

FOOTSTEPS

70 years of advancing podiatry worldwide



FIP FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DES PODOLOGUES
IFP INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF PODIATRISTS



European Council of Podiatrists workshop hosted by the European Parliament



Annual General Meeting
in Hong Kong



EWMA in Krakow
9-11 May



Sveriges
Fotterapeuter

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Message of the President - Spring 2018



President Matt Garoufalis

Welcome to our newest issue of our Footsteps Magazine. We hope that you will enjoy catching up on what has been going in Podiatry around the world. The APMA just completed their annual House of Delegates Meeting in Washington, DC. I was there along with our Vice President Christian Jérôme, the Chair of the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists from the UK, Debbie Delves, and the Secretary of the Canadian Podiatric Medical Association, Dr. James Hill. It was a great meeting.

Our ECP committee has been extremely busy building the EU's Common Training Framework for Podiatry with the help of ENPODHE. You will get to read about how we are changing the image of Podiatry in Europe.

We will also have several country updates and you will get your first glimpse of what is going on as we prepare for the World Congress of Podiatry 2019.

We have added a bit of science to the magazine by dropping a couple articles just to give you some academia.

We will also update you on some of our Communication plans for this year.

**Dr. Matt Garoufalis,
President, FIP-IFP**



So, sit back, and thumb through the
new Footsteps Magazine!



2018 Annual General Meeting in Hong Kong



In one month the 2018 Annual General Meeting (or AGM) will take place in Hong Kong. The registrations are closed and we are happy that so many of our delegates signed in for this meeting and will join us in Hong Kong.

Practical Information

The calendar for the meetings is comparable to the traditional FIP-IFP AGM meetings. All FIP-IFP members are welcome on Friday 18 May to join the Annual ECP Committee Meeting during the morning, where the ECP committee members will give an overview of the work they achieved and the plans for the future.

During the delegate session (Friday 18 May afternoon), Matt Garoufalis and Pauline Wilson will give an update on the POINT Project, or Podiatry International Diabetic Foot Teams. In a second part of the session we'll talk about GDPR: General Data Protection Regulation and leadership for association executives.

The Annual Assembly meeting, which will start on Saturday the 19th, at 10am. All FIP-IFP delegates can access the documents on the FIP-IFP website: www.fip-ifp.org/governance/2018agm

Sunday 20 May, the IPAHK will host a very interesting symposium on the Podiatry Professional Development in HK.

Accommodation

The FIP-IFP Annual General Meeting and all the other meetings will take place at The Harbourview Hotel (Address: 4 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong).



The Harbourview, conveniently located in a quiet oasis of the bustling Wan Chai district, is across the road from Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and within walking distance of Wan Chai MTR Station and Star Ferry Pier. With an abundance of dining and sightseeing in its neighbourhood, The Harbourview is the ideal choice for business and leisure travellers alike.

The
Harbourview



Cont....

2018 AGM – the planning

AGM Friday 18th May 2018

10:00am - noon	ECP open Committee meeting	The Harbourview Hotel
Noon	Lunch	The Harbourview Hotel
2:00pm - 5:30pm	Delegate session	The Harbourview Hotel
6:45pm	IPAHK Welcoming reception	Hosted evening by IPAHK - Harbour Cruise

AGM Saturday 19th May 2018

10:00am - 4:00pm	FIP-IFP AGM + Working lunch	The Harbourview Hotel
7:00pm	Arrivals at restaurant (own transportation)	Coach departure to The China Club from the hotel.
7:30pm	Presidents' Dinner	Hosted evening by the FIP-IFP President - The China Club

AGM Sunday 20th May 2018

10:30am - noon	Symposium on the Podiatry Professional Development in Hong Kong	The Harbourview Hotel
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2018 AGM – The Hosted evening by IPAHK

Friday evening is the welcome reception from IPAHK. Delegates will be transported from the Harbourview Hotel by coach to the Central ferry pier by 7.00pm.

Drinks and snacks will be served during the cruise around the Harbour. At 8pm we will all enjoy a magnificent lightshow in the harbour.

The cruise will end at the Central ferry pier around 9:00pm where our guests will be able to enjoy some free time and explore the surrounding areas.

2018 AGM - Optional Tours



Discover the richness of the history of Hong Kong and enjoy a break before the Annual General Meeting. Heidi Corcoran, the FIP-IFP delegate from IPAHK, invites you to have a look at the optional tours and book your journey upfront. Read more about the IPAHK Hong Kong Tours on the FIP-IFP website:

www.fip-ifp.org/governance/2018agm

As we know, discovering a new culture is more fun together. Therefore IPAHK has organized some special tours packages for FIP-IFP delegates. If you wish to participate, please fill in the document and follow the instructions, access the registration form online: [International Podiatrists Association of Hong Kong 2018 Tour Registration Form](#)

Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 2.00pm: *Special FIP-IFP HONG KONG ISLAND TOUR*

Wednesday 16th May 2018 and Thursday 17th May at 8.30am *Special FIP-IFP NEW LANTAU ISLAND MONASTERY TOUR*

Building a Common Training Framework for Podiatry in Europe. The European Council of Podiatrists takes the challenge!



