



11<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN PAIN FEDERATION EFIC®

4-7 SEPTEMBER 2019 | VALENCIA, SPAIN

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# YEARS

**EFIC NEWSLETTER 02 2018**

## The President's Corner

Dear friends of the European Pain Federation EFIC®.

I am happy to address you again just after our first Council meeting under the term of the 2017-2020 Executive Board in Brussels.



I am delighted to announce that Professor Brona Fullen has been elected as the 10<sup>th</sup> President of the European Pain Federation EFIC. Brona will succeed me in 2020. I am delighted with the outcome of this election. For the first time we will have a chartered physiotherapist as president, and this sends out an unambiguous message that we are an inclusive, multidisciplinary and progressive organisation. I am even more proud that Brona will be also our first woman president. I wish her good luck, I know she will do an amazing job in this role.

It is the Executive Board's intention to strengthen the links between the European Pain Federation EFIC and its Chapters.

At the Council meeting, we also held a brainstorming session to discuss common priorities, and to find a common approach to some of these priorities. We will tell you more of the results of this session in the next edition of this newsletter... For now, I can only express my gratitude for the great ideas and contributions our Councilors shared!

In the advocacy domain, we are continuing to build on one of our strongest achievements, the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) campaign, as well as work on new exciting projects. Further in this newsletter you will learn more about our current projects with SIP at national and EU level. We are also focusing more on networking and liaison activities, to establish formal partnerships and greater cooperation on pain matters. Central to this activity will be the 'European Pain Forum'. The Forum aims to bring together European medical societies relevant to pain on issues where we share a common scientific understanding. A first kick-off meeting took place on the 29th June 2018. The meeting revealed strong interest of medical societies in cooperating in the

next month to define the vision and mission of this initiative and organize a more formal meeting in the beginning of 2019.

We have great plans in education as well, one the topics which is dearer to our Federation. A first meeting of our Education Working Group Chairs in October 2018 will develop detailed blueprints for new and existing project. Among the others, we will be hoping to develop an E-Learning Platform that provides greater access to the Federation's educational materials as well as new Curricula for Nursing and Clinical Psychology.

Finally, we are thrilled by the quality of the over 162 workshop proposals we received for our 2019 congress, taking place in Valencia on 4-7 September 2019. The deadline to submit a Workshop Proposal was 18 June and the system for abstract submission will open beginning of September. We are looking forward to your active contribution on our brand new [congress website](#)!



*Council Meeting of the European Pain Federation,  
28 and 29 June 2018*

As promised after taking over the Presidency from Dr Chris Wells last year, we will be “on the move”. Indeed, we are moving forward organizationally, but also literally with the start of my presidential campaign you will learn more about in this newsletter.

We are creating a momentum and a wave for change, which I am lucky to surf on...

Have a good read,

Bart Morlion

## Announcements

### EFIC Privacy Policy

We respect your data privacy and data protection and we strive to comply with the EU's new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which came into effect on the 25th May 2018. As part of the pain medicine community, we would like to keep you updated about our activities. If you do not want to receive further information from us, please use the unsubscribe link at the bottom of this newsletter. Please also take the time to review our privacy policy on our website at this [link](#).

## New EFIC congress website goes live!

We have a brand [new website](#) for our congress! To receive all updates leading to Valencia 2019 and on our Federation Education activities, please subscribe [here](#).



PAIN IN EUROPE XI  
BRINGING THE FUTURE TO  
THE PRESENT

11<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS OF  
THE EUROPEAN PAIN  
FEDERATION EFIC®  
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## A word from the President-Elect



I am delighted to have been nominated to serve as President-Elect of EFIC as I strongly believe in the Association's Vision and Mission. For those of you who do not know me I am a chartered Physiotherapist from Ireland. I hold an academic position in University College Dublin where my research area of interest lies in the multidisciplinary assessment and rehabilitation of patients with chronic pain. I was the first physiotherapist to serve as President of the Irish Pain Society and have contributed to the EFIC Executive Board both as a member-at-large (2015-17) and as Hon.

Secretary (2017-current).

## European Pain Federation Exams: developing future clinicians

The European Pain Federation EFIC© took a major stride forward in its educational projects and held two examinations on the 20th and 21st of April 2018 at the Gasthuisberg campus of the University of Leuven, Belgium.

