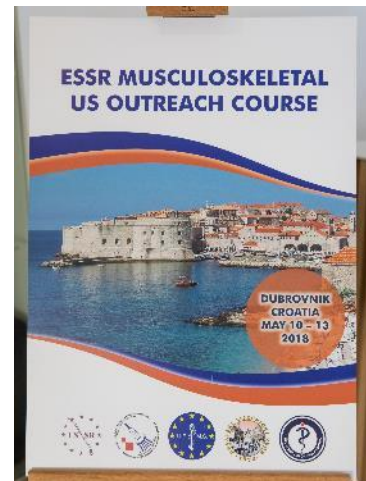


Report of ESSR outreach meeting
Venue Dubrovnik
Date 10th-13th of May 2018

Faculty

Dr Phil O'Connor ESSR lead speaker
Dr Philippe Peetrans
Dr Eugene McNally
Dr Athena Plagou
Dr Luca Sconfienza
Dr R Campbell



Local organisers

Gordana Ivanac
Igor Boric
Vilma Kosovic



Faculty of the outreach meeting

The ESSR outreach meeting was organised by the ESSR ultrasound subcommittee and local organisers in collaboration with the Croatian society of Ultrasound in medicine and biology and the Croatian Medical Association.

The meeting venue was the Hotel Kompass on the outskirts of Dubrovnik which I think I can say on behalf of the faculty and the delegates was perfect.



This was the first ESSR outreach meeting completely devoted to MSK ultrasound and used a format that combined didactic teaching and hands-on demonstrations and scanning.

The meeting was fully subscribed with 136 delegates attending the course from 7 different countries. Over half came from Croatia and Bosnia.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Dubrovnik with a short exchange of compliments presented by the Mayor and Dr O'Connor on behalf of the City of Dubrovnik and the ESSR respectively.



The program was ambitious for the 6 speakers who delivered a complete 3 day course covering all aspect of ultrasound diagnosis of MSK anatomy and pathology ultrasound teaching delivering on average 7 lectures and undertaking 6 hours of hands-on each during the course.



The anatomy teaching used combined lecture and live demonstration to great effect with excellent audience interaction.



The hands-on teaching sessions were very busy given the large number of delegates and the small number of hands-on trainers.



The hands-on group sizes were reduced by dividing the delegates into groups, half undertook a masterclass session with scanning and revision of the lecture topics in the main lecture hall while half undertook hands-on training.



The groups then swapped places at the midpoint of the session to give all delegates the same level of hands on experience.

Delegate feedback was excellent with comments such as
“Extremely good lectures”
“Great speakers”
“It covers all the basics, excellent entry level course at affordable price,”

The delegates felt the best part of the course was the Hands-on and Live presentations, the Scientific programme, the Masterclass workshop, and the ability of the course to cater for both beginner sand experienced sonographers.

The main negative comments were about the group sizes for the hands-on training limiting scanning.

Organising a course of this complexity is extremely challenging especially when you add in the additional challenges of not being in the same country as the course your co-organising. A huge thank you has to go to the local organising team especially Tilda Bogdanovic and the local organising committee and faculty Gordana Ivanac, Igor Boric, Vilma Kosovic without whom we could not have delivered such a successful course.

Lets hope this is the first of many successful ESSR MSK ultrasound outreach meetings.

Phil O'Connor