

ESSR Outreach Course, Skopje, Macedonia, 1-2 November, 2024

Faculty

Dr Radhesh K Lalam - Shropshire / UK, lead speaker Dr Maryam Shahabpour - Brussel/ BE, Dr Anagha Parkar – Bergen / NO Dr Diana Afonso – Lisbon / PT Dr Salvatore Gitto - Milan / IT Dr Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska - Skopje / MK, Local organizer

Prof. Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska PhD MSc SubspecMSK



Introduction:

Professor Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska, Chair of ESSR Tumor subcommittee, as the local organiser arranged this ESSR outreach course in Macedonia at the Park Hotel in Skopje in conjunction with the Macedonian society of musculoskeletal radiology that she chairing. The course involved dedicated lectures and interactive sessions that had active participation from delegates. The venue had a main lecture room and an additional room for interactive sessions in pleasant and private surroundings with on-site catering of delicious food and refreshments.

Participants and feedback:

The course was attended by 92 delegates and consisted mainly of Macedonian radiologists but there was participation also from orthopaedic/trauma surgeons and physiatrists. The feedback from the delegates was excellent and there was general appreciation of the standard of the lectures and interactive sessions. The delegates were particularly grateful to the ESSR for **bringing MSK to Macedonia** as the local radiologists are limited financially from attending major international con-



ferences.

Faculty:

The faculty included Dr Radhesh Lalam, Chair ESSR spine subcommittee and previous chair of the tumour subcommittee as the ESSR lead speaker. The faculty also included Professor Maryam Shahabpour from Brussels, Dr Anagha Parkar, Dr Diana Afonso, who are the senior ESSR society members and Dr Salvatore Gitto who is the young ESSR faculty member. In addition, the local organiser and senior ESSR society member Professor Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska also participated as full faculty member.

Macedonian welcome of the faculty was generous. The faculty enjoyed delivering the course. All the faculty had a tour of the historic city of Skopje by dedicated tour guides (including the Macedonian director of tourism). The hospitality by Professor Vasilevska Nikodinovska was amazing and included traditional Macedonian cuisine and a trip to the Macedonian wine festival.

Programme:

The programme was spread over two days with sessions on shoulder, elbow/wrist, knee, Hip/spine/muscles/bone and ankle/ foot and covered a wide variety of topics including sports and stress injuries, usual MSK topics like rotator cuff, shoulder/ elbow instability, meniscal/cruciate/collateral injuries, FAI and a small selection of more unusual complex topics such as Hallux/sesamoid complex. There were four interactive sessions in total. Each faculty member delivered four lectures each and undertook one interactive session each.



The lectures were delivered as per the need of the local radiologists with basic and advanced material being presented. The interactive sessions covered more nuanced observations that help in making the diagnosis. Dr Gitto's lecture included anatomical details in diagrams to make it easy to understand the ultrasound technique. Dr Parkar provided the delegates advice based on her interactions with the European Society of Sports Traumatology, Knee Surgery and Arthroscopy (ESSKA) which was very much appreciated by the participants. Professor Shahabpour exchanged her vast knowledge in most areas of MSK practice. Dr Afonso's quiz type interactive session was well accepted from the audience. Professor Violeta Vasilevska Nikodinovska also participated as full faculty member. The atmosphere was vibrant, and the delegate participation was excellent.



Conclusion:

The course content, delivery and facilities were extraordinary. Everything went to plan. Overall, Professor Vasilevska Nikodinovska can be proud of her organising skills, considering that she had to deliver the course almost single handedly. She had to even prepare the delegate badges, issue receipts and certificates to delegates herself whilst also catering to the faculty needs. The venue was excellent and was perfect for the needs of this course.