ESPGHAN provides a variety of educational activities, events and information that are available throughout the year. The ESPGHAN Education Partner Programme (EPP) was launched in 2015. Based on the 2015 adopted ESPGHAN Code of Conduct, the EPP has been developed to ensure the on-going development and implementation of an up-to-date, independent, high quality educational programme for health care professionals. The dedicated support and financial commitment from our partners helps to enhance and stabilise support for ESPGHAN’s educational activities. The EPP educational activities for 2016 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paediatric Hepatology Summer School</td>
<td>April 27-30, 2016</td>
<td>Visegrád, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPGHAN Eastern Europe Summer School</td>
<td>May 23-25, 2016</td>
<td>Kazan, Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPGHAN Baltic Summer School</td>
<td>September 08-10, 2016</td>
<td>Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Investigator Forum</td>
<td>September 21-24, 2016</td>
<td>Bergen, The Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paediatric Gastroenterology School</td>
<td>October 26-29, 2016</td>
<td>Florence, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Class Evidence Based Medicine Guidelines</td>
<td>November 18-19, 2016</td>
<td>Budapest, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Class on Parenteral Nutrition in neonatal and paediatric intensive care units</td>
<td>November 23-25, 2016</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Paediatric IBD Masterclass</td>
<td>November 24-26, 2016</td>
<td>Rotterdam, The Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPGHAN Master Class Clinical Trials</td>
<td>January 12-14, 2017</td>
<td>Budapest, Hungary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We sincerely thank the following EPP partners for their generous support and commitment:
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**BALTIC SUMMER SCHOOL**

September 08–10, 2016  
Vilnius, Lithuania

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1. Introduction and Overview – Baltic Summer School

ESPGHAN organised the Baltic Summer School as an extended Eastern European Summer School in association with the Lithuanian Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition and Vilnius University Clinic for Children Diseases in Vilnius, Lithuania from 8 to 10 September 2016. President of the local organising committee was Prof. Vaidotas Urbonas, who organised an excellent three-day school at the Amberton Hotel in Vilnius. He has been a wonderful host and has not only taken the responsibility for the scientific outcome of the school, but also organised an interesting social programme.

According to the mission of ESPGHAN the entire school was free of charge for all participants.

The structure of the scientific programme and the topics presented during the school were suggested by the local organisers. Important challenges facing paediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition were addressed in the programme as evidence based lectures focused on ESPGHAN guidelines and interactive case discussions.

Case presentations were presented by participants of the course, where the degree of knowledge, skills and availability of diagnostic and therapeutic tools was seen.

We sincerely thank our EPP Partner for their crucial contribution to the organisation of this outstanding event.
The lectures were presented by ESPGHAN members Alfredo Guarino, Alexandra Papadopoulou, Raanan Shamir, Piotr Socha, Nikhil Thapar, Gábor Veres and Jernej Dolinšek as well as by our host Vaidotas Urbonas and head of Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit from Kaunas Rūta Kučinskienė.

Balltic Summer School

Faculty

Ass. Professor Vaidotas Urbonas MD, PhD
ESPGHAN Course Organizer
Vilnius University Clinic for Children’s Diseases, Vilnius, Lithuania

Professor Raanan Shamir MD, PhD
ESPGHAN President
Institute of Gastroenterology, Nutrition and Liver Diseases, Israel

Jernej Dolinšek, MD, PhD
ESPGHAN International Affairs Representative
University Medical Centre Maribor, Slovenia

Hon. Professor Alexandra Papadopoulou MD, PhD
ESPGHAN Gastroenterology Committee Education Secretary
Athens Children’s Hospital Agia Sofia, Greece

Professor Piotr Socha MD, PhD
ESPGHAN Scientific Secretary
The Children’s Memorial Health Institute Warsaw, Poland

Nikhil Thapar BMBS, PhD
Academic Lead for Gastroenterology
ESPGHAN Committee on Gastroenterology
UCL Institute of Child Health and
Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, UK

Gábor Veres, PhD, Dsc
ESPGHAN Education Secretary
Semmelweis Medical University Budapest, Hungary

Professor Alfredo Guarino MD, PhD
University Federico II Naples, Italy

Ass. Professor Rūta Kučinskienė MD, PhD
Local Faculty Lithuania, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno Klinikos, Kaunas, Lithuania
2. Faculty

“WARM, SIMPLE AND EXCELLENT SPEAKERS. EXCELLENT TOPICS.”
3. Facts and Figures

In order to guarantee and improve the quality of ESPGHAN educational events, an evaluation was conducted at the end of the course. It is our highest priority to continuously improve the scientific content and have feedback on the organisation of the course in order to maintain the best learning environment.

The evaluation of the Baltic Summer School took place in the last session of the course, the participants had 30 minutes to fill in the evaluation form and address open topics or give their feedback to the faculty, followed by closing remarks from faculty.

There were 42 participants from Baltic States (Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia) as well as from Poland, Belarus and UK attending the school (see table 1). Most of the participants were practicing paediatricians and paediatric gastroenterologists with extensive knowledge and skills in paediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition, among them also the leaders of paediatric departments and gastroenterology units in their institutions.

The evaluation consisted of 16 questions, 12 of which were in regard to the scientific content and 4 to the organisation of the event. The participants had the possibility to vote on a scale between 5 as Excellent, 4 as Good, 3 as Average, 2 as Poor and 1 as Unsatisfactory. Out of 42 delegates, 38 filled in the evaluation sheet.

The average score on the scientific content was 4.58 out of 5 whereas the organisation of the event scored an average 4.57 out of 5. The overall consensus was an excellent average outcome of 4.57 out of 5.

