

UENPS and JPNIM

Giuseppe Buonocore

President of the Union of European Neonatal Perinatal Societies (UENPS)

The UENPS (Union of European Neonatal Perinatal Societies) has become a Society of increasing importance in Europe and internationally and this is further confirmed by the recent admission of National Society of Neonatologist of Russia as a member. Compared to other European Societies and/or Bodies, the UENPS is known for being the Union of National Perinatology and Neonatology Societies. At the current time, the UENPS represents 28 countries, approximately six million neonates a year and over 600 million European citizens.

The UENPS offers itself as the most reliable interlocutor to tackle and discuss all issues surrounding perinatology, pregnancy, delivery and postnatal growth with Institutions and stakeholders.

Since its foundation, it has always been very conscious of the need for a more refined awareness of the various local and regional contexts in order to establish common standards of conduct and shared guidelines. At the same time, historical examples of divisions in Europe in the research sector have led to halts or significant delays in creating and implementing attractive economic resource networks. Furthermore, communication difficulties are, in some cases, largely owing to member states only partially identifying themselves as part of the UENPS.

To this end, the creation of an online neonatal and dynamic journal within the editorial world, such as the Journal of Pediatric and Neonatal Individualized Medicine (JPNIM, www.jpnm.com), founded by a group of Perinatologists with a strong vocation and broad European and international experience, has become an opportunity to seize and develop in the interests of the health of neonates and the UENPS itself. In the 3rd International UENPS Congress in Oporto in November 2012, the Board of Directors and the extended Shareholders' Assembly unanimously and enthusiastically approved JPNIM as the official UENPS journal. JPNIM is peer-reviewed and open access.

A permanent spot in the journal has been offered to our society and all the ingredients are there for the national scientific societies to share information, knowledge, culture, assistance, organization and research. So research, but that's not all. It is also important to know the assistance and organizational services that exist in various countries. In this JPNIM edition, for example, we have: the attitudes towards breast-feeding in Bosnia Herzegovina, respiratory assistance for neonates in Portugal, enteral feeding for preterms in Turkey, how the umbilical cord is clamped in Greece, and the psychological consequences of prematurity and how these are faced in Italy. It is also of paramount importance that we reflect on the reasons behind the different procedures in each country in order to try to make them consistent.

JPNIM has the potential to become a useful instrument and it will be the place where answers can be found.

My wish and desire is to work together to improve the survival and outcome of our children.

Original letter.

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The President