

52nd International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress - International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress (INPC)

52nd International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress (International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress - INPC) . was held from 20th to 23rd June 2012 under the auspices of the Croatian president Prof. Ivo Josipović. Congress is traditionally held in Verudela Hotels Brioni and Histria and organizatori are: Kuratorium International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Centre, Zagreb, and for the first time this year, Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The main sponsors of the congress were the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, the city of Graz, the city of Zagreb and Istria County. This year congress attended more than 350 participants from Croatia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Italy, Hungary, Macedonia, Germany, Poland, Romania, Russia, the United States, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland , Turkey, Ukraine, Great Britain.

The main themes of this year's conference were: Recent achievements in restorative neurology, New advances in psychopathology - the interaction of biological and psychological factors, and the theme of the joint meeting of the International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress in the Section of Neuroscience Alps-Adria were discussions about different therapeutic procedures. Besides the main topic during this year's Congress numerous symposiums were also held: round table and workshops in collaboration with the Central and Eastern European Stroke Society (CEESS), World Federation of Neurology, Research Group on Delivery of Neurological Services (WFN RG ODNs) and Croatian branch of the Italian Cochrane Centre (CBICC) on the topic: Introduction to the Cochrane systematic review and application of evidence-based medicine in everyday practice, the meeting of the European Society of young neurologists and residents (European Association of Young Neurologists and Trainees - EAYNT), European Summer School of psychopathology in Pula, 5th Pula International Symposium on Epilepsy, neurootological course of vertigo, the European standards for doctoral studies in the field of neurology, a symposium on forensic psychiatry, the German Symposium on the ongoing training in neuropsychiatry (Deutschsprachiges Neuropsychiatrisches Fortbildungs Symposium), a symposium on the quality of life of psychiatric patients, a symposium on connecting providers in neurorehabilitation, a symposium on the role and experiences of nurses in the care of patients with incontinence, symposium on deep brain stimulation, interactive school about headache and symposium on palliative care.

On Wednesday evening traditional academic lecture was given by Professor Michael Chopp from the U.S. under the title: News in neuroplasticity. During extremely informative and interesting lecture Prof. Chopp presented the latest findings on neuroplasticity of the brain, neuronal regeneration and ways to make such findings usable as soon as possible in everyday clinical practice.

On Thursday, June 21, the opening ceremony of the congress where representatives of the County of Istria, Pula, Pula General Hospital, County branch of the Croatian Medical Association and Croatian Medical Association sent a welcoming speeches to the participants. After that, participants and guests addressed the longtime organizer of the conference and present Honorary President of the organizing committee (Kuratorium INPC) prof.dr.sc. Boško Barac. President of the Organizing

Committees (Kuratorium INPC), Vida Demarin sincerely welcomed all participants, guests and sponsors of the event and wished them a successful work of the congress and a pleasant stay in Pula.

During the congress were held poster sessions as well. For the best poster in neurology was elected a poster titled "A Near Infrared Spectroscopy-Based Study to evaluate muscle metabolism in multiple sclerosis" by Anna Maria Malagoni, Mico Lamberti, Michele Felisatti, Paolo Zamboni, Gabi Manfredini from the University of Ferrara, Italy and for the best poster in psychiatry was chosen poster titled, "False-Positive Urine Drug Screen Methadone in the Patients Treated with quetiapine" by : Damir Lasić, Boran Uglešić, Marja Žuljan Cvitanović, Daniela Šuše Domić, Lovre Uglešić from University Hospital Center Split. The authors of the best posters will receive the award and a cash prize for the best poster of the city of Graz in the amount of 500 Euros each.

Particularly interesting was the last day of the conference, Saturday, June 23, where, during a joint meeting of the INPC and the Section of Neuroscience Alps-Adria discuss the various diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in the field of major neurologic and psychiatric diseases. Discussions were accompanied by extensive and fertile, and occasionally heated discussions, and participants expressed the desire that a similar discussion about the issues and dilemmas in the diagnosis and treatment of neurological and psychiatric diseases should be organized in the forthcoming years.

After the debates ended, Vida Demarin thanked all the speakers, participants and sponsors, declared best posters and invited everyone to come to the 53rd International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress which will be held at the Brioni Histria Verudela, from June 19-22, 2013.

This year's International Neuropsychiatric Pula Congress once again has proved that there is a need and interest to organize such conferences where multidisciplinary approaches to number of interesting topics in the field of neurology and psychiatry, and where, during more than half a century maintained the continuity of meetings that have become known as "The Pula School of Science and Humanism, "as it was often emphasized by prominent speakers, honored guests and participants of the oldest international conferences in the field of neurology, psychiatry and neuropsychatry.