The examination for the European Diploma in Pain Medicine (EDPM) took place in full for the second time, and the examination for the European Diploma in Pain Physiotherapy (EDPP) was launched.

### European Diploma in Pain Physiotherapy (EDPP)

The EDPP aims to improve the standard of pain assessment and treatment through the provision of a qualification for physiotherapists that tests their broad understanding of all types of pain and their treatment. It is based on the European Pain Federation Pain Core Curriculum in Pain Physiotherapy and recommended reading list. The EDPP

was taken by candidates from Belgium and Chile. It comprised an MCQ paper, a clinical skills examination and a viva.



Executive Board member and EDPP Exam Committee member Brona Fullen commented; *'Physiotherapists have a vital role to play in pain treatment. The EDPP is a new qualification designed to assess*



*physiotherapists' understanding of and clinical experience in pain. We would like to see the EDPP becoming the main qualification that physiotherapists use to demonstrate their expertise in pain management.'*

Examiners for the EDPP: (l-r) Catherine Doody, An de Groef, Brona Fullen (Hon. Secretary EFIC), Harriet Wittink (Exam Director), Morten Høgh, Catherine Blake.

### **European Diploma in Pain Medicine (EDPM)**

Examiners for the EDPM: (l-r) Sam Kynman (Executive Director, EFIC), Emilija Dubljanin-Raspopovic, Christoph Stein, Nevenka Krčevski Škvarč, Daniele Battelli, Yasir Abbasi, Asbjörn Mohr-Drewes, Bart Morlion (President, EFIC), Hani Hattar, Patricia Schofield, Arun Bhaskar, Stephan Schug, Roger Knaggs, Liam Conroy (Exam Director).



The European Diploma in Pain Medicine (EDPM) was held in full for the second time, with candidates from the UK, Ireland, Spain, the Netherlands, Brazil and India. Participants undertook an MCQ paper, a series of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) and a viva examination. The OSCEs tested skills such as communication, clinical examination, history taking, statistics and interpretation of data.

President and EDPM Exam Committee member Bart Morlion commented; *'The EDPM was the first examination we launched; it is our flagship educational project. It is essential that medical doctors have a standardised examination that tests their knowledge of the theoretical foundations of pain and their clinical experiences in pain management. We are delighted to provide such an examination and qualification.'*

The next sitting of the EDPM and EDPP is Spring 2019.

### **Congratulations!**

Finally, we would like to congratulate Jesus de Santiago Morega who was awarded the prize for the highest mark in the EDPM, and Elien Van der Gucht who won the prize for the highest mark in the EDPP exam. The two winners will be officially awarded with the EDPM and EDPP prizes during our 2019 congress in Valencia!

## **European Pain Forum Brainstorm**

Pain is a core component of the patient's experience within healthcare systems. The work of several European medical, scientific and patient organisations touches upon pain. Pain is relevant to all of us, and thus we wish to find a common way of working on subjects relevant to pain.

What we want to achieve is **more power through a broader basis**: with the European Pain Forum, we aim to create a platform where we can work together as medical societies, to ensure that we cooperate on issues where we share a common scientific understanding. In the future, this could lead to common responses to requests for

expert opinion, the development of common clinical guidelines, and perhaps the development of common educational tools.



*Participants to the European Pain Forum Brainstorm, 29 June 2018*

We are at the very beginning of our journey to bring the European Pain Forum to life, so, on 29 June, we organised a first brainstorm in Brussels with representatives of key medical, scientific and patient organisations that have a strong

interest in pain to discuss the idea and objectives of the European Pain Forum, its long-term vision and stakeholders' willingness to work together. The meeting revealed strong interest of medical societies in cooperating in the next months to define the vision and mission of this initiative and organize a more formal meeting in the beginning of 2019. We will update you on next steps of the initiative soon!

## European Commission SIP Thematic Network – Joint statement open for contributions

Our Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) platform is one of only three topics selected for the prestigious European Commission Thematic Networks program in 2018! This fantastic recognition from the European Commission demonstrates the importance of our work in raising awareness about the impact of pain, of sharing expertise and of developing strategies to improve pain management.