In the heart of Europe, the delegates of the European Council of Podiatrists, the FIP-IFP committee in charge of the European Affairs of the Federation, met on a sunny Friday morning in front of the European Parliament.

On the invitation of MEP Lieve Wierinck, the delegates held a morning session that was dedicated to create awareness and exchange best practices with other associations on advocacy:

Morning session at the European Parliament.

- Advocacy and how it works in the EU by Tania Pentcheva head of Public Policy practice and Alexander Frank account manager healthcare practice both from Cambre Associates
- Involvement and Advocacy on European Level by Lea Pfefferle, Policy Officer of the Council of European Dentists
- From Europe to advocacy on the national level by Hilde Deneyer, Director Flemish Pharmacists Network (VAN)
- The creation of a competencies set for Dentistry by Dr. Maria Cristina Manzanares

Afternoon session: the Common Training Framework workshop

During the afternoon the associations who were present discussed the options for a Common Training Framework for Podiatry.

After a short presentation to remind all about the basic principles of establishing a Common Training Framework (CTF), the members made some important advancements on the issue. Members of the Board of ENPODHE were also present as this CTF is a collaborative project between the FIP-IFP and ENPODHE.



“General take away: the development of a CTF and the process developing the tool are great incentives for working collaboratively on raising the level of Podiatry in each country. The countries where this is already the case will do everything to support their colleagues to reach this goal.”

Cont....

Next steps on the CTF for Podiatry



From this point in time the associations will designate 1 representative as the main contact person concerning CTF. It is very important that all countries participate actively in this process. If an association can't take part in a meeting, a delegated vote should be given to another association.

At the 2018 AGM during the open committee meeting of the ECP next steps will be taken in the further preparation of the CTF.

A meeting will be organized in the fall with all the European Members of the FIP-IFP to continue to make progress on this important tool.

The report and all the presentations are available for FIP-IFP representative on the website www.fip-ifp.org/ecpdocuments



Looking for more information?

- Regulated professions Database : <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regprof/index.cfm?action=homepage>
- Professionals in the EU can move across borders and practice their occupation or provide services abroad. These webpages provide practical information on EU legislation governing the recognition of professional experience in the EU. - <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/services/free-movement-professionals/>
- Modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive – frequently asked questions: http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-867_fr.htm
- Contact Caroline Teugels: director@fip-ifp.org

European Wound Management Conference 2018. We'll be there!

9-11 May 2018 – Krakow, Poland



EWMA 2018

9-11 MAY 2018 · KRAKOW, POLAND



Scientific Highlights - EWMA 2018

Participants attending the 28th Conference of EWMA this spring will have access to a broad selection of new scientific knowledge. 150 sessions are planned on a wide range of topics including the latest research and best practices which are important to the European wound care community.

[Click here to register](#)

Session Highlights

Join the opening key session: Krakow: New Frontiers in Wound Management Wednesday **9 May, 10.00-11.30**

David Armstrong

The Diabetic Foot in Remission: Strategies to Make Prevention Pay

Julie Jordan O'Brien

Care Bundles: How can this approach improve patient outcome?

David Margolis

Global Demography of Chronic Wounds across the 2020s. Epidemiology Data

Participate in Diabetic Foot Stream : International Federation of Podiatrists
Friday **11 May, 11.45 – 12.45**

Dr. Matthew G Garoufalos (USA)

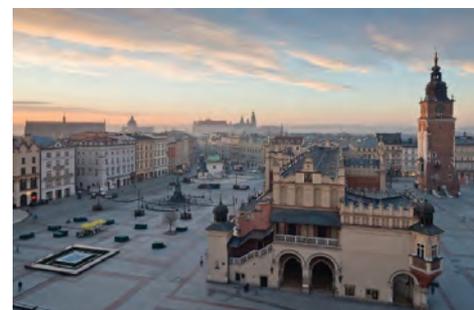
The Competencies Needed in the Examination and Treatment of the Diabetic Foot: A Revealing Look at Educational Levels by D-Foot International and The International Federation of Podiatrists

Christian Jérôme (FR)

The privileged relationship between the diabetic patient and the Podiatrist

Dr. Alex Kor (USA)

The Growth of Podiatry in Poland. Echoes from the past; visions of a future.



