

Report of ESSR outreach program

Skopje, Macedonia

14-15 December 2018

Faculty

Dr. Joan C. Vilanova. ESSR lead speaker

Dr. Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska

Dr. Igor Boric

Dr. Amanda Isaac

Dr. Tane Markoski

Local organizer

Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska



Faculty of the outreach program

The ESSR outreach course took place on December 14 and 15 of 2018 in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia. The local organizer of the course was Dr. Violeta Vasilevska, Professor of Radiology and Head of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology Department, at University Surgical Clinic „St.Naum Ohridski“ Skopje, Macedonia.

The Course was held in the Hotel Park of Skopje, a perfect site for the event. The location, set up, catering and staff interactions facilitated successful delivery of this course.

The meeting was fully booked with 88 participants, mainly radiologists (general radiologists and those specialized in musculoskeletal radiology) as well as other specialists including Orthopedic surgeons, Physiotherapists, Sports physicians and Medical Rehabilitation specialists and Radiographers. This encompassed fully qualified medical professionals as well as their trainees.



ESSR EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF
MUSCULOSKELETAL
RADIOLOGY



ESSR
Outreach Workshop

**Imaging of
musculoskeletal
system**

Skopje, Macedonia
14 - 15 December 2018

Macedonian Society of
Musculoskeletal Radiology

European Society of
Skeletal Radiology

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The program was an intensive course delivered over two full days, covering most musculoskeletal imaging pathology from the upper, lower extremity and spine, with a special focus on sports-related trauma; tumors and arthritis. All the lectures were combined with tutorials-workshops in small groups to encourage further interaction and practical learning, reviewing more cases covering the topics included in the lectures.

The course was a great success due to the excellent planning and organization of the local organizer Dr. Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska. The attendees expressed their satisfaction and appreciation from the outstanding lectures and particularly the tutorial sessions with the cases and interactive discussions. The participants acknowledged the ESSR's efforts in funding and supporting this Outreach Program as it allowed them to have access to European faculty in a more affordable setting and condensed over two days. They also reflected on the value of the discussions regarding the variations in imaging protocols & interventional pathways between different countries in Europe and found that they could incorporate some of these differences into their own practices.

The organization of the course benefitted from the ideas, suggestions and feedback of the local organizer (Violeta) as the content of the course was designed to reflect local needs. This helped deliver a relevant course to the attendees and increased the number of participants interested in attending.



Due to the fantastic efforts by the local organizers, some of the local hospitals agreed to fund their radiologists to attend. This also helps create bridges between those hospitals and ESSR and can hopefully encourage them to fund their doctors to attend & participate in future ESSR meetings.

On a personal note, it was a worthwhile and pleasing experience to get this opportunity to spend a few days with colleagues from the ESSR and get to know more about their countries, practices and their interests, in addition to getting to know more about them on a human level. This reinforces the ethos of the ESSR and enhances communication between like-minded ESSR members.

It has been a challenging yet rewarding experience to organize such a course in a foreign country. The success of the course has been possible due to the enormous effort from Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska, which I would like to offer my immense gratitude and appreciation, and also due to the great Faculty team which provided such excellent and outstanding sessions; Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska, Amanda Isaac and Igor Boric and Tane Markoski.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate the ESSR and its members for supporting and contributing to such valued educational opportunities, that serve to build ties and promote future collaborations between its international members.

*Kai Vilanova
Girona, Spain
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