

REPORT ON THE 13TH WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS, 11–14.05.2017, WARSAW, POLAND

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The Warsaw International Medical Congress (WIMC) is an international conference for students, PhD students, and postdoctoral scholars organized annually by the Student Scientific Society of the Warsaw Medical University. This year's 13th conference, held from the 11th to 14th of May, gathered participants from 23 countries: Poland, Serbia, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, Nepal, Lithuania, Latvia, Algeria, Egypt, Czech Republic, Germany, Georgia, Bangladesh, Taiwan, Scotland, Iran, England, Indonesia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Bulgaria, and Romania. A total of over 370 works were presented.

During the three days of the conference almost 30 sessions took place, including:

- over 20 regular sessions on pediatrics, psychiatry, cardiology, public health, dermatology, stomatology, orthopedics, radiology, endocrinology, genetics, laryngology, internal medicine, obstetrics, basic and preclinical science, surgery, infectious diseases, oncology, hematology, neurosurgery, pharmacy, and neurology;
- 3 case-study sessions on internal medicine, surgery, and pediatrics;
- 3 sessions dedicated to doctoral students and doctors in the field of basic, clinical, and health research.

As always, members of the Local Student's Scientific Society at the Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing (IPPH) and Medical University of Warsaw constituted the largest group of young scientists in the laryngology session. The students presented results of interdisciplinary research projects conducted at IPPH.

Anna Suska presented results on the frequency of the so-called gusher phenomenon, sometimes encountered during cochlear implantation in children. Karolina Penar presented a prospective study on preoperative tinnitus in patients with Bonebridge implants. Tinnitus was also the focus of a study by Wojciech Pinkas, who gave results of

auditory brainstem implant users at IPPH which indicated that the device provided a significant reduction in tinnitus. Similar findings were reported by Konrad Bukato, who studied patients with the CODACS middle ear implant and found that the severity of their postoperative tinnitus was alleviated. Karolina Bienkowska introduced the problem of smell disorders encountered by patients with nasal polyps and how it reduced their quality of life. Kamila Renke presented results of hearing screening tests in 6- and 7-year-old children in Malopolskie voivodeship, part of a nationwide project aimed at the early detection of any hearing impairment that may adversely affect the child's communication and development.

The involvement of students of the Local Student's Scientific Society was appreciated by the session's jury, which included representatives of the Otolaryngology Clinic of Warsaw Medical University, Pediatric Otolaryngology and Pediatrics Clinic of the Children's Public Clinical Hospital in Warsaw, Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, and Pediatric Otolaryngology, Phoniatrics and Audiology Clinic of the Children's Hospital in Lublin. During the plenary session, Kamila Renke was awarded first prize and second prize went to Wojciech Pinkas. The laryngological session was under the auspices of a national consultant in Otolaryngology – Prof. Henryk Skarzynski – and a national consultant in the area of Childhood Otolaryngology – Prof. Grazyna Mielnik-Niedzielska.

An interesting part of the conference were lectures delivered by experts: Prof. Victor Ruiz-Velasco, Albert Zink, Kenny Rodriguez-Wallberg, Jaroslaw Cholewy, and Prof. Edward Malec. A new feature introduced during the conference was a scientific debate, which dealt with how doctors could improve the air quality in Poland.

People interested in supplementing their theoretical knowledge with practical experience could take part in numerous

workshops conducted by members and guardians of scientific circles at the Medical University of Warsaw. Participants could choose from over 40 workshops conducted over two days.

WIMC was not only an opportunity to gain scientific knowledge, but also to establish international friendships. Excellent opportunities were organized during the conference, including a social program, a “Warsaw by night” tour, a Capitol Club party, and finally a gala dinner.