Thematic Networks brings together experts from a wide range of organizations to discuss key topics related to health. Together, participants create a statement that summarises their shared position on the topic – and these statements can directly influence the European Commission's approach to health policy.

With our partners and endorsers we put together the first draft of this statement. To do this we asked for the help of the over 300 endorsers of the SIP platform to collect best practice recommendations to support our requests to European policy makers! We also met with some of our closest allies to draft the paper and validate our approach and choice of topics.

Finally, we presented the current draft of the Joint statement on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June during a webinar open to all interested stakeholders and



hosted by the European Commission. The webinar was very well attended, and the SIP partners received useful feedback to work on the next draft. We will present the finalised document at the European Commission premises in November 2018.

### What's next?



The SIP Joint Statement is open for contribution and can be found on the [SIP Platform](#) and on the European Commission [EU Health Policy Platform](#) (you need to create log in to access the platform, see instruction [here](#)). We will present the next iteration of the document on our 2<sup>nd</sup> Webinar on 20 September at 11:30 CET.

### What we ask of you?

- Review [the draft statement](#) and share with us your feedback **by the 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – that can be emailed to [Vittoria.carraro@efic.org](mailto:Vittoria.carraro@efic.org) and [a.pop@pae-eu.eu](mailto:a.pop@pae-eu.eu)
- Help us promote our next webinar by sharing this article with your community
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Mark 20<sup>th</sup> September @ 11:30 CET in your agenda. We will follow up with all details on how to join the webinar on the European Commission's platform!

## EFIC on the move meeting in the European Parliament

*'If physical activity was a drug it would be classed as a wonder drug (Professor Dame Sue Bailey, Chair of the Academy of Royal Medical Colleges, 2015)'*

As you know our president Bart Morlion launched the idea of a 'presidential campaign', that will run across the three-year mandate of each President.

Bart's theme for 2017-2020 is '**EFIC On the Move**' focusing on the importance of physical activity in preventing primary and secondary pain. In June we had a first working lunch with some members of the European Parliament, kindly hosted by the MEPs Hilde Vautmans and Ms Lieve Wierinck to discuss ideas for the campaign and importantly to get their support.

In the upcoming months we will focus on social media activities to promote the importance of physical activity to prevent pain chronification. A Working Group, chaired by Prof Brona Fullen, has been created to start working on the scientific and educational content of the campaign that will be





disseminated in 2019 and during a dedicated event at our biennial Congress in Valencia.

## Creating stronger ties with our partners

We started off with the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) Congress held in Lisbon from 16-19<sup>th</sup> June. The European Pain Federation EFIC had a booth in the Exhibitor area, which gave us the opportunity to discuss our educational activities and promote our 2019 congress. We also presented the progress of the Societal Impact of Pain campaign during the scientific meeting when several organisations briefly presented their activities and projects. We also had very fruitful discussion with the colleagues at EAN on future scientific collaboration e.g. for the production of neuropathic pain guidelines



On 19<sup>th</sup> June, Pain Alliance Europe (PAE) held a workshop focusing on European Union (EU) level advocacy. The European Pain Federation EFIC was represented by the External Relation Manager, Vittoria Carraro who gave a presentation on the functioning of the EU and how it relates to our advocacy campaigns on pain. The relationship with PAE is growing stronger thanks to our role as co-leader of the Thematic network on the Societal Impact of Pain on the EU health policy platform, and our day-to-day collaborations.

Similarly, the European Pain Federation EFIC is working more closely with the special interest group 'Brain, Mind and Pain' led by the European Federation of Neurological Associations (ENFA) and Pain Alliance Europe together. On the 20<sup>th</sup> June the interest group held a meeting in the European Parliament on optimising patient relevant outcome measures. An expert line-up of speakers addressed how patient relevant outcomes measures can ensure value-based, patient-centric healthcare, research and innovation. Our Executive Director, Sam Kynman, served as moderator for the second half of the meeting, focusing on future views of patient-centred research and Innovation.



With the support of our Advocacy Committee, the EFIC Executive Office is working on strengthening ties with relevant organisations. We will continue to provide updates on our ongoing effort and opportunities that will arise from it.

