



Successful Rome Congress!

Presentations and Photo Gallery now available on the FFN website

By Paolo Falaschi, Rome Congress Chair & Karsten Dreinhöfer, FFN Past President

With around 400 attendees, 214 presentations and 89 posters, we can now declare the 5th Global Congress, held in Rome 1–3 of September 2016 for a great success!

The atmosphere was again refreshingly informal. We feel that the scientific level continued to increase while maintaining the unique FFN multidisciplinary approach.

We are happy to announce, that we've completed the upload

to the FFN member page of the congress presentations, as well as some great photographs. The speakers' presentations and photos are available for confirmed FFN members only within the password-protected membership area on the

FFN website. To access the Presentations and Photo Gallery you simply use your last name and your membership ID to login. You will find all photos and approved presentations in the section "Resources & Webinars".

For questions regarding your membership or login data, please contact ff-network@mci-group.com.

Save the date, 24–26 August 2017!

The 6th FFN Global Congress is in the planning

By Kristina Åkesson, Malmö Congress Chair & Henrik Palm, FFN President

Next years FFN Global Congress will be held in the beautiful city of Malmö, Sweden – easy accessible just 20 minutes by train across the huge bridge from the Copenhagen Int. Airport.

Key note speakers will be announced continuously until the congress on Twitter #FFN2017.

This years motto will be "Bridging the Gap" for underlining the important multidisciplinary necessity in fragility fracture treatment.

Abstract submission deadline is 10 April 2017.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you in Malmö in August 2017!



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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Henrik Palm, FFN President

Dear Members,

First of all, thanks for being part of the Fragility Fracture Network! The Rome Congress again confirmed why we need the FFN! Founded only a few years ago, the FFN has impressively fast become a unique bridge-builder between the many different people surrounding the fragility fracture patients: Anaesthetists, cardiologists, dieticians, endocrinologists, geriatricians, managers, nurses, occupational- and physiotherapists, politicians, rehabilitation experts and surgeons.

The FFN is based on the vision of "A world where anybody who sustains a fragility fracture achieves the optimal recovery of independent function and quality of life, with no further fractures".

World should be taken very literally – as demographic prognosis shows an expected exponential increases in fragility fractures in the emerging economies. As you can read elsewhere in this FFN Newsletter, the FFN has formed a FFN Regionalisation Working Group with the ambitious task of how to help our members form hopefully many Local FFN's for bridging local/national/regional multidisciplinary colleagues.

It will be exiting to follow this process, which goes perfectly hand in hand with the FFN focus of facilitating multidisciplinary alliances leading to consensus guidelines, quality standards and systematic measurement.

Please remember that the FFN offers a minimal hip fracture dataset, free of charge for you to download from the membership resources area on the FFN website.

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Join the FFN regionalisation!

FFN Japan & FFN India on the move – local FFN societies in your neighbourhood?

By David Marsh, FFN General Secretary

The membership of the FFN, and the people attending our Global Congresses, are concentrated in Europe. However, this is not what the world needs, because by far the most dramatic increases in fragility fracture incidence will occur in the emerging economies of Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, where the ageing of the population is proceeding more rapidly. One important reason why few people from these regions attend the Congresses is the expense of doing so. However, from the people who are able to attend, we know that there are small numbers of activists, from the relevant disciplines, in these regions, but they are split into their own disciplines' organisations.

So, in many regions, there is the same need there was in Europe that led to the creation of the FFN – for a multidisciplinary network, where activists from

the relevant organisations can interact, learn and take encouragement from each other and the wider global community. We have therefore proposed that such people should create local equivalents of the FFN, which promote the same core messages as the Global FFN, but hold their meetings locally, which will be much more affordable and practical for recruiting more health professionals to the cause. This has already happened in the case of FFN-Japan and FFN-India. As in their cases, it will often be appropriate for the local FFNs to be based on one country; we have had national expressions of interest from Finland, Greece and Brazil, among others. In other cases, multidisciplinary organisations are already established in one or two countries within a global region and the ambition is to spread to neighbouring countries; regional FFNs are being proposed in the

Middle East, the Balkans and the Asia-Pacific region.

In order to preserve the integrity of the Global FFN message, we request that the local FFN should be formally constituted on the basis of the same Vision, Mission, Goals and Strategic Focus of the Global FFN, as displayed on our website (fragilityfracturenetwork.org), should have a multidisciplinary Board and should send as many representatives as possible to each annual Global Congress – such organisations should be able to raise funds from local sponsors to enable this. The General Assembly in Rome accepted the recommendation of the (global) Board to create a Regionalisation Working Group (RWG) and elected its membership, including some members of the Board itself. The RWG and the Board of the Global FFN will do everything in their power to facilitate the creation of the local FFNs.

If you are interested in proceeding along these lines, please get in touch with me at d.marsh@ucl.ac.uk.

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Many initiatives will start this year. Based on the successful "Presidents Roundtable" plenary in Rome, FFN will work closely together with other societies on statements and publications – underlining how the FFN is not in conflict with other societies, but wholeheartedly supports all initiatives to increase awareness of fragility fractures.

The FFN website is quite well used, with ex uploaded congress presentations and the membership resources area. But for the FFN to "stay on the wave" after each congress, the website needs to be continuously updated with all kinds of relevant news and info, such as publications news, webinars, event calendars and a continued series of newsletter like this one. The FFN Board is now working on an IT strategic plan – also including new medias so please tweet your activities on #FFN2017.

FFN has fast become a unique network, but based on a weak economy almost since the start, which has to improve for enabling our initiatives. As explained in this newsletter, the membership payment is challenging – so I kindly ask you to pay your membership fee. Also the FFN will introduce a new ambitious FFN Sponsorship model, beginning next year.

Next years FFN Global Congress will be held in the beautiful city of Malmö in Sweden. Much is already in the planning and the ambition is to be able to announce future congresses several years in advance. The bidding round for 2018 & 2019 remains open for a few days more, and it will be exiting to see where the next congresses could be located.

Again thanks for being a member of the Fragility Fracture Network!



Unpaid membership fees

By Dieu Donne Niesten, FFN Treasurer

The FFN is continuously growing with now more than 650 members – which is a huge success story underlining the need for such a network. But we also face a major challenge:

This year just one in four FFN members have actually paid the membership fee of only 50 €. For the FFN to maintain the daily activities the income from your membership fees is extremely

important. The payment for 2017 will soon open, but if you haven't paid your fee for 2016, we kindly ask you to do so as FFN finances are extremely small, which limits the FFN activities. Thus, the FFN Board has now formed a working group for focusing on the membership fee challenge, and we look forward to hopefully soon inform you about new initiatives.