April to July

 **27** April 2018
 27ième Congrès de Podologie
 Lausanne, Switzerland

 **27-29** April 2018
 Congreso Nacional de Podólogos
 San Cristóbal de las Casas
Chiapas, Mexico

 **9-11** May 2018
 EWMA Congress
 Krakow, Poland

 **18-20** May 2018
 FIP-IFP 2018 AGM
 Hong Kong

 **24-25** May 2018
 Podiatric Medical Seminar
 Florence, Italy

 **7-9** June 2018
 Association of Podiatry organizes
2nd National Congress
 Bucharest, Romania

 **12-15** July 2018
 The National, APMA meeting
 Washington DC, USA

 **19-22** July 2018
 The Association for Podiatry organizes
Summer School Podiatry 2018
 Sinaia, Romania

October to December

 **5-6** October 2018
 The 49th National Congress
 Santiago de Compostela,
Spain

 **6-7** November 2018
 3rd Nordic Diabetic Foot Symposium
 Helsinki, Finland

 **16-17** November 2018
 43th National Meeting of
Podiatry
 Paris, France

 **22-24** November 2018
 College of Podiatry
 Bournemouth, UK

 **1** December 2018
 National Podiatry Congress
 Belgium

Events 2018

“ Mark the dates to ensure you don't miss these amazing opportunities ”



The message from the Executive Director

Every day podiatrists are more and more recognized as the foot scientist per excellence thanks to their skills and knowledge related to the lower limb. And we know how much the need for well-trained podiatrists is huge all around the world. We are convinced that podiatrists are the most qualified healthcare professionals to do the job. Of course, this should be done within the scope of their podiatry training, experience and regulating authority. However, a high-level trained podiatrist is crucial to give the highest level of care patients deserve.

As the worldwide authority in Podiatry, the International Federation of Podiatrists wants to support associations and governments to work towards a podiatry profession that has all the skills and recognition to be able to practice the profession in the best way they can.

We are conscient this is a goal difficult to reach.

Nevertheless, what is happening in many countries inspires us to further believe in our strategic mission to advance podiatry worldwide for the benefit of the patients. All of our member associations work hard towards a better recognition and regulation of the profession. The practicing podiatrists are engaged in continuous education to further develop their skills and collaborate with other healthcare professionals in multidisciplinary teams.

To honour and quote Dr. Martin Luther King : “We all come from different ships, but we are on the same boat now”, and all our members can support in further developing and strengthening the profession for the benefit of Podiatry on a global scale. Working collaboratively together will help all podiatrists to establish a high level and recognized health care profession.

The European Council of Podiatrists, the FIP-IFP committee responsible for promoting the interests and general awareness of the podiatry profession in Europe and towards the European Institutions, was invited to host a meeting in the European Parliament last February. This high-level recognition by the European Parliament not only indicates the recognition of the institution towards the Podiatry profession, but the acknowledgement of the International Federation of Podiatrists as the mouthpiece of the profession. The work done by the European Members on the Common Training Framework in Podiatry can serve as an example for other regions or countries. Sharing is caring and as a big family this is our associations’ policy too.

We are preparing the 2018 Annual General Meeting in Hong Kong. I’m looking forward seeing all the FIP-IFP delegates in this great location. Our host association is putting a great effort in making the trip for all delegates an unforgettable experience. I thank the board of the IPAHK in advance for the fantastic work.



I am not the same, having seen the moon
shine on the other side of the world.



-Mary Anne Radmacher

98th APMA House of Delegates at a glance



Dennis Frisch, voted the new President of APMA with Christian Jérôme and Matt Garoufalis

The 98th APMA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting convened from 16-18 March in Washington, DC. It is the legislative and governing body of American Podiatric Medical Association and is composed of certified delegates and alternates from each component society. The HOD meets once a year to hold elections and make decisions about the strategic direction of APMA. The Legislative Conference brings together APMA members and podiatric medical student leaders from across the nation to pound the pavement for the profession through lobbying members of Congress on issues of importance. A number of special guests were on hand to address the assembled delegates:

Matthew G. Garoufalis, DPM, the president of the International Federation of Podiatrists (FIP) and past president of APMA, reiterated that advocacy for our profession is paramount and underscored the importance of educating those who regulate podiatry. "We offer the international experience of how podiatrists function. It's value in public health, the betterment of many lives," he said.

Dr. Garoufalis invited delegates to join FIP-IFP in celebrating International Podiatry Day on October 8, and asked all to mark their calendars for the World Congress on Halloween weekend 2019.

But also Debra Delves, chair of the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists (SCP), addressed the house with warm wishes from the United Kingdom. She noted that the goals of SCP and APMA run parallel. Last year, SCP focused on diabetic foot care and the cost-effectiveness of a multidisciplinary health-care team. This year, SCP focused on vascular disease and emphasized podiatrists' in role in treating it.

Collaboration in Europe through the Informal Health Dialogue, initiated by the FIP-IFP

Podiatrists are very keen on the multidisciplinary team approach (incorporating various healthcare professions) in the management of patients. The composition of the team might vary, but emphasis is placed on the tasks required to care for the individual patient's needs, with the aim of minimizing the impact of any disease. This combined approach brings together the skills and knowledge of all team members and is often in the patient's best interest for effective results.