## Call for Application for an EFIC-Grünenthal-Grant 2018

The Research Committee of the European Pain Federation EFIC® has established a new sub-group on awarding grants. Chaired by Barbara Przewlocka, the new sub-group will select the winners of the E-G-G awards, taking over the role previously held by Professor Luis Villanueva. To get to know her better, we asked her two questions:

***Professor Przewlocka, you are the new chair of the sub-group of the Research Committee of the European Pain Federation EFIC®. Please introduce yourself and let us know what do you expect from this task.***



“I graduated from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow and received a PhD in pharmacology from the Polish Academy of Sciences. I am currently a professor of Medical Sciences in Department of Pain Pharmacology at the Institute of Pharmacology in Krakow and an elected member of Polish Academy of Sciences and Arts. I trained in pharmacology and neuroscience and throughout my professional life I have studied basic and clinically relevant aspects of mechanisms of opioid action. I am also interested in chronic pain mechanisms, especially those that underlie neuropathic pain. During my work I have had a gratifying opportunity to follow numerous careers of young scientists and I fully understand the importance of receiving prestigious grants and awards for scientific potential to thrive. Our Committee consists of noted authorities from the inspiring world of pain research; having the honour to become the Committee's part, I look forward to novel brilliant ideas and ambitious projects, so that the prestige of the EFIC grants in pain medicine is maintained.”

***You will be responsible with a team of experienced pain experts for the decision on awarding of the EFIC-Grünenthal-GRANT. What kind of advice would you like to give to young researchers for an engagement in pain research?***

“The progress of medical sciences is based on two main pillars: basic and clinical sciences. Grant proposals should be based on the latest results of basic research and pay attention to the possibility of translating these results into clinical practices. The role of basic research goes far beyond pure academic science, as it provides the valuable and indispensable foundation for working hypotheses and practical applications. We would like the EFIC-Grünenthal-GRANTS-winning projects to represent the broad range of research in pain medicine. I do not doubt that winning such a grant might greatly help support the investigator's motivation and perseverance at their challenging work. In return, strengthening the scientific careers of young researchers will surely result in improving pain therapy.”

We are looking forward to receive many applications for the EFIC-Grünenthal-GRANT 2018. Apply now. For more information please visit [www.e-g-g.info](http://www.e-g-g.info).

CALL FOR APPLICATION

More info: [www.e-g-g.info](http://www.e-g-g.info)



EFIC-GRÜNTENTHAL GRANT

RESEARCH GRANTS  
FOR CLINICAL AND  
HUMAN EXPERIMENTAL  
PAIN RESEARCH

2018



### The Belgian Pain Society has a new board!

The newly elected board of the Belgian Pain Society (BPS) has been announced at the Annual Scientific Congress on 9th June 2018 in Brussels. The board consists of Dr Olivier De Coster, Prof Patrice Forget, Prof André Mouraux, Dr Frans Van de Perck, Mr Koen Bernar, Mrs Vera Callebaut and Mrs Christine Sneyers. With this multidisciplinary team, the BPS will continue to promote, encourage and develop multidisciplinary research and treatment against acute and chronic pain.



### Launch of Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) in France

On May 31st, the EFIC French chapter, the French Society for the Study and Management of Pain (SFETD), and the pharmaceutical company Grünenthal have launched the national Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) platform in France. Many healthcare professionals and patient representatives participated in this meeting with the title "From a journey of wandering to a course of care". Read the SFETD press communication [here](#) including the [report](#) (document in French) and learn about the great ideas which are well expressed by the [impressing illustrations](#). You can find more information in French on the [website of SFETD](#).



### Perspektive Schmerzforschung Deutschland – the research roadmap of the German Pain Society



In May 2018 The German Pain Society (**Deutsche Schmerzgesellschaft**) published its research agenda "Perspektive Schmerzforschung Deutschland". This document calls for a consistent action plan for pain, including the promotion of pain research. "Medical research is never an end in itself. It has to be translated into clinical practice as fast as possible. Basic application-oriented research that focuses on the patient, networking of researchers, research funding, health services research and the establishment of a pain register are key items of our agenda. The document also provides a roadmap that shows how the care of pain patients can be improved in the medium and long term through a systematic approach" says Professor Dr. med. med. Martin Schmelz, President of the German Pain Society. The roadmap can be found [here](#). (document in German)

### Conference of the Russian National Chapter – the Russian Association for the Study of Pain (RASP)

The excellent conference of the Russian Association for the Study of Pain (RASP) "PAIN MEDICINE - FROM UNDERSTANDING TO ACTION" was held in the city of Rostov-on-Don on the 17-19th of May, 2018. RASP is a non-profit organization, involved in pain medicine research, pain education and the development of pain

management centers. Being a collective member of IASP (since 1990) and EFIC (since 1993) RASP provides an excellent opportunity for international experience exchange. The structure of the Association includes 15 committees focusing mainly on research.