Out of 42 delegates 99.9 percent were women. One male attended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Delegates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Belarus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>42</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1

![Diagram](image-url)
3.1. Evaluation of the Scientific Programme

Final evaluation of the course by the participants was more than positive with an overall assessment of 4.58. All the members of the faculty received excellent grades, and the school as a whole was considered to be excellent by all the participants. It was also the impression of the faculty members that the school was very successful. We hope to see many of the young colleagues from this school joining and actively participating in ESPGHAN in the near future.

As graphic 2 states, the majority of the delegates rated the selection of topics, speakers and the presentations during the lectures as excellent and good.

![Graphic 2]

“Excellent scientific programme.”

“Opportunity to have discussions with the experts was the best.”

“Speakers of excellence.”

“Friendly environment and up-to-date scientific information.”
3.2. Scientific Programme

DAY 1: Thursday, September 8, 2016

Arrival of participants and faculty

13:00–13:30 Registration
13:30–13:40 Welcome (Vilnius University Pro-Rector Rimantas Jankauskas, Vaidotas Urbonas)
13:40–14:40 Gastroesophageal reflux in children. (Gabor Veres)
H. pylori infection in children – to treat or not to treat. (Vaidotas Urbonas)
14:40–15:10 Case presentations (participants):
   • Rūta Janušaitienė (Lithuania)
   • Julija Žalytė (Lithuania)

15:10–15:40 Coffee break
15:40–16:00 Welcome and Introduction to ESPGHAN. (Raanan Shamir)
16:00–18:00 Acute gastroenteritis in children. (Alfredo Guarino)
   Current ESPGHAN guidelines  
   Acute pancreatitis in children. (Gabor Veres)
   Healthy nutrition in the first year of life. (Raanan Shamir)
   Importance of breast feeding.
   Complimentary feeding. (Raanan Shamir)
18:00–19:15 Case presentations (participants):
   • Jelena Sergejeva (Latvia)
   • Jūratė Radvilavičienė (Lithuania)
   • Inga Vainumāe (Estonia)
   • Rūta Kučinskienė (Lithuania)
   • Jolita Statkuvienė (Lithuania)

19:30 Welcome reception/dinner  
Old Green House (L. Stuokos-Guceviciaus 5)

“High quality teaching programmeme.”

DAY 2: Friday, September 9, 2016

09:00–10:30 Irritable bowel syndrome in childhood (Nikhil Thapar)
   Coeliac disease (Jernej Dolinšek)
   epidemiology, pathogenesis diagnostic approach, treatment, role of patient organisations

10:30–11:00 Coffee break
11:00–12:30 Metabolic liver disease (Piotr Socha)
   Acute pancreatitis in children (Gabor Veres)
   Other food intolerances (Jernej Dolinšek)
3. Facts and Figures

12:30–13:30 Case presentations (participants):
• Birutė Škerlienė (Lithuania)
• Agnė Giedraitė (Lithuania)
• Kristina Zagorskiene (Lithuania)
• Skirmantė Brazdeikytė (Lithuania)

13:30–14:30 Lunch

14:30–16:00 Probiotics in paediatric gastroenterology (Alfredo Guarino)

Neonatal cholestasis (Piotr Socha)

ESPGHAN guidelines on the management of cows’s milk protein allergy (Alexandra Papadopoulou)

16:00–16:30 Case presentations (participants)

16:30–17:00 Coffee break

17:00–18:30 Inflammatory bowel disease in children: (Alexandra Papadopoulou)

epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnostic approach, treatment options.

IBD epidemiology and situation in Lithuania (Ruta Kucinskiene)

18:30–19:00 Case presentations (participants):
• Kärt Simre (Estonia)
• Kseniya Yurchyk (Belarus)

19:00–22:00 Reception and dinner

“Vilnius University Coffee”

DAY 3: Saturday, September 10, 2016

08:30–10:00 How to write an abstract? (Nikhil Thapar)

Eosinophilic esophagitis: (Alexandra Papadopoulou)
epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnostic approach and treatment options.

Nutrition support and enteral nutrition (Raanan Shamir)

10:00–10:30 Case presentations (participants):
• Rulla Al-Araji (United Kingdom)
• Živilė Makselienė (Lithuania)

10:30–11:00 Coffee break

11:00–12:00 Acute liver failure. (Piotr Socha)

GIT foreign bodies in children (Jernej Dolinšek)

12:00–13:30 Recurrent abdominal pain. (Alexandra Papadopoulou)

What can ESPGHAN do for you? (Jernej Dolinšek)

Final evaluation and conclusion remarks. (Jernej Dolinšek)

13:30–14:30 Lunch

Return home

“The strongest points of this training were the selection of topics and choice of speakers.”
4. Evaluation of the Organisation

The local organiser was supported in organising the event by the ESPGHAN Office. ESPGHAN provides each EPP Event with EPP branded banners, event flyers, and notepads. In addition, the logos of the EPP partners are prominently shown during break slides and on the course homepage and programme.

The overall rating from the delegates satisfaction of the course organisation, the venue, lecture hall and the provided material was 4.57 out of 5. The local organiser was supported in organising the event by the ESPGHAN Office. The support by the ESPGHAN Office was rated as excellent. ESPGHAN provides each EPP Event with EPP branded banners, event flyers, and notepads. In addition, the logos of the EPP partners are prominently shown during break slides and on the course homepage and programme.

“Everything from all points of view was excellent”

“1. very friendly atmosphere
2. excellent choice of topics
3. well organised
4. wonderful social programme”

Graphic 3
5. Supporting Young Investigator

At the end of the meeting