The International Federation of Podiatrists supports this collaborative approach and is convinced that by bringing the strengths of all together we can achieve the greatest results. On a European level, advocacy is as important as it is nationally. Due to restraint resources it is not possible for the FIP-IFP to deploy a big lobbying machine towards the European Institutions. The area of work of the European Union is so vast that it is almost impossible to follow up all that is happening on the European Scene. Unfortunately, to date there is no Federation that represents the health professional associations in Europe.

That has brought the FIP-IFP to initiated an Informal Health Dialogue with professional associations from various other allied health and medical professions in Europe. The main idea is to form a network where we can exchange ideas and work on European issues with others that have a common interest.

A first meeting took place in Brussels by the end of August 2017. The FIP-IFP organized a second meeting in the margins of the Workshop of the Common Training Framework at the European Parliament on 16 February 2018.

It is a great opportunity to collaborate and join forces with colleagues that share a common interest in all the legislative work of the European Union: "put the patient first".

First participating associations:

- Standing Committee of European Doctors
- Standing Liaison Committee of E.U. Speech and Language Therapists and Logopedists
- The European Federation of the Associations of Dietitians (EFAD)
- European Chiropractors' Union
- European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP)
- Council of Occupational Therapists for European Countries
- Council of European Dentists
- Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union
- European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy / Physiotherapy

"The Informal Dialogue is open to all Federations representing national associations in the field of health practitioners."





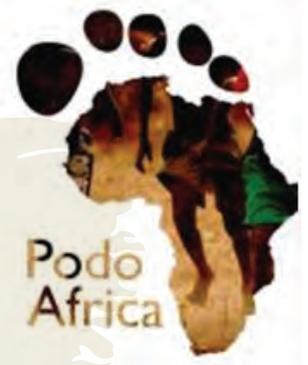
SWITZERLAND: Swiss Society of Podiatrists

On the 27th of April the SSP will host the 27th Congress of Podiatry with theme deformities and foot injuries in Laurantne in Switzerland. You will find more information on their website (www.podologues.ch/)

The Association “PodoAfrica” is a non-profit association, which aims to promote and develop podiatry projects in all its forms across the African Continent.

The current project in course, consists of a training of “podiatric care” in Togo in Lomé, integrated into a national program of teaching ‘chronic wound care’.

Check out the project “Totogoly’ on their website. Given the importance of foot wounds in Africa, comined with the extent of diabetes with its risk of amputation. Take part in the financing of a foot care course to medical staff in Togo <https://wemakeit.com/projects/podologie-au-togo>.



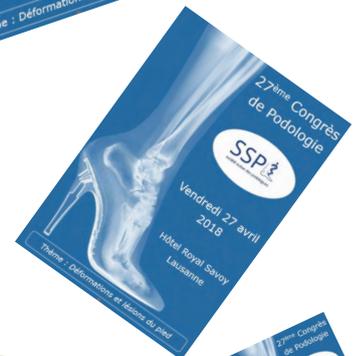
27^{ème} Congrès
de Podologie

SSP
société suisse des podologues

Vendredi 27 avril
2018

Hôtel Royal Savoy
Lausanne

Thème : Déformations et lésions du pied





SPAIN – Consejo General de Colegios Oficiales de Podólogos



49 CONGRESO NACIONAL DE PODOLOGÍA 2018

Registration for the 49th National Congress of Podiatry of Spain is open!

Santiago de Compostela will host the 49th National Congress of Podiatry on 5 and 6 October 2018, which will be organized by the General Council of Official Colleges of Podiatrists of Spain and the College of Podiatrists of Galicia.

Under the slogan "The way that join us", the Secretary General of the Congress, Borja Pérez Serrano, points out that the scientific sessions will address issues related to diagnosis, orthopodia, surgical treatments and other advances.

Moreover, some lectures will be analyzed in round tables where real clinical cases will be discussed to get first-hand knowledge of the procedure in these cases and to ensuring the participation of the attendees in order to clarify every concept and provide an effective update in the approach to these pathologies. A wide range of theoretical-practical workshops on different topics will be presented.

www.49congresopodologia.com

AUSTRALIA: Australasian College Of Podiatric Surgeons

The Australasian College of Podiatric Surgeons (ACPS) is committed to the advancement of knowledge in podiatric surgery and to upholding the highest standards in foot and ankle (surgical and related) care by podiatric surgeons in the community.

The ACPS continues to advocate for podiatric surgeons and provide an accredited pathway to specialist registration as a podiatric surgeon. New trainees have enrolled in the training pathway and applications are open for 209. The ACPS nationwide seminar "An update on the mid foot and hind foot" will be run later in 2018 and is expected to be a well attended event.