More than 500 participants from various parts of Russia took part in the conference. Doctors of different specialities (neurologists, neurosurgeons, rheumatologists, physiologists, physiotherapists, anesthesiologists, oncologists, psychologists) discussed pain investigation and pain management.

The General session addressed recognition of chronic pain as a disease in ICD-11. In the second part of the session the renewed guidelines on diagnosis, treatment and prevention of nonspecific low back pain were reported. During two conference days 30 symposia were held. A wide range of pain syndromes and problems was discussed: headache, back and joint pain, facial and pelvic pain, cancer pain, interventional treatment, fundamental research, psychosocial and juridical aspects of pain medicine. The third day of conference was devoted to a young researchers' competition, which included more than 30 presentation on actual questions of pain medicine. The Organizing committee didn't forget about social program: a splendid sailing tour on the Don River allowed attendees to learn more about history and culture of the city. Conference attendees came to the conclusion that close interaction between different specialists and multimodal pain management is needed. An integrated interdisciplinary approach based on the biopsychosocial model of pain seems to be most effective for optimizing care for this group of patients.



The next RASP conference is going to take place in Samara (23-25th of May, 2019).

## Recent and upcoming meetings and courses

Dear Friends,



I trust most of you are enjoying the warm weather and the long summer days. When I was penning the last piece, there was an unprecedented snowdrift across Europe in March due to the cold front from Siberia. Now it is the other extreme with temperatures pushing the mercury beyond 32° Celsius in England so much so that train services are disrupted due to the heat affecting the tracks. Let me start off by saying Congratulations to Dr Brona Fullen, who has been elected at the last Council meeting to serve as our next President. This is indeed a red-letter day as Brona is the tenth President of the European Pain Federation, but also holds the dual distinction of being the first non-

medical President as well as the first female President. Brona is currently the Honorary Secretary of the Federation as well as the Chair of the Communications Committee; she is the driving force behind the “On the move” campaign initiated by Prof. Bart Morlion. You also know her as the Editor of the European Pain Federation Newsletter.

**The British Pain Society ASM 2018** was held at the Hilton Brighton Metropole at the seaside town of Brighton, south of England on 01-02 May 2018. The meeting kicked off with the Patrick Wall lecture, delivered by Prof Jeffrey Mogill (McGill University, Montreal, Canada) on the pitfalls and ironic adventures in translation between pain in mice and man. There was plenary sessions focusing on the patient aspects by Dr David Armstrong (“What can Sociologists contribute towards the understanding of pain?”), Prof Kate Seers (“Chronic pain – what’s it like? Patient and Professional perspectives”) and Prof Blair Smith (“Chronic pain Epidemiology: from population health to health policy”). One of the very interesting talks was from Prof John Cryan who presented the growing evidence supporting a relationship between the composition of microbes and health including brain health; Prof Cryan explained the anatomical and physiological nodes whereby microbiota would be affecting pain responses, and explored the potential for manipulating gastrointestinal microbiota as a therapeutic target for managing visceral pain. The several breakout sessions covered various topics encompassing the multidisciplinary nature of pain management as epitomised by the British Pain Society. There was also a pre-ASM meeting on 30 April at the same venue focusing on Interventional Pain Medicine, Neuropathic pain and Neuromodulation as well as Psychological aspects of Pain Management as the original meeting was reduced from its usual three-day format to a two-day format. Mr Sam Kynman and Ms Vittoria Carraro attended the meeting and had fruitful discussions with their counterparts for collaborative working in the future between the two organisations.

