

International Conference on Childhood Headache And a public education meeting Chisinau, Moldova

Dates: 25–27 May 2018

Venue: Institute of Maternal and Child Healthcare, Conference Hall, Chisinau, Moldova

Partner organisations:

Pediatric Society of the Republic of Moldova
Association of Child and Adolescent Neuropsychology of Moldova
International Headache Society

Sponsors: Nicolae Testemianu, State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Moldova
The Ministry of Health, Moldova
The Maternal and Child Healthcare Institute
Paediatric Society of the Republic of Moldova
An educational grant was made available by The international Headache Society.

Organising Committee:

Dr Oxana Gruso
Professor Svetlana Hadjiu
Professor Ninel Ravenco
Dr Ishaq Abu-Arafeh

Accreditation: The conference was allocated a maximum of 10 CPD credits

Day 1:

25 May 2018 consisted of 3 lecture sessions and 1 workshop session.

3 speakers representing the IHS and 7 eminent local speakers from Moldova delivered the lectures. The programme was chosen and agreed upon by the organising committee in order to cover a wide area of childhood headache and aimed at the specialists and the trainees in paediatric neurology in Moldova. The lectures were of a maximum of 30 minutes and included question and answer session.

The IHS representative delivered a total of 7 lectures. They were:

Rd. Ishaq Abu-Arafeh, UK
Dr Prab Prabhakar, UK
Professor Aynur Ozge, Turkey

The local speakers also delivered 7 lectures and they were:

Professor Stanislav Groppa
Professor Ninel Revenco
Professor Svetlana Hadjiu
Professor Ion Moldovanu
Assoc. Professor Stela Odobescu
Dr. Titana Lozan
Assoc. Professor Lilia Rotaru
Dr Oxana Gruso
Dr Diana Concescu
Dr Cornelia Calcii

The final session was one hour of a workshop where the IHS representatives presented 4 cases of different headache disorders in children and ran an interactive discussion focussing on making the right diagnosis, classification and management plans.

The language of presentations was English, but the slides were translated and projected in Romanian. The question and answer session and the workshop benefited from immediate translation by Dr Gruso and others of her colleagues.

The course was attended by around 200 delegates who gave a positive feedback on their satisfaction with the quality and the organisation of the conference.

Delegates were given a certificate of attendance (copy enclosed)

There was local media and public interest in the conference and a report on the local TV station was broadcast.

Day 2:

A special morning session between 9:00 AM and 12:00 noon.

Dr Oxana Gruso, Dr Diana Concescu and Dr Cornelia Calcii led the session.

The session covered primary Headache disorders, Headache emergencies and chronic headaches
Over 25 delegates attended the meeting

Day 3:

This is a public meeting in which members of the public, sufferers of headache and migraine, children and their parents, the media and other primary care doctors were invited. The meeting was held at the Public Library in Chisinau and was attended by 20 delegates.

Ishaq Abu-Arafeh gave a 45-minute talk on headache and migraine in children at a level suitable to lay people and Dr Oxana Gruso assisted him in translation.

The talk was followed by 30-45 minutes of question and answer.

A local journalist attended, took recordings and notes and will write an article for the benefit of the wider population.

General Comments:

This is the first conference on childhood headache held in Moldova with support from the International Headache Society. The conference attracted 200 participants from the fields of neurology, paediatric neurology, child and adolescent psychiatry and general paediatrics. The course aimed to provide clinical and practical education on headache disorders in children as well to give some exposure to current scientific research and new developments in the field of headache.


The conference was hosted at the Conference Hall of the institute of Maternal and Child Healthcare in Chisinau. The facilities were modern and the audiovisual aids were modern and well provided by an IT expert Daniel Gruso.

The translation of the slides into Romanian and the instantaneous interpretation of questions and answers add a great value to the contents and the satisfaction of both the presenters and the audience.

The chairs of the different sessions managed the time allocation for each speaker professionally and handled questions, discussions and comments with utmost care and sensitivity.

There was a high standard of catering, coffee breaks and lunch

The International speaker were satisfied with the performance of the conference and meeting its objectives.



Ishaq Abu-Arafeh
Chairman, Child and Adolescent Standing Committee
International Headache Society

Enclosed: Conference programme
 Sample attendance certificate
 Selected photographs

Childhood Headache Symposium

Moldova 25-26 May 2018

Welcome and Introduction –

8:30 Academician Stanislav Gropppa
 Profesor Nelli Revenco
 Profesor Svetlana Hadjiu

Session 1: Chairperson: Stanislav Gropppa, Nelli Revenco, Svetlana Hadjiu, Ishaq Abu-Arafah

9:00 Epidemiology and classification of headache disorders
 Ishaq Abu-Arafah

9:30 Childhood migraine - Pathophysiology and clinical features
 Prab Prabhakar

10:00 Magnetic stimulation in neurological diseases.
 Stanislav Gropppa

10:30 Frequent errors in the diagnosis of primary headaches
 Ion Moldovanu

11:00 The prevalence of primary headaches in the Republic of Moldova. Modern
 approaches and new perspectives in the treatment of migraine.
 Stela Odobescu

11:20 Epidemiology of primary headaches in adolescents in Republic of Moldova
 Tatiana Lozan

11:30 Coffee break

Session 2: Chairperson: Ion Moldovanu, Prab Prabhakar

12:00 Trigeminal Cephalagia and other short headaches
 Aynur Ozge

12:30 Periodic syndrome
 Ishaq Abu-Arafah

13:00 Chronic daily headache including chronic migraine
 Prab Prabhakar

13:30 Tension type headache
 Lilia Rotaru

13:40 Lunch break

Session 3: Chairperson: Stela Odobescu, Prab Prabhakar

14:30 Management of acute headache and migraine attacks
Ishaq Abu-Arafeh

15:30 Preventative treatment of headache and migraine
Aynur Ozge

16:15 Coffee break

16:30 The collagen headache: diagnostic opportunities.
Revenco Nineli

16:45 Pediatric Headache and Seizures
Svetlana Hadjiu

17:00 Workshops 3 groups facilitated by IAA, PP, AO
Discussion on diagnosis and management of 4 cases:
Migraine without aura,
Mixed migraine and chronic tension-type headache,
Hemiplegic migraine
Paroxysmal hemicrania)

18:00 Closing remarks and summing up Ishaq Abu-Arafeh

Saturday, 26 May 2018

9:00 – 12:00 Workshops (Romanian) 3 groups facilitated by Grosu Oxana, Diana Concescu, Cornelia Calcii.

1. Chronic headaches - Oxana Grosu (Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery)
2. Emergencies in headache - Diana Concescu (Department of Emergency in Headache, Laborisiere Hospital, Paris)
3. Primary headaches, migraine – Cornelia Calcii (SMFU „Nicolae Testemițanu”, Department of Pediatrics)

Sunday , 27 May 2018

Public meeting, City Public Library

11:00- 12:30 PM Ishaq Abu-Arafeh and Oxana Gruso