In 2018 the ACPS will be celebrating 40 years as an organisation in Australia with a celebratory function in Melbourne planned for August 2018. Activities of the ACPS can also be followed on social media

<https://www.facebook.com/podiatricsurgeons/>





CZECH REPUBLIC – Czech Podiatry Association

On Saturday 17 March 2018, the 12th workshop for the members of the Czech Podiatry Association was held in Letňany in Prague, traditionally as a part of the spring World of Beauty and Spa trade fair. The lectures focused on the topic of mycosis, including case histories and presentation of new footcare products – Imperial Feet. The participants in the workshop had the opportunity to listen to a lecture on proper foot care in clients with neuropathy given by MUDr. Marie Součková and also a lecture on diabetic foot prevention by pedicurists delivered by MUDr. Miroslav Koliba. Also interesting was the lecture by Mgr. Igor Slouka called Health benefits of walking barefoot. Special thanks go to Eliška Kopecká, the chairperson of the podiatry and pedicure section, who not only chose great topics and gave a lecture, but also organized the event extremely well.



The President of the Association, MUDr. Marie Součková, chaired the Biomechanics of the Foot Section of the 23rd Kubat's Days (held on 16 -17 April 2018 in Prague) and her lecture on Screening baropodometric examination in podiatry as one of the prevention and detection methods met with great acclaim.

On 25 May 2018, the 17th congress of the Czech Podiatry Association will be held at K-Triumf hotel in Velichovky, where elections will be held. The agenda will include a discussion on the report on activities of the association, its economic results, approval of the budget for the upcoming period, and mainly the election of the new president and the Management and Supervisory Boards. The agenda will also cover a scientific section focusing on Blood supply and microcirculation disorders not only in diabetic patients and Peclavus professional footcare cosmetics. For the first time, a relaxation weekend stay will follow for the members of Association, including their family members, with a trip to the Bartoň-Dobenín family castle in Nové Město nad Metují. The organizer of the relaxation weekend, Hana Hušková, a member of the Management Board, has also prepared a scientific program on holistic medicine.





USA – American Podiatric Medical Association APMA 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting

The APMA 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting (The National) is the must-attend meeting for every podiatrist. This year's event, July 12–15 in Washington, DC, is no exception. (Learn more at www.apma.org/thenational.)

Education

The meeting will provide attendees with 27.5 CECH from a robust and diverse educational program. This year, The National is introducing several new hands-on workshop topics to its agenda, including MIS—Bunion and Ankle Fracture, Medial Double Arthrodesis, Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, and Wound Care.

Community

The eighth Team APMA 5K Run/Walk event is scheduled for Saturday, July 14, at 6 a.m. The race takes place on site at The National's host property, the Gaylord National Hotel & Resort.

Proceeds from the run/walk support the APMA Educational Foundation Student Scholarship Fund.

Entertainment

The National's host property, the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, offers visitors an incredible experience. Washington, DC, itself offers boundless options for visitors, and everyone should take the time to explore the nation's capital.

Visit www.apma.org/thenational today to complete your online registration.

THE NATIONAL

APMA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING WASHINGTON, DC / JULY 12-15, 2018



GREECE – Hellenic Society Of Podiatry And Podologists



We are happy to announce that the first BSc (Hons) Podiatry course commenced October 2017 in Athens. The degree is awarded by the Queen Margaret University. This takes place at the Metropolitan College's Podiatry Clinic under the supervision of experienced podiatrists. There have been an enrolment of 18 students for the 1st academic year and are expected to complete a 4 year course which includes contemporary modules and at least of 1000 hours of clinical placements in health settings both public and private sectors.

Furthermore, the board of the Hellenic Association of Podiatrists and Podologists will host its 3rd conference in Athens which will take place on the 20th-21st of October 2018. The organizing committee prepares a two day scientific program of high quality presentations and workshops with distinguished and renowned speakers from all over the world. The focus this year will be on Biomechanics. We hope to attract a wide range of health care professionals to focus and discuss on the latest developments of our profession based on reliable scientific updates.

We would like to invite you and actively participate in our 3rd podiatry conference as your presence will make a significant contribution to its success.

UK – College Of Podiatry

The College of Podiatry is working with The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) on a new program to increase awareness of allied health professionals and to support the sustainability of smaller health professions, including podiatry experiencing difficulties with student recruitment or retention. The College of Podiatry will develop, deliver and manage a communications and marketing campaign and co-ordinate an outreach network for this program..

The organization has responded to the Department of Health's four country consultation on proposals to reform the regulation system for healthcare professionals in the UK, *Promoting Professionalism, Reforming Regulation* We were clear that only through a standardized educational qualification, set standards of proficiency, a clear scope of practice and mandatory registration can the public have confidence that the regulatory system is there to protect them.

The College has launched a report *Podiatry: Driving Value, Improving Outcomes*, which looks at the cost effectiveness and clinical effectiveness of podiatry within a number of clinical conditions including diabetes and arthritis. The report is the first step in our campaign to raise the profile of podiatry with decision makers.