**The 9th World Congress of the World Institute of Pain (WIP 2018)** was held, in Dublin, Ireland on 09-12 May 2018. The WIP Board under Prof Craig Hartrick, the Scientific Committee led by Prof Alan Basbaum and Prof Anthony Dickenson as well as the Organising Committee under Dr Dominic Hegarty and Dr Patrick McGowan put together a great event, which was attended by delegates from across the globe. The programme reflected not only WIP’s commitment to furthering evidence-based safe practice of pain interventions, but showcased advances in the field of neuromodulation as well as review of evidence in established practices as well as looking at the potential future developments. The meet the expert sessions and the debates were particularly popular amongst the delegates. The European Pain Federation was well represented by Prof Bart Morlion (President) and Dr Brona Fullen (Hon Secretary) amongst many others; Mr Sam Kynman and Ms Vittoria Carraro manned an EFIC booth showcasing the work being done by the European Pain Federation. Prior to the Congress, the latest edition of the FIPP & CIPS examination took place on 06 May 2018 at the Kings College campus in London. The President-elect, Prof Giustino Varrassi, announced that the 10th World Congress of WIP would be held on 20-23 May 2020, in Rome, Italy.



**The 13th Belgrade International Symposium on Pain** was held at the Crowne Plaza, Belgrade on 18 and 19 May. Prof Nebojsa Ladevic and the Scientific Committee had as usual put together a variety of interesting topics for the plenary sessions as well as the workshops. The European Pain Federation was very active in its support for the meeting led by the President, Prof Bart Morlion, Prof Luis Garcia-Larrea, Dr Andreas Kopf, Dr Winfried Meisner along with Dr Teo Goroszenik, Dr Carsten Bantel, Dr Nebojsa Knezevic and yours truly amongst many other eminent speakers from the Balkans and beyond. There were several interesting workshops ranging from osteoarthritis, neuromodulation, scientific writing, cancer pain and meet the experts sessions. The meeting was inaugurated by Prof Morlion who started the plenary session looking at the evidence for pharmacological therapy for low back pain. This was followed up by an excellent talk by Prof Garcia-Larrea on “We can detect lesions; can we detect pain?” Other well-received talks were on Acute Pain Management in patients with Dementia (Dr Carsten Bantel), “Global Year about Medical Education in Pain: Implications for Practice” (Dr Andreas Kopf) and “What is new in post-operative pain?” (Dr Winfried Meisner). Unfortunately I could not stay for the second day due to prior commitments, but my colleagues reported that the meeting was a resounding success with over four hundred delegates from across the Balkan states.

**The 3rd Eastern-European Pain Congress** took place in Kiev, Ukraine on June 7-9, 2018 and is jointly hosted by Ukrainian Association for the Study of Pain (UASP) alongside the Estonian, Latvian, Moldovan, Polish and Romanian Associations for the Study of Pain and was endorsed by European Pain Federation. Dr Vladimir Romanenko along with his colleagues from the neighbouring countries including Dr Kaire Pakkonen, Dr Mihail Arons, Dr Adrian Bellis, Dr Adriana Sarah Nica and Dr Andrzej Basinski along with Prof Bart Morlion, Dr Magdalena Kocot Kepska, Dr Reinhard Sittl, Prof Rudolf Likar, Dr Andreas Kopf and Dr Roberto Casale ensured a strong presence from the European Pain Federation. There were also renowned speakers including Dr Allen Finley (Hon Treasurer IASP), Dr Konstantin Slavin (Director-at-large, International Neuromodulation Society and North American Neuromodulation Society), Prof Jan Keppel Hesselink and Prof Gregory Hariton. The various lectures and workshops covered the multidisciplinary aspects of pain management. It goes without saying that the famous Ukrainian hospitality flowed in abundance and this meeting has been growing in strength and is considered to be the largest pain meeting of its kind in the region.

I am attaching a list of meetings and courses below and I would give out the details of these in the coming issues. I look forward to seeing you at some of these meetings.

### **Future meetings**

**The British Pain Society Philosophy and Ethics Special Interest Group annual meeting:** Language and burnout on July 2–5, 2018 at Launde Abbey in Leicestershire, England. This years’ meeting has two themes 1) the problems of the language we and our patients use in the interface between us 2) Stress and burnout.

