointly with the Food Allergy Interest Group and the Section on Dermatology, with the aim to develop guidelines that provide guidance to medical practitioners and that can be used for to guide allergists, dermatologists, gastroenterologists, pulmonologists, emergency physicians, pediatricians, family practitioners, intensivists and other professional and lay organizations to assist the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of food allergy and related diseases. A successful symposium was organized at PAAM in Venice November 2009 and also a successful meeting with stakeholders was held in London June 2010. A 2 days Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Meeting (FAAM) is planned in Venice February 2011.
Pediatric Rhinitis: The task force is organized jointly with ENT and Asthma sections. The first meeting was in London June 2010.

Pediatric Contact Allergy: The section is involved in this task force, which is organized by the Dermatology Section. The first meeting was in London June 2010.

Drug Allergy in children: The section is involved in this task force, which is organized by the Drug Allergy IG.

Allergy Summer schools:

Pediatric Allergy Summer School in Athens, 26-28th June 2010, "Allergy in different organ systems", organized by Nikos Papadopoulos. The Section Board has approved the program and acknowledged the Summer School as an activity organized jointly with the Section on Pediatrics.

Allergy school in Kusadasi, Turkey, 30 September – 3 October 2010, "Diagnostic approaches to the allergic patient". Organized jointly with the Turkish National Society of Allergology and Clinical immunology.

Collaboration with Sister Pediatric Societies:

The Section has organized the following activities in collaboration with Sister Pediatric Societies:

The German Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (DGAKI), 10th September 2010. The Section is represented in a Joint Symposium with 2 speakers.

ERS, 18-22nd September 2010. The Section is represented with a lecture on Specific immunotherapy in children.

The National Greek Pediatric Allergy Society, 24-25th September 2010. The section is represented with a lecture.


The National Meeting of the Lithuanian Allergy Society, October 2010: The Section is represented with a lecture on Prevention on Food Allergy.
The Turkish National Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Annual meeting, 3-7\textsuperscript{th} November 2010. The Section is represented with a lecture on Prevention on Food Allergy and another one on Specific Immunotherapy.

**Business Meeting:**

At the Business Meeting in London the introductory lecture was very much appreciated. Bobby Gaspar, United Kingdom, gave a very interesting and comprehensive keynote lecture: Clinical approach to the patient with suspected immunodeficiency.

A call for the involvement of Section members in the activity of the Board and for future initiatives has been launched. Members can send their requests to the chair Susanne Halken and secretary Graham Roberts.

**EAACI 2009 Pediatric Allergy & Asthma Meeting (PAAM):**

The Pediatric Allergy and Asthma meeting took place in Venice, November 12–14\textsuperscript{th}, 2009.

The meeting had its focus on Pediatric asthma, food allergy and specific immunotherapy, and joint symposia with ERS and ESPGHAN were organised. The meeting was very successful and well attended with around 1000 participants. A report is published at the website.

**PAI:**

PAI is the official EAACI journal for Pediatric Allergy & Clinical Immunology. Professor Ulrich Wahn has been elected as the new chief editor and Paolo Matricardi as managing director for PAI.

The Section on Pediatrics wishes to thank the previous chief editor John Warner for his great work for PAI during many years. The Section also welcomes the new chief editor Ulrich Wahn, and are looking forward to collaborating to promote Pediatric Allergology and Immunology in Europe / worldwide. Two pages in each number of PAI are devoted to the Section, and in the future we will also here inform about e.g. the work and new initiatives from the section.

**Other activities:**

The past year the section webmaster A Mazon has done a great work to improve our website.
The section has contributed with "Thematic month" for the website, and "Pediatric year in review" for Allergy News.

Priorities of the SP EAACI Board are enhancing visibility of EAACI as leading scientific society in Europe and increasing membership, and to establish and improve educational activities in pediatric allergology at all levels. For these purposes collaboration with societies of General Pediatricians, Primary Care Physicians and Emergency Physicians has been initiated. All Board members are committed to a team working to achieve these goals.

Susanne Halken, Chairperson
Section on Pediatrics, EAACI

Odense 10th September 2010