The SOCIETY of
CHIROPODISTS
& PODIATRISTS



The COLLEGE
of PODIATRY



CANADA – Canadian Podiatric Medical Association (CPMA)

On April 28 of this year we will be holding our Annual General Meeting in Calgary, Alberta.

The CPMA will be celebrating Foot Health Month in May, with tips and helpful hints on all of our social media platforms, as well as media outreach to raise awareness of podiatry and how foot health is relevant to all.



At the provincial level, there are a few things to update:

- Alberta has formed two new associations: the Alberta Podiatric Medical Association, and the Association of Alberta Podiatric Surgeons. These associations become our liaison with podiatrists in the province, where the College of Podiatric Physicians of Alberta had been our link previously. The new bodies facilitate the separation of association activities from the regulatory (College) role.
- The Nova Scotia Podiatry Association continues to prepare background information in anticipation of regulatory initiatives regarding podiatry.
- Ontario is preparing for a possible change in government, which may affect plans to restructure Ontario's health professions regulatory framework along the lines of the UK model and a move to a competency-based framework.

Finally, CPMA President Dr. Bradley Sonnema is featured in the February/March issue of Canadian Occupational Safety in an article titled "Not Walking on a Cloud". He discusses the potential foot issues arising from improper footwear (largely lack of proper support) in the workplace. It can be read online at:

<http://digital.carswellmedia.com/i/929873-february-march-2018/17?m4=>

FRANCE – National Federation Of Podiatrists (FNP)

With the new French President Emmanuel Macron, important decisions are taken on the new political and economic provisions concerning the French health system. The National Federation of Podiatrists (FNP) participated in a vast consultation proposed by the Ministry of Health which was concluded by orientations within the framework of the National Health Strategy. The emphasis is on the coordinated management of serious pathologies such as diabetes between hospitals and cities, the implementation of the digital revolution in health, and the deployment of access to care through professional groups called territorial health professional communities. Podiatrists are concerned by all these measures. An access to care plan will be implemented in the health territories and the FNP has been invited like the other health professions to sign a territorial access to care charter in the presence of the Minister of Health.



On the other hand, the FNP has been associated with the Etats Généraux du Diabète (General States of Diabetes) launched in 2018 by the Fédération Française des Diabétiques (French Diabetes Federation) which should lead to proposals for better care by the health insurance of diabetics. The FNP is involved in the management of the diabetic patient's foot.

Finally, the French government intends to continue the integration of paramedical training in the university so that the Bologna process, LMD, applies fully to our professions. French podiatrists are concerned by this evolution.



GERMANY: Verband Deutscher Podologen (VDP)



Germany was approached from friends and member of the FIP-family from Peru. Elena Regalado and Aldo Palomino asked us to assist in a practical workshop together with our fellow colleague from Argentina Carlos Banegas. The workshop was to show different work techniques in treatment. Germany was appreciated with open arms from our overseas colleagues and we would like to thank them for their hospitality.

This year advanced training program contents: Causes of diabetic foot syndrome with particular attention to pathological biomechanics, surgical and possible relief methods; Proof of expertise for the

reprocessing of medical devices; Podo-Taping; Remuneration options for podiatric therapy interventions; First aid course - training of first-aid for in-house employees.

Our annual association conference "Quako" (Qualitative Conference) was a very successful event, together with the Paramedical Fare "TheraPro" with 11.600 visitors. Next years planned annual VDP QuaKo event, together with TheraPro, will be on January 25-26th 2019. Guests of the podiatric world are all welcome.

BELGIUM - Belgian Association Of Podiatrists (BVP-ABP)

In the beginning of March the Annual Meeting took place at the new premises of the Association. A new board was elected during the meeting but FIP-IFP past President Carine Haemels, stays on board as the president for another 2 years mandate. The whole board is eager to start a new year with new people with a lot of potential and - most important - passion for podiatry.

On Saturday the 26th takes place our Spring symposium where we'll talk about eHealth which is the use of information and communication technologies to support or improve healthcare. But what does this mean for the podiatrist? With this spring symposium, the association wants to inform its members about the current status of the Electronic Patient File, the electronic data sharing, the eHealth Action Plan and the use of software in dossier management.

We'll also talk about GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) to give our members a clear overview about the new regulation and its possible impact on their private practice.

Since the end of January, the Belgian Association of Podiatrists introduced a contact point, exclusively for its members, where possible misuses of the protected title of podiatrists can be reported. Since March 2016, the Belgian podiatrist can benefit from the recognition of the profession and the protection of the professional title. The Royal Decree of 7 March 2016 on the professional title and qualification requirements for practicing the profession of podiatrist lists the conditions that must be met in order to practice the profession and the technical services that a podiatrist may provide. Some professionals that don't meet the conditions are now contacted to explain the trespass of the legislation. Safeguarding the best interest of the patient in transparent and correct application of the law is what the association is striving for.



