Congress report

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The 15th Conference of the Romanian Society of Ultrasonography in Medicine and Biology

Between May 13th and June 2nd, 2012, the city of Cluj-Napoca became the „ultrasonography capital" in Romania, by hosting the 15th Conference of the Romanian Society of Ultrasonography in Medicine and Biology (S.R.U.M.B.) and the first symposium of medical education using ultrasound.

The traditional event of the Romanian Society of Ultrasonography in Medicine and Biology maintained its usual high-quality level of scientific presentations, by attempting to cover the entire range of clinical applications of ultrasonography available at present. 350 participants attended the course programme this year and 450 participated in the conference.

The first day was dedicated to a series of 10 pre-conference courses, taking place in parallel. Of these, we must stress that the joint EFSUMB & WINFOCUS course titled „Basic UltraSound in Emergency and Critical Care", coordinated by Prof Luca Neri (Milano), Prof Radu Badea, Assoc. Prof. Natalia Hagau and Dr Adela Golea, as well as the 4 endorsed courses - Ultrasonography in hepathology and gastroenterology (coordinated by Prof. Radu Badea and Prof. Ioan Sporea, with Prof. Harald Lutz - Bayreuth, Germany as invited guest), „Update in vascular ultrasonography" (coordinated by Prof. Sorin Dudea and Dr. Dan Stanescu, invited guest – Dr. Kaziemierz Szopinski from Warsow, Poland), „Breast and endocrine glands ultrasound" (coordinated by Prof. Viorela Enăchescu and Assoc. Prof. Cristina Ghervan), and „Introduction in interventional ultrasonography" (coordinated by Prof. Petru Adrian Mircea and Assoc. Prof. Zeno Spârchez), respectively, met with special interest. Last but not least, we must mention the courses „Ultrasonographic monitoring of pregnancy" (coordinated by Prof. Florin Stamatian and Prof. Dimitrie Pelinescu Onciul), „Ultrasonography in conditions of the reno-urinary system" (coordinated by Prof. Dan Vlăduțiu and Assoc. Prof. Liviu Ghervan), „The use of ultrasonography in diseases of the new-born" (coordinated by prof. Ioana Alina Anca, Dr. Otilia Fufezan and Dr. Daniela Iacob), as well as the course dedicated exclusively to medical students, coordinated by Dr. Monica Lupsor, entitled „Ultrasonography for medical students". Some of the courses included both a theoretical and a practical, hands-on part, which was especially appreciated by the students. The multidisciplinary character of the events was a particular challenge of our conference, as proved by the course „Ultrasonography in veterinary medicine" (coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Mario Codreanu and Assoc. Prof. Mircea Mircean).

In the following days, several panel meetings, on very interesting subjects, were held in parallel. Of these, we note those focused on the role of the gastroenterologist in assessing the conditions of the digestive tract, on new techniques in ultrasonography, on the use of contrast agents in imaging techniques, on the role of ultrasound in assessing gynecologic emergencies, on the use of ultrasonography in veterinary medicine, on updates in pediatric ultrasound, as well as clinical cases presentations, sessions for the best scientific papers and a poster session.

This year, a new addition was made to the 15th Conference of the Romanian Society of Ultrasonography in Medicine and Biology, one to which our society is taking full responsibility: medical education using ultrasonography, at every level. The coordinators of the first symposium on medical education using ultrasonography were Prof. Radu Badea and Prof. Richard Hoppmann (Columbia, USA). The discussions focused on the state-of-the-art of education using ultrasonography, its requirements and means of development. The partnership between the society and the "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, was therefore a requirement and a priviledge.

Our conference was honoured with the presence of several foreign guests (Dr. Adrian Grunfeld from Israel, Prof. Daniel Lichtenstein from France, Dr. Gregor Prosen from Slovenia, Prof. Harald T. Lutz from Germany, Prof. Malkhaz Mizandari from Georgia, Prof. Luca Neri from Italy - WINFOCUS and USCME Global Director and Prof. Richard Hoppmann, dean of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine), but also of other guests belonging to national professional societies.

The participants presented a large number of scientific papers, either as oral presentations or posters and priz-



Fig 1. Opening ceremony, from left to right: Prof Gheorghe Iana MD, (SRIM president), Prof Stefan Florian, MD, (president of the Senate of the "Iuliu Haţieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy), Prof Radu Badea (SRUMB president), Prof Viorela Enachescu, MD, (SRUMB secretary), Prof Richard Hoppmann, MD, (Dean of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine)



Fig 3. Awarding the SRUMB prizes: from left to right: Dr Calin Mos, Prof Radu Badea, MD, Dr Dan Stanescu, Dr Monica Lupsor, Prof Ioan Sporea, MD, Dr Bogdan Procopeţ, Dr Mariana Stuparu-Cretu, Dr Ioana Grigorescu



Fig 2. During the conference



Fig 4. Awarding the "Gheorghe Badea" medal to Prof Richard Hoppmann (Dean of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine)

es were awarded to the best of these (Dr. Monica Lupsor and Prof. Ioan Sporea – award for the best original scientific papers, Dr. Bogdan Procopet – award for the best case presentation, Dr. Mariana Stuparu-Cretu – award for the best poster presentation, Dr. Ioana Grigorescu – the „Florin Mircea" award, Prof. Radu Badea and Dr. Călin Moş, respectively – the „Gheorghe Badea" award for exceptional editorial achievements, released on this occasion – "Clinical ultrasonography of the abdomen and pelvis" and „Clinical ultrasound of the thyroid gland").

This year's exhibition area was organized in the main lobby of the hotel, where traditional and local sponsors exposed their products.

In addition, we hosted a meeting of all society members, an election for a new President of the Society was held and Prof. Radu Badea from Cluj-Napoca was reelected for a new mandate. Prof. Radu Badea is a prominent professional in the field, known for his work in implementing ultrasonography in Romania from its early days, for his high educational level and for promoting the newest technology in Romania.

We are compelled to mention the very pleasant social program, which took place in the imposing location of the Grand Hotel Italia. The conference was scheduled to allow the participation to exceptional cultural events, but also to permit the visit of beautiful places, from the Tihuţa pass to the region of the Apuseni mountains.

The organizers would like to thank all the participants who were present at this high-level scientific conference and also everyone who contributed to its great success.

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