



Newsletter from the Association for European Paediatric Cardiology

News from the Working Group on Cardiac Imaging

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Euroecho 8

The meeting in Athens, organized by the European Association of Echocardiography, was very successful! Our Working Group participated in four different sessions, all of which were all very well attended. The Training Course in Congenital Heart Disease, which we organized in collaboration with the Working Group of the European Society of Cardiology concerned with Grown-up Congenital Heart Disease, was particularly well received, and attracted between 400 and 500 participants. The session devoted to "Pearls in Congenital Disease" was a stimulating interactive session, with very interesting and very well-presented cases. In our opinion, this interactive format should be considered for the future regular meetings of the Association. We were also involved in the session devoted to "Cardiac problems during Pregnancy", and in a "How to" session. Next year, the Euroecho meeting will be organized in Florence, and will be held from 7 to 10 December. Our Working Group will again be actively involved, and we encourage all our members to participate in these Euroecho meetings!

European Association of Echocardiography

Our collaboration with the European Association of Echocardiography is to be strengthened with the formal organization of a section within the Association specifically concerned with congenital cardiac disease. In this section, our own Working Group will again collaborate with the Working Group of the European Society of Cardiology concerned with Grown-up Congenital Heart Disease. We will organize teaching courses devoted to imaging of congenital cardiac malformations, collaborate with producing sessions for the

Euroecho meetings, and seek generally to promote the scientific development of imaging in the setting of congenital cardiac lesions. We propose that you all join this section, and become members of the European Association of Echocardiography. Information on membership is available on their web site at <http://www.esccardio.org/bodies/associations/EAE>

Standards for training in paediatric cardiac imaging

The Working Group has committed itself to define the necessary standards for training, to be used in conjunction with the "Guidelines for Training in Paediatric Echocardiography" published in the current issue of the journal.¹ We are also in the process of preparing further guidelines for training in Paediatric Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Together with the European Association of Echocardiography, it is our aim to organize the first European examination for Accreditation in Paediatric Echocardiography, hopefully in 2007. This examination will take place both during the Euroecho meeting and during the annual meeting of the Association to be held in 2007. So as properly to prepare those who might seek to take the examination, in September 2006, we will organize a training course in Congenital Echocardiography. The purpose of all these initiatives is to raise the standards of paediatric cardiac imaging throughout Europe.

Reference

1. The Working Group on Cardiac Imaging of the Association for European Paediatric Cardiology. Standards for training in paediatric echocardiography. *Cardiol Young* 2005; 15: 441–442.