Scientific paper

Podiatrist care and outcomes for patients with diabetes and foot ulcer

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Abstract

We examined whether outcomes of care (amputation and hospitalization) among patients with diabetes and foot ulcer differ between those who received pre-ulcer care from podiatrists and those who did not. Adult patients with diabetes and a diagnosis of a diabetic foot ulcer were found in the MarketScan Databases, 2005–2008.

Multivariate Cox proportional hazard models estimated the hazard of amputation and hospitalization. Logistic regression estimated the likelihood of these events.

Propensity score weighting and regression adjustment were used to adjust for potentially different characteristics of patients who did and did not receive podiatric care. The sample included 27 545 patients aged greater than 65+ years (Medicare-eligible patients with employer-sponsored supplemental insurance) and 20 208 patients aged lesser than 65 years (non-Medicare-eligible commercially insured patients).

Care by podiatrists in the year prior to a diabetic foot ulcer was associated with a lower hazard of lower extremity amputation, major amputation and hospitalizations in both non-Medicare eligible commercially insured and Medicare-eligible patient populations. Systematic differences between patients with diabetes and foot ulcer, receiving and not receiving care from podiatrists were also observed; specifically, patients with diabetes receiving care from podiatrists tend to be older and sicker.

Introduction

Foot ulcers are a serious complication in patients with diabetes, with up to a 25% lifetime risk of foot ulceration in patients with diabetes (1). Foot ulcers result from degradation in the integumentary, vascular and nervous systems that typically occur in patients with long-standing diabetes mellitus. This environment permits acute or chronic repetitive trauma to frequently go unrecognized by the patient. If ulcers fail to heal and progress into deep infection or gangrene, amputation of the lower extremity may ensue, resulting in a 6–22% cumulative amputation rate for patients with ulcers (2). Most foot complications leading to lower extremity amputations begin as ulcerations (3,4); therefore, proper preventive foot care is key to the management of diabetes (5). Even so, many patients

Cont....

Key Messages

- foot ulcers are a serious complication in patients with diabetes
- in a large sample of individuals with diabetes and foot ulcer, those who received care from podiatrists before the onset of a foot ulcer were less likely to have amputation, major amputation and hospitalization
- podiatrists have been proposed to serve as gatekeepers for the prevention and management of diabetes-related foot complications
- patients with diabetes and foot ulcer receiving care from podiatrists tend to be older and sicker

with diabetes still do not receive preventive foot care prior to ulceration. Multidisciplinary care has been described to reduce diabetes-related ulcers and amputations (6) in a variety of health care settings including managed care (7), veteran (8,9), military (10) and Native American (11). As part of a team approach, podiatrists have been proposed to serve as gatekeepers for the prevention and management of diabetes-related foot complications (12,13). A recent analysis of the 5% Medicare sample from 1991 to 2007 suggested visiting a podiatrist as part of a lower extremity care team in the year prior to a lower extremity complication was protective for undergoing lower extremity amputation (14). Additionally, a retrospective cohort study of 485 patients found that the referral of patients with diabetes mellitus and risk factors for ulceration and limb loss to specialty multidiscipline podiatric medical care may be associated with lower rates of ulceration and major amputation in some patients, thereby reducing health care costs (15). Using a large retrospective database of patients with diabetes in the USA, this study assessed the association between podiatric care in the prevention of adverse events (amputation, major amputation and hospitalization) related to foot ulcers. Comparisons were made between patients with pre-ulcer podiatric visits and patients without pre-ulcer podiatric visits using regression adjustment and propensity score weighting to control for potential differences between these groups of patients.

[Read the whole article on the website of the FIP-IFP](#)

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A glimpse of the Annual General meeting of the Sveriges Foterapeuter



The regional representatives from the Sveriges Foterapeuter

The Swedish Foot therapists are a member of the International Federation of Podiatrists since many years. From 12-14 April 2018 the association held their annual meetings in Gothenburg. The Executive Director of the FIP-IFP was asked to represent the International Community of Podiatry at the meetings.

Sweden counts a population of around 19 million persons and 3000 Foot therapists are active in Sweden. The Swedish Association counts around 2200 members.

Education in Sweden is partly private and partly state organized. Many years ago, a bachelor in Podiatry was organized at Karolinska Institute,

one of the world's foremost medical universities and Sweden's single largest center of medical academic research, medical courses and programs. One of the items during that 3 days of gathering and events was to talk with the members of the Swedish association about the opportunity to re-establish that high-level education for Swedish Podiatrists.

On Thursday April 12, a whole afternoon was spent to discuss the steps needed to organize the bachelor of Podiatry. More than three quarter of the regional representatives of the Swedish Association expressed themselves in favor of launching this project.

