

Bulletin No 8

Society of Friends of Otorhinolaryngology

Founded by the Academic Association of the Basel ORL University Department
with the ORL Clinics of the Cantonal Hospitals of Aarau, Liestal and Olten (ORL-BAL)

Activity Report 2009

(This Report can be downloaded from www.orl-bal.info)

A pleasing observation ...

.. concerns the organisation of our courses in 2009. All had well structured and prepared programmes and there was always an assessment by the participants. The organisation of these and future courses will profit from these evaluations.

Committees for Continuing Medical Education were formed on all universities in Serbia and have allotted CME credits required by a new law in Serbia, congruent with the model presented by the European Association of Medical Specialists (UEMS ORL).

It was generally criticised, however, that active participation of the trainees is still too hesitant, which leads to unwanted ex-cathedra teaching. We now introduced the role of a moderator between the training team and the trainees whenever possible, which seems to alleviate this problem.



Submitted in January 2010 by
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Courses organised and supported by the Society

The first course in **Ultrasound Examination of the Neck and Salivary Glands** was held at the Military Hospital in Belgrade for 40 participants. The course was headed by **Prof. Christoph Arens** from Giessen und **PD Dr Marcel Kraft** from Aarau, with the participation of **Dr. Z. Tatomirović**, Cytopathologist, and **Dr. D. Stefanović**, Radiologist at the Military Hospital. This innovation in our programme was greeted by the ORL community, as up to present ultrasonic examination in this country was uniquely in the hands of radiologists. Presently, ORL specialists also have the opportunity of making these examinations. A future course has been scheduled.

We invite you to peruse the picture gallery of this course in the Internet:

<http://picasaweb.google.ch/mikipodvinec/Sonografiekurs2930109?authkey=Gv1sRgCMDV69zklcCRVw>

The first **Course in Scientific Report Writing** (20 participants) was held at the University Department in Belgrade on May 29. Heads of the course were **Professor Rajko Igić**, Pharmacologist, who has a record of several years of organising courses of this type at the Stroger Hospital, Cook County, Chicago, and **the undersigned**. This course was the first of its kind for ENT-specialists. (General courses are offered by the University, but the attendance is restricted to postdoc candidates). The evaluation showed that the course was found to be useful, but somewhat theoretical. The next course will be more practically oriented and will hopefully reach its intended purpose. It will be tutored by two young colleagues from Great Britain who have this function in Bristol. The course is financed by our Society.

A picture gallery of this course is to be found on the Internet under:

<http://picasaweb.google.ch/mikipodvinec/SeminarPisanjeRadova09?authkey=Gv1sRgCOa45OqlqpaPHQ>

The second **Course on Laryngo-Microscopy and Endoscopic Surgery of the Larynx** (30 participants) with practical exercises and and surgical demonstrations took place in Novi Sad from April 2. to 5. The team of tutors consisted of **Professor Hiltrud Glanz**, **PD Dr. Marcel Kraft** from Aarau und **Prof. Rajko Jović**, (host) and **the undersigned**. The feedback was uniformly positive, so that this course, with certain enhancements, will take place in future years as well.

Link to photo- gallery:

<http://picasaweb.google.ch/mikipodvinec/LMSnovisadMart2009?authkey=Gv1sRgCKDmkaLJ0uLiqQE>

The **5th International Course on Endoscopic Surgery of the Paranasal Synuses (FESS)** took place on April 21. to 23. with 42 attendees. **Professor Andreas Leunig of Munich** headed the course again and practical exercises and surgical demonstrations were held in addition to the lectures. Here, too, the feedback was unequivocally positive. It was decided to hold this course only every two years, as in the past five years a sufficient number of participants were trained and now modern endoscopic sinus surgery is practiced in seven medical centres in Serbia. This may be seen as a success of repeated courses in this field, including the demonstrational courses by **Prof. H. Stammberger in Graz**. We believe that the combination of practical and theoretical tutoring was the crucial factor in reaching this goal.

