



WFPICCS Newsletter

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Editors: Françoise Martens, Belgium & Jefferson Piva, Brazil

From the President's Desk

An African Forum for Professionals working in Paediatric Critical care is established

The annual conference of the South African Critical Care society of Southern Africa (CCSSA) and the South African Thoracic Society (SATS) attracted more than 800 delegates from intensive care settings from southern African region to Cape Town in the first week of August 2008. Presentations covered a wide range of topics in critical and intensive care including clinical research, education and innovations from local and international settings.

A number of international experts, from India, Brazil, Mozambique, the Netherlands, USA and UK, added their perspectives to the outstanding proceedings. While Friday, 08-08-08 marked the end of the conference, a significant southern African regional forum was established: an Association of

African paediatric and critical care practitioners. A group of paediatricians and nurses working in different countries in the region had been invited to the conference by Prof Argent as president of the World Federation of Paediatric Intensive and Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS). He had secured funding to invite delegates from Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. This meeting brought together eight countries to join South African PICU professionals in working together to improve care of critically ill children by sharing best local models in care, training and research – we celebrate this triumph and new beginnings!

Minette Coetzee and Andrew Argent

Editorial

The second WFPICCS newsletter is a fact. We think the newsletter can function as a platform for pediatric and neonatal critical care colleagues around the world. Of course submissions of a (small) article or other contributions concerning aspects of pediatric and neonatal critical care medical and nursing are always welcome. Please notice that the article text should be limited to 250 words with only one picture allowed. The aim of the newsletter is to publish 4 editions per year to provide you the latest news from the different society members of the WFPICCS. Please contact the editors so we can build upon your ideas.

We like to introduce a new section in the newsletter, namely "What's new in my Pediatric Critical Care Department" The idea of this new section is to invite all PICU and NICU professionals to write news about their unit that is of interest to your colleagues in the World. As an introduction to this new section we accepted an article about the introduction of NAVA in a PICU at the UZ Brussels, Belgium. We also have an update from our colleagues of the Children's Hospital Boston Medical on their Sister PICU Project

Françoise Martens and Jefferson Piva
Editors of the WFPICCS Newsletter



WHAT'S NEW IN MY PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE DEPARTMENT

Neurally Adjusted Ventilatory Assist (NAVA)

Dirk Danschutter, CCRN, MScN

The PICU of the University Hospital of Brussels- Belgium- has a long and well established reputation as pioneer in the research and clinical application of lung protective ventilation

In December 2007 Neurally Adjusted Ventilatory Assist (NAVA) was introduced in the PICU. At that time the PICU of the UZ Brussels was the first unit in the country to implement proportional mechanical ventilation in a very ill or severely injured pediatric population. The 15 year old techniques of proportional and neurally adjusted mechanical support have recently crossed the boundary between experimental (C. Sinderby and J. Beck; Pediatric Res. 2007 Mar; 61(3): 289-94) and commercially available tool (Maquet, Sweden).

In the meantime about 20 children have been ventilated in the NAVA mode at our PICUU but unfortunately without comparing them with a control population. It is not clear yet whether children will be weaned off sooner from the respirator and certain observations suggests that the diaphragm is perhaps not the first respiratory muscle to wake up from Morpheus grip. Nevertheless NAVA looks like a challenging, possibly promising mode of non-conventional but most physiologically triggered mechanical ventilatory support.

If you want to read the full article, we invite you to have a look at our website under the section News

WFPICCS SISTER PICU PROJECTS

Cans for Care – Sister PICU Project: Medical/Surgical ICU at the Children's Hospital Boston, USA

In June 2007 several nurses from the Medical/Surgical ICU of the Children's Hospital Boston, USA, attended the 5th World Congress on Paediatric Critical Care in Geneva, Switzerland. They were touched by the opening presentation and the many nursing/physician presentations from developing countries on the disparities of health care around the world. Upon their return to Boston, these nurses approached the MSICU staff about the possibility to help with the disparities between the developed and developing countries. The idea was to provide support to a PICU in a developing country. The MSICU presented a Sister PICU project to WFPICCS. The proposal

included educational support and sharing information on policies and procedures related to patient care. Also, the MSCU wanted to provide emotional support to their Sister PICU staff through a Pen Pal program. Eventually, the project aimed to sponsor Sister PICU staff to attend nursing conferences and providing technical support.

The MSICU began "Cans for Care" fund raising in August 2007 by collecting and recycling soda cans/bottles. Other fund raising projects were a raffle at annual Christmas Party, "Hair for Care" where male staff members grew a moustache/beard, "Big Hair for Care" an 80's dance party, and

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a summer softball game. In 2008, WFPICCS donated \$1000. The PICU at the National Paediatric Hospital (NPH) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, was chosen by the MSICU to be their Sister PICU. In August 2008, Dr Traci Wobrink visited the Sister PICU in Phnom Penh and met the nursing and medical staff. She was able to purchase a computer and arrange internet access for PICU nursing staff to establish better communication with MSICU.

The MSICU nursing staff is now applying for grant money to be able to travel to Cambodia to help NPH PICU staff in the organization of their unit and ongoing education.

By: Susan Gray, Children's Hospital Boston

Report of the 2nd Congress of the European Academy of Pediatrics in Nice, France, October 2008.

The congress in Nice was a big success. Over 2710 delegates attended the congress from around 82 countries. This European congress was colored by a broadened audience from all over the world. The conferences were of a very high standard. In

a few words this is a congress that we can highly recommend to all pediatric and neonatal critical care colleagues, medical and nursing. The 3rd Congress of the European Academy Of Pediatrics will take place in Copenhagen in 2010.

6th World Congress on Pediatric Critical Care - Sydney, 2011

The Congress will take place in Sydney 2011, 13th to 17th of March.



The venue will be the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Center.

There will be pre-congress meetings on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th March 2011.

We invite you to have a look at the congress website, the congress countdown is started. www.pcc2011.com

20th ESPNIC Medical & Nursing Annual Congress 2009 - Verona, Italy



explored. The scientific committee will develop an exiting and varied program which will include plenary sessions, oral, and poster presentations, workshops and special interest sessions. For more detailed information, please visit the website: www.espnic.org

Clinical and scientific topics relevant for physicians and nurses caring for critical ill children and neonates will be

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2nd International Pediatric Stimulation Symposium and Workshops April 22-23, 2009, Florence, Italy

We invite you to visit the website: www.ipssw2009.com

10th World Congress of the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine August 28- September 1st, 2009, Florence, Italy

This congress will have Pediatric Critical Care Sessions. We invite you to visit the congress website: www.wfsiccm-florence2009.it

During this congress the WFPICCS board will have their annual meeting

If you have any suggestions please contact:

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