During the evening a meeting was set up with representatives from the Swedish Association and their colleagues in Norway and Finland. A first meeting of this kind took place under the auspices of the Board of the International Federation of Podiatrists last autumn 2017. This first encounter resulted in a closer collaboration between the Nordic Countries, the will to strengthen each other by the exchange of Best Practices and the intention to invite each other at their respective congresses.

On Friday 13 April all members of the Swedish Association were invited to join the Annual Congress. The Scandic Crown received podiatrists from Malmö to Lapland in a collegial atmosphere where learning was a top priority. More than 20 companies have answered the invitation to be present as exhibitor and to show their products and innovations.

The FIP-IFP executive director presented the World Congress of Podiatry in 2019 and gave more insights on the work of the Federation. All participants were very engaged and happy to receive an international representative that supports the work the Association is doing.

Saturday was closed by the Annual General Meeting of the Sveriges Foterapeuter.

Meeting with the Nordic Representatives. Anne Grethe Stinessen Steinsvåg (University of South East Norway), Aino Karvo (Finnish Podiatry Association), Karin Nordvall (President of the Sveriges Foterapeuter), Kathrine Fossen Rosenberg (Vice-President of the Podiatry Association of Norway), Eva Nyegaard-Larsen (Podiatry Association of Norway) and Caroline Teugels (Executive Director of the FIP-IFP)



Good communication starts with a plan

How to prepare a good communication plan for an association?

Author: Raphaëlla de Sousa Barros, Communication

Have you ever heard the expression: Failing to plan, is planning to fail? Well, this quote is also applicable to communications. When preparing for a communication plan the first thing you will need to do is gather all the information on the association. Your mission, vision and strategic objectives,...

- As an international association is our mission clear: representing podiatrists and the podiatry profession worldwide.
- The vision statement describes what we want to achieve as an organization and for the FIP-IFP it is to be the global resource of podiatry
- The main role of the FIP-IFP is to bring together podiatrists worldwide, the advancement of podiatric knowledge, and the presence worldwide of a respected podiatry profession. The central aim of the FIP-IFP wants to be the leader in foot and ankle ailments field.



Once you have all the information, you can start with the first step of a communication plan. This first step is to determine your communication goals. What do we want to achieve in the upcoming year communication wise? What do we want to communicate about and what would you like to achieve through the communication of the information? How do you want to promote an event? So many question

you need to think about when writing a communication plan.

The second step is to determine your target audience: Who needs to get your message? It is important to take some time to think about the different messages and the diverse audiences that it needs to reach. There are a lot of diverse target audiences related to your associations' communication goals. There are so many people you want to reach. You want your message to be seen by as many people as possible, but also by the right people.

The third step of a communication plan is what do you want to tell your audience? You might think: "everything that's related to podiatry?". And maybe it's true, but it has to be more detailed, because there are things the members of your association need to know and other things the patients or potential patient should be made aware of. You might want to have corporate partners that know about the work you are doing but also the government to be more aware of the profession. All those different target audiences will need a specifically adapted message.

After you have determined what you want to communicate and who you want to communicate it to, you will need to specify the tools you will use to communicate your message. As a computer addict your answer might be: "Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Newsletter, Website, Email, Phone, banners,... let's use them all". Writing this down is easy, however you will need to think about which tools you are going to use for which target audience. Not every tool is adapted for every message nor for every target audience. If you only use Twitter but half of your members don't have a smartphone, your message will not be read. And if you have created a magnificent website full of useful information but no one knows about it...

Cont....

	March				April					May				June			
	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25
Communication																	
Website (update)																	
Newsletter							24				22				19		
Website: update latest news					5			5					5				
Facebook-communication																	
Footsteps: content table		16									25						
Footsteps: to India				1											11		
Footsteps: to members							20										29

Once you defined this part of the plan - what message, to who, through which channel - you can start to fill in the communication planner. This very useful digital tool will help you to structure the communication you are doing and will make it easy to share your great plan with others. This planner is very visual and helps you to plan, by month, week, day and hour.

For example: to send a newsletter on the same day or week of every month at 10am or to post a new article on Facebook every week. It helps also not forget what you need to do and gives you a better view of all the aspects of the communication. (you can see a glimpse of FIP's communication planner)

The fifth step is to define your budget. What is your global communication budget and how will you allocate your resources to achieve your goals set out in the first step. Maybe you have already prioritized your channels or maybe you will need to do it at this stage. It is important to determine how much you can spend on updating your website or on your newsletter. Are there resources to boost your Facebook posts or will you spend money on brochures and banners? All these details need to be written in the communication plan.

Last but not least as an important part of your plan is the evaluation.

Each communication activity should be evaluated to measure how much it contributed to the goals that were defined in the beginning. It is important to set out upfront how you will measure your results. This will help you throughout the process to adjust your strategy. Don't forget, a communication plan isn't something static it is crucial to make necessary adaptations if you see that some goals aren't reached.

Congratulations, you have now every tool in your hand to create a great communication plan!

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