MEET THE FFN PRESIDENT

Professor Paolo Falaschi was welcomed as the new FFN President in Malmö. The outgoing FFN President Mr. Henrik Palm was praised for his leadership and hard work over the last year and for the success of the FFN Malmö Congress.

Professor Falaschi is a Professor of Geriatrics, Chief of the Geriatric Unit at Sant’Andrea Hospital, Sapienza University of Rome. He has specific interests in fragility fractures, falls, dementia, stress and caregiving. He graduated in Sapienza University of Rome in Medicine and Surgery in 1972. In 1976 he was Visiting Fellow at the Department of Endocrinology, St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, London. From 1980 to 1981, he was Visiting Assistant Professor at the Department of Medicine, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, USA. From 1988 to 1999 he was an Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at Naples Federico II University. He is Chair of numerous Masters and High Educational Courses dedicated to Orthogeriatrics, Osteoporosis, Nursing and Caregiving. He is author of numerous journal and book papers and editor of several books. He is also an experienced conference speaker and a teaching enthusiast. He was an elected FFN Board Member in 2015–2016, an FFN Executive Committee Member in 2016–2017 and Congress Chair of the FFN Global Congress 2016 in Rome.

Click here to read the FFN’s Presidents Welcome Letter:

Malmö Congress Summary
By Louise Brent, FFN Board member

The recent Malmö FFN Congress 24–26 August 2017 was an overwhelming success with 466 delegates attending from 40 countries. This unique multidisciplinary meeting included – Orthopaedic surgeons, Doctors, Nurse’s, Allied Health Professionals, Industry, Scientists and others. This year’s congress saw over two hundred abstract submissions and unique congregation of disciplines was reflected in the 120 posters and 202 abstracts in total. The congress saw 180 presentations reflecting the multidisciplinary interests of the audience.

Best Oral Presentation
Christopher Clemmesen, Rebeka Sujic, Catherine Sackley, Lauren Beaupre, Antony Johansen

Best Poster Presentation
Parisah Seyed-Safi, Martyn Parker, Lauren McCluskey, Tim Jones, Anna Spångéus, Heidi Grejsen.

Sponsorship
Special thanks to our main industry sponsors for the congress: Amgen, UCB, Zimmer Biomet and Lilly.

To see some highlights from the congress please select the link below:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6sQ9IgnDPgqAs_ur_G27ba/videos

7th FFN Global Congress
5–7 July 2018 – Dublin

Click here to view the first announcement for FFN Dublin Congress:

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER
Abstract Submission Deadline: 19 February 2018
Early Bird Registration Deadline: 24 April 2018
Get Together/Registration: 4 July 2018, evening
Congress Opening: 5 July 2018

THEMES
Perioperative care, fracture treatment, rehabilitation, secondary prevention, changing healthcare policy, research and education in relation to fragility fractures.

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News from Regionalization Working Group

FFN Lebanon

Maroun Rizkallah, M.D., Ghassan Maalouf, M.D.

All countries in the Middle East, are facing a rapid increase in the proportion of patients aged 65 years and knowing the low rate of secondary prevention constitutes a challenge in Lebanon. Global Fragility Fracture Network members in Lebanon, working through the Pan Arab Osteoporosis Society (PAOS) based their secondary fragility fracture prevention awareness on a tripod:

1. Scientific contribution PAOS has raised awareness through lectures, conferences, scientific publications, regular integration of fragility fracture sessions in orthopedic surgery, gynecologists, family and internal medicine learning courses (with CME accreditation). Maalouf et al. and Rizkallah in their papers emphasized the importance of secondary prevention and gave a roadmap to its application in Lebanon, in all its hospitals and territories.

2. The Fracture Liaison Service initiative undertaken in Bellevue Medical Center-Beirut, being the first in the Middle East will take secondary fracture prevention to the next level. A study performed by our team, accepted for publication recently in Archives of Osteoporosis, underlines the efficacy of this model in reducing the incidence of incident fragility fractures after the indexed one, together with increasing initiation and adherence to treatment of osteoporosis when indicated.

3. Health Care System Development following meetings and negotiations, official health care authorities amended the prevailing health care system in Lebanon to allow all patients aged 65 years and over with fragility fractures osteoporosis treatment. The cost was reduced by 90 % for medication available to 85 % of the Lebanese population. Our multidisciplinary team got a permission and an endorsement from the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health to raise awareness through appearance in TV shows, NGO meeting (Rotary, Lions, Lebanese Redcross fundraising Gala dinner).

Much is done and much still need to be done in Lebanon. For the upcoming years, the plan is to organize our first local and regional Fragility Fracture congress in Lebanon, to appear in multi-specialists society meetings to talk about fragility fracture prevention, to increase our rate of publication in this field with high level of evidence studies and to participate actively in international organization congresses. The process of creating our own computerized National Hip Fracture Registry is now in progress.

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