<https://www.britishpainsociety.org/philosophy-ethics-special-interest-group/>

**The International Neuromodulation Society Second Interim Meeting** in 2018 is held on August 8-11, 2018 in collaboration with the Brazilian Neuromodulation Society, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

<http://www.neuromodulation.com/interim-meeting>

**The Spine Intervention Society (SIS) Annual Meeting** Controversies and Challenges of Spine Intervention is held on August 15-18, 2018 at the Hilton Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

<https://www.spineintervention.org/page/AnnualMeeting>

**The First Joint Congress of the International Neuromodulation Society European Chapters - Neuromodulation: Technology to improve patients' lives** is held on September 20 - 22, 2018 in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. This meeting also has the NSUKI Chapter meeting as part of the programme.

<http://www.ecm2018.eu>

**The 17th World Congress on Pain under the auspices of IASP** is being held on 12-16 September 2018 in Boston, USA. Further details will be furnished here in the following issues.

<https://www.iasp-pain.org/boston>

**The Multidisciplinary Singular Pain Sobramid Congress** will take place from 19 to 22 September 2018 in Campinas, Brazil.

<https://www.singularcongress.com.br/>

**Unmet Needs in Neuropathic Pain** is a meeting organised by the EFIC Pain School in Bergamo and is held on 06-07 October at the Papa Giovanni XXIII Congress Centre, Bergamo, Italy.

<http://www.painschool.eu> <http://www.defoe.it>

**16ª Reunião Iberoamericana de Dor e VI Congresso APED 11<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018** of the Portuguese Association for the Study of Pain will take place from 11 to 13 October 2018 in Lisbon.

<http://www.riad-aped-2018.com/>

**The 6th World Congress on Controversies, Debates & Consensus in Bone, Muscle & Joint Diseases (BMJD)** is held on November 8-10, 2018, Bangkok, Thailand. These meetings are voted in the list of top 25 medical congresses in the world to attend.

<http://bmjd-congress.org/>

**The 24th Schleswiger Pain Conference:** Scientific symposium on cannabinoids “Cannabinoids - A drug is ennobled” is held on November 10, 2018 in Schleswig, Germany as part of the Annual meeting within the German Chapter of IASP.

<https://www.helios-gesundheit.de/kliniken/schleswig/>

**The 2019 North American Neuromodulation Society Annual Meeting** is held on January 17-20, 2019 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

<http://www.neuromodulation.org/Meetings/2019AnnualMeeting.aspx>

And finally for the ski enthusiasts - **The "Advances in Pain Medicine" International Winter Symposium** will be held at the usual venue of Hotel Village Montana, Tignes Le Lac on 20-25 January 2019 with a six-day programme of lectures and expert discussions in a breath-taking location.

<http://www.winterpainsymposium.com/p/online-registration.html>

### **Courses**

**The 34th Annual Liverpool Course on Management of Chronic Pain: “A Practical Approach”** 2018 on July 5-7, 2018, Liverpool, United Kingdom.

<http://www.painrelieffoundation.org.uk/events/liverpool-course-on-management-of-chronic-pain-a-practical-approach-2018/>

**The 5th Society for Ultrasound in Anaesthesia (SUA) Ultrasound Guided Chronic Pain Interventions Workshop** is held on September 4, 2018 at the Royal College of Physicians, London, United Kingdom.

<http://www.painandneuromodulationlondon.com/2016/02/4-sept-2018-5th-sua-ultrasound-guided.html>

**The EFIC® Winter Cancer Pain School 2018** is held on October 16-19, 2018, Liverpool, United Kingdom.

<http://www.painrelieffoundation.org.uk/events/efic-winter-cancer-pain-school-liverpool-october-16th-19th-2018/>

**Intervention Pain and Cadaver workshops**, University of Birmingham is held on 24 - 26 October 2018 at the Education and Conference Centre at the City Hospital, Nottingham, UK.

<http://www.interventionalpain.co.uk/>



How did you enjoy the EFIC Newsletter 02/2018? Let us know at [newsletter@efic.org](mailto:newsletter@efic.org). We look forward to receiving your feedback on this issue. The next EFIC Newsletter will be published in late September 2018. The deadline for contributions is September 1, 2018. Please email your contributions to Vittoria Carraro at [Vittoria.carraro@efic.org](mailto:Vittoria.carraro@efic.org).

### **EFIC Newsletter 02/2018 Contributors**

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### **Inner Circle Company Members of EFIC® 2018:**

