



ORL-BAL and

ORL-BAL INTERNATIONAL

Founded by the Academic Association of the Basel ORL University Department
with the ORL Departments of the Cantonal Hospitals in Aarau, Liestal and Olten ,
Switzerland
www.orl-bal.info

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Activity Report for the year 2012

Presented by Prof. M. Podvinec in February 2013

8. Temporal bone course in Novi Sad, in December



Sambia, in August



2. Temporal Bone course in Basel,
in September





Educational activities of ORL-BAL

In total, eight educational events were held in the Cantonal hospitals of Olten, Aarau and Liestal, as well as at the University Department in Basel. Invited speakers were, amongst others, Professor **Dominik Straumann**, neurologist from Zürich, who spoke on vertigo. Professor **Jörg Schipper** from Düsseldorf spoke on skull base surgery. On the 13. September, the Second Liestal Symposium on Sleep Medicine was held, the main subject being alternative therapies of sleep apnea. The subject was chosen because of the fact that one third of the patients cannot accept the continuous positive airway pressure mask (cPAP) at long term. On the symposium, alternatives like Alaxo Stent (**Dr. M. Hartl** from Cham, Germany), the transnasal insufflation therapy (Professor **K.-H. Rühle**, Helios Clinic Ambrock in Hagen, Germany) and night braces (**Dr. Ch. Knaus**, Liestal) were presented. **Mr. A. Suarez** from Zürich presented the Medical Didgeridoo therapy, which he has developed, also giving us a sample of his musical therapy concept. The Symposium suscitated great interest and was visited by participants from the whole country.: **From other events:**

Senior Lecturer Mr. Mark Sergeant
From Cambridge lectures on olfaction
at a meeting in Basel



Professor B. Müller, internist, and
Lecturer Doctor Gerhard Huber discuss
thyroid surgery in Aarau



Lecturer M. Kraft (left) and Professor Tschopp discuss laryngeal surgery in Liestal



Professor K. Tschopp and Doctor Ch. Knaus with Lecturer N. Schmuziger, now in private practice (from left)



Second Temporal Bone Course in Basel

Sixteen participants from Switzerland were tutored in a well organized course by the ORL-BAL, and the statistical evaluation of the questionnaires shows that they were generally satisfied with the tutoring and the infrastructure of the course. The temporal bones were put to disposition by the Institute of Pathology after fulfilling the stipulations of the Ethics Committee of the University. The lecture on temporal bone histology and pathology of Dr. Andreas Zehnder, Alumnus of the Boston Temporal Bone Laboratory found great interest. The next course is already programmed for the **19. September 2013**

Senior Lecturer Nicolas Gürtler speaking on the third window%



Sizeable monitors greatly enhanced teaching



Doctor Andres Zehnder teaches histology of the inner ear



Final photo in Basel, participants with tutors and Director Prof. D. Bodmer (second from left in second row)



OBI and activities abroad

All of the traditional two-day educational courses in Novi Sad, Serbia, were again held. In March, the **Fifth Course in Microlaryngoscopy** with Professors Rajko Jovic, Hiltrud Glanz from Frankfurt and Mihael Podvinec, together with teachers from the Medical faculties of Beograd and Nis. Within the same week we organized, under the additional participation of **Professor Drago Prgomet**, ORL Chairman at the **University of Zagreb**, the Third Seminar on Head and Neck Surgery. **Forty two participants** visited, partly both of the courses. In December, the **8. International Course in Temporal Bone Anatomy** was held. The participants could, besides doing 12 hours of hands-on work on temporal bones, train with the navigational surgical system by **Karl Storz & Co. Ltd.** We had, besides 8 trainees from Serbia, 6 participants from Croatia, one from Bosnia and one from Russia. In that same week, Professors Dankuc and Vlaski tutored, with M. Podvinec, the **4. Course in Tympanoplasty and Inner Ear Surgery**, also demonstrating a cochlear implantation – in the meantime, Novi Sad has become a certified implantation centre.

At the Military Academy Hospital in Beograd, the **3. Course for Ultrasound in Otorhinolaryngology** counted 32 participants.

The organisation and tutoring has been completely taken over by the local ORL and Radiology teams. There is a great interest for this procedure in ORL circles, but the price of the machinery is still a great obstacle to its wide application in this land, where financing in the health system is still a great problem.