Link to the photo gallery on this course:

http://picasaweb.google.ch/mikipodvinec/Leunig2009?authkey=Gv1sRgCIOL_a3W5oHNOQ

Another first was the **1. Course on the Application of the Bone Anchored Hearing Aid BAHA** on September 25. and 26. in Novi Sad, with 20 participants. The course was taught by **Prof. Andres Tjellström of Göteborg**, developer of the method as we know it today, and **PD**

Dr. Daniel àWengen of Basel, who is an experienced implant surgeon. The implant is hardly known in Serbia and there is hardly any experience with it. Therefore the explanations of the tutors were followed very intently. The practical work on a model put at disposition by the Cochlear Company was extremely valuable. During the course a teleconference took place with the ORL University Clinic in Toronto on indications for implantation of BAHA.

Photos link:

http://picasaweb.google.ch/mikipodvinec/BAHANoviSad2009?authkey=Gv1sRgCOTo_vLbhpIT2wE

The **5th International Temporal Bone Preparation Course** took place on December 7. and 8. in Novi Sad. The course was lead by the host, **Prof. Dragan Dankuc** with the otologist **Prof. Ljiljana Vlaški** and **the undersigned**.

Actually, this was the sixth course of its kind in Serbia and the fifth that took place in Novi Sad. The course is well established and is highly valued by younger trainees, amongst which was a trainee from the UK, Mr Stuart Gillette.

The **1. International Course on Tympanoplasty** took place in Novi Sad immediately after the Temporal Bone course. It was a surgical demonstration course with moderation between the trainees and the surgical team. The team was headed by **Professors Dankuc und Vlaški**, **Prof. Daniel Bodmer** from the **Basle ORL University Clinic** was guest-tutor and **the undersigned** served as moderator. In parallel to the course a presentation of LION (Live International Otology Network) was shown in an adjoining area. Here one could watch direct coverage from operation theatres on three continents simultaneously. This first course has given us valuable insights which will be useful in future courses.

Link to picture gallery:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/grufta/KursPreparacijeTemporalneKostilKursTimpanoplastikeNoviSad711Decembar09?authkey=Gv1sRgCPvrzvGt2cC3jg>

Visits of Serbian surgeons abroad, with organisational and financial support by the Society

The Society supported the participation of **Prof. Rajko Jović** and **Dr. Danijela Dragičević** in the Neck Surgery Course in Giessen, Germany, with EUR 700.

The Society subsidised an event on Voice and Speech Medicine (about 30 participants) organised in Novi Sad by **PD Dr. Zorica Mumović**, Phoniatriist at the University Clinic, with EUR 500. This seminar on diagnostics and therapy of voice disturbances attracted doctors and voice therapists from the whole county.

The participation of **Professor Ljiljana Vlaški** from Novi Sad at the Otology Congress in Košice, Slovakia, was supported. She presented a noted paper on facial palsy in children.

We also supported **Dr. Jelena Sotirović**, Military Hospital Belgrade, who spent two weeks in Berne to study the audiological methods practiced there. We thank her hosts in Berne, Head of Audiology **Prof. Martin Kompis**, and Head of the Balance Disorders department **PD Dr. Valerie Vibert**, for hosting her.

Activities of our members abroad

The undersigned presented a paper on Facial palsy at the Otology Congress in Košice, in February 2009.

Prof. Joseph Sopko gave two lectures in 2009: in Prag and in Košice. The lecture in Košice was a Keynote Lecture by invitation on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Jan Safarik University.

Outlook

Plans for the coming year include a repeat of the Ultrasound Examination and the scientific writing courses, the temporal bone course and the tympanoplasty and laryngoscopy courses. A course on tumour surgery of the neck in Novi Sad will be a novelty. In the coming year we will endeavour to build up better connections to colleagues in the US.

Acknowledgements

Without the support of the companies **Karl Storz & Co. GmbH in Tuttingen** and **Carl Zeiss Surgical**, Oberkochen, we would be unable to offer any courses. We would like to offer our thanks for their generous support. The representatives in Serbia , **Messrs. R. Nikolić** and **Ing. V. Milosavljević** respectively, were extremely helpful.

We are grateful to **General Electric Health** for enabling us to offer practical exercises at the Ultrasound course and we extend our best thanks to **Mr. M. Vujasinović**, the company's representative in Belgrade, who offered perfect service.

The BAHA course was only made possible by the aid given us by **Cochlear Limited**. We are very grateful to this company for the opportunity to conduct this first external implant course in Serbia. The company **Audio BM** from Novi Sad attended to all matters very efficiently and we extend our special thanks.