

W I N T E R 2 0 1 3

# EFIM news

European Federation of Internal Medicine - Newsletter 1

**Happy New Year!!**

Welcome to the first newsletter from the EFIM Exec team and Young Internists. We would like to extend a very warm greeting to all of the EFIM members. This newsletter will be produced every quarter to update you on events and activities from 2012 and into 2013.

The European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) is a scientific organisation founded in 1996 and dedicated to the progression and development of Internal Medicine across Europe.

[More EFIM info](#)

We welcome contributions from all of the EFIM member countries and from individual members who would like to share ideas opportunities and pictures from EFIM events that you have attended.

Please contact us via e-mail at [comms@EFIM.org](mailto:comms@EFIM.org)



## Greetings from our President: Nica Cappellini

I would like to introduce myself as your new President of EFIM. I have been Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Milan since 2001. I am honoured to represent all of you in Europe through EFIM, and I promise to do my best.

I strongly believe that Internists are especially skilled in the management of patients who have undifferentiated or multi-system disease processes. I will continue the intensive work that has been done by the past Presidents promoting EFIM as a scientific organisation aimed at emphasising the central role of internal medicine in the era of complexity. Internal Medicine possesses the cultural and methodological tools to confront the challenge of complexity with the modern medicine. Internists may play a major role in teaching medicine and in research. For these reasons I will work to make the Federation a dynamic association aimed at promoting the role of Internists at the European level.

The activities of Young Internists in EFIM have been extremely valuable during the last 5-7 years and they deserve to be emphasised promoting exchanges between young internists from different countries. Many other activities are on-going including the working groups in different areas, however nothing could be effective without the active participation of the affiliate National Societies. We will continue the program of bilateral meetings with national society boards in order to share information on the problems facing internists in their daily medical practice in different countries in order to harmonise Internal Medicine in Europe. Through the newsletter that we are going to promote I promise to keep you informed and involved into the activities of EFIM.

I wish you and your families a happy and successful 2013!

Nica Cappellini  
EFIM President



## Report of the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of EFIM

Ramon Pujol, Pedro Conthe, Javier Garcia Alegria

The 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of EFIM was held in Madrid from 24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> of October together with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the Spanish Society of Internal Medicine (SEMI). 2,362 people attended including 1,808 from Spain and the rest coming from other countries. The shared belief was that the Congress was very successful. This view was confirmed by the answers to the survey distributed among the participants and by the opinions of speakers, press members, sponsors and authorities. The official language was English and no simultaneous translation was available, a situation that was well accepted by everybody.

Local and international members of the scientific and steering committees elaborated a very interesting programme that included all the specific areas of Internal Medicine. The format involved special lectures, workshops, face-to-face meetings, symposia, and oral and poster communications. The level of participation in all the activities was very high. The meeting allowed for many informal contacts and networking a lot of which are the heart of a meeting such as this.

Special guests such as the President of the American College of Physicians, Dr. David Bronson, were present. He gave an outstanding keynote speech about Internal Medicine in the United States that drew some comparisons with the European situation.

We would like to emphasize the success of the half-day session for Young Internists that was included. The large room where they gathered was crowded out. This activity had also been held in previous Congresses, and interest in it is increasing progressively. During the opening ceremony new fellows of EFIM were nominated and SEMI and EFIM gave some special awards during the closing ceremony.

The city of Madrid provided the opportunity for the guests to enjoy two excellent dinners, one more informal in a popular restaurant and another the following day in the very special dining room of the Prado Museum, a meal that was preceded by a guided visit.

We hope that every attendee will remember this Congress, mainly because of the excellent scientific content but also because of for the precise organisation and warm welcome that the Spanish internists gave us.





## EFIM Young Internists

The Young Internists' look back at a busy and successful year 2012 – we are working hard to strengthen and expand our network of physicians in training in Europe! The assembly now comprises representatives from 20 EFIM member countries and continues to facilitate projects, promotes high quality training in Internal Medicine and encourages representation of physicians in training at national level. Current projects include a Europe-wide survey on residents' perceptions of their work-life balance and a study on attitudes to medical error reporting in different European countries.

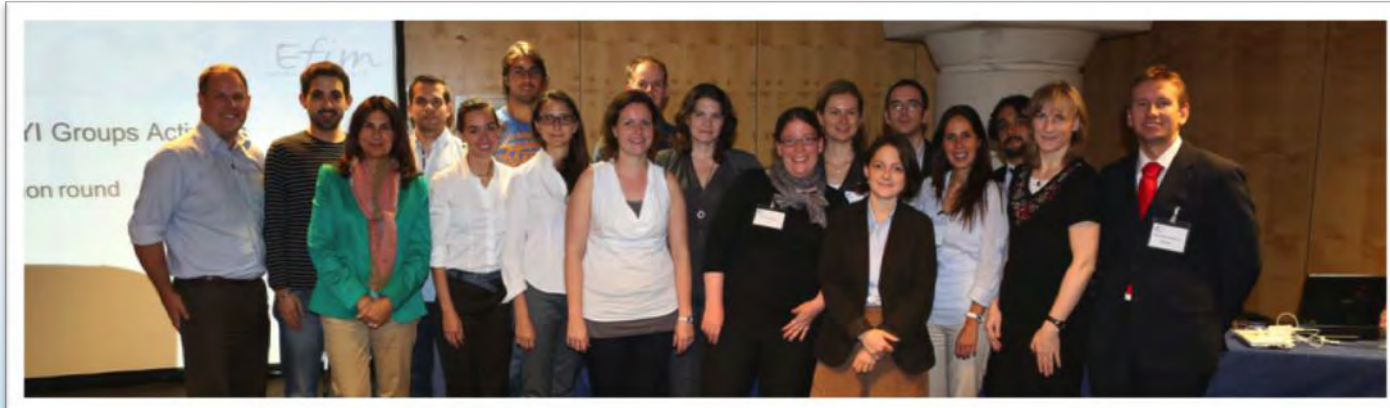
A particular success this year was our 6<sup>th</sup> Young Internists Day, held as part of the Madrid congress in October. It attracted an audience of over 150 delegates and was very well received. Highlights were the clinical gymnasium with lively discussions around three clinical cases, and the outstanding talk on "cognitive error in clinical decision making" by Dr Kees van den Berge. In the workshops, residents were engaged in debate and discovered that colleagues from across Europe often

face the same challenges in their day-to-day practice.

Plans for the next Young Internists' day in Prague are already underfoot, and we always strive to involve more Young Internists in our work. Thank you to all EFIM member societies who support and sponsor their residents to participate in our activities and in the schools!

[www.younginternists.efim.org](http://www.younginternists.efim.org)

*Frauke Weidanz and Lenka Bosanska, on behalf of the EFIM Young Internists subcommittee*



Remember to visit the [European Journal of Internal Medicine](#) – the official journal of EFIM with free access to selected papers [here](#).

## For the diary!



Dear Colleagues,

I am privileged to welcome you to the **European Congress of Internal Medicine** to be held in **Prague from October 2-5, 2013**. The congress will cover the broad spectrum of topics connected with internal medicine. Before all we are going to focus on cardiovascular diseases, metabolism – diabetes, obesity and cardiometabolic syndrome included endocrinology and new developments in pharmacological treatment in internal medicine. This is an impressive collection of topics but the congress promises much more. See the full text of the [WELCOME MESSAGE](#).

**Prof. Richard Ceska, MD, PhD.** President of the Czech Society of Internal Medicine  
Congress President EFIM 2013

### FDIME Research Grants for the study of Rare Diseases

FDIME is once again offering grants for Young Internists (<38 years) interested to develop research in the field of rare diseases in adults. Three grants of 20,000 Euros each are available for a study period of up to 1 year. Applicants must come from an EFIM member country, and are responsible for identifying their own study project. Study Projects submitted for consideration of a Grant Award should start after 1.10.2013. Application deadline: 30 March 2013. Further details: <http://www.fdime.org/rarediseases-2013.html>

## Save the Date - 2013

### Winter School

January 20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>

ESIM 3<sup>rd</sup> winter school to be held  
in Saas Fee, Switzerland

### Helsinki Meeting

May 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>

The Administrative Council  
Spring meeting will be hosted in  
Helsinki.

### EFIM Congress

October 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

The Czech Society will host the  
next EFIM Congress in Prague.



EFIM Newsletter 1 – January 2013  
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For EFIM  
by Roger Duckitt and Frank Bosch