Doctor Hans-Ruedi Banderet, internist and longtime member of the Basel group, with a young diabetic after the first, feared but finally successful, insulin injection



Project Zambia: Owing to the support of the Basel Society for Medical Cooperation, a sister society of physicians working in different areas of medicine, which has been active in Africa for many years, M. Podvinec could visit St.

Paul's Hospital in Kashikishi, situated on lake Mweru, on the eastern Congolese border. This hospital is 18 bus hours

away from the capital Lusaka and is situated in a very poor province of the land. Infrastructure and resources are sorely missing in whole of the health system, and qualified manpower is rare. This large state has **three otorhinolaryngologists for 8 million inhabitants!** One of the important problems concerns the ORL education of the Clinical Officers, additionally educated male and female nurses, who bear the main burden of the everyday outpatient and routine hospital practice. Physicians, and especially qualified surgeons, are rare and cannot cope with the enormous workload. We have contacted one of the otorhinolaryngologists, **Doctor Uta Fröschl** from the Beit Cure Hospital in Lusaka, in order to help with an educational programme at a greater scale in the country, and this project is in elaboration. The activities of the Basel Society for Medical Cooperation may be seen at www.globalmed.ch

Acknowledgments

We are indebted to **Mrs. and Mr. Schneiter**, from Villnachern, who already have supported us generously in the past, for the acquisition and international transport of a used **surgical microscope** to the Department in Novi Sad. They have also contributed generously to our account. We sincerely thank them for their enduring generosity, year after year.

ORL specialist and practitioner **Doctor Ruth Peuckert** from Rheinfelden, has donated **ORL instruments in value of over 700 Swiss Francs** for the hospital in Kashikishi, for which we thank her very sincerely.

We also sincerely thank **Karl Storz & Co, Ltd., Tuttlingen** and **Anklin, Basel**, as well as **Leica Switzerland and Carl Zeiss Oberkochen** for their support, which makes our different courses possible in the first place.

Support for colleagues abroad

We sponsored 3 manuals in Phoniatrics for the newly organised phoniatric service in the Military Academy Hospital in Beograd. Also, we supported the educational seminar in Phoniatry and Speech Therapy in Novi Sad with 500 €. Microscopes and drilling material, as well as ultrasound equipment for the courses in Novi Sad were sponsored. We donated a used diagnostic microscope to the Clinic in Novi Sad.

Doctor Nemanja Pejaković, a trainee from Novi Sad, was invited and co-sponsored to a one-month stay in Switzerland. He works on a project of a modern database for Otology in his Department. He could visit in Aarau, Basel, Bern and Luzern, where he could gather new and pertinent information. We are very grateful to our colleagues **Professor Th. Linder**, Luzern as well as **Professor M. Caversaccio** and **Lecturer P. Senn** from Bern for their cooperation in this project. We encouraged Dr. Pejaković to start

a second project, concerning the general problem of the patulous Eustachian tube and its differential diagnosis.

Nominations and honors

Lecturer Doctor Marcel Kraft has been elected Consultant at the Liestal Department. Phoniatrist **Doctor Claudio Storck**, Basel, has been appointed Lecturer, as well as **Doctor Philipp Jürgens**, maxillofacial surgeon and participant in our projects.

Lecturer Doctor Gerhard Huber has been appointed Team leader of Head and Neck Surgery at the University Department in Zürich. Professor **M. Podvinec** has been awarded a Honorary Membership of the Serbian Medical Academy. The Liestal Department (**Prof. K. Tschopp**) has been upgraded to Teaching Hospital category “B”, meaning that the trainees will be able to spend a longer time in this Department.

Perspectives in 2013

We plan to introduce, together with the University Departments in Beograd, Novi Sad and Niš, a new form of educational event for trainees in our specialty in Serbia. **The two-day Summer School of Otorhinolaryngology** has been successfully introduced in Switzerland, and has been held yearly for the 7 past years. Interactive lectures on basics in our specialty will be held to trainees from the whole country by prominent senior lecturers from different areas of our specialty every year. Thus, a whole generation of trainees will be able follow a highly qualified lecture course in basics within 4 years (Otology, Rhinology, Laryngology and Head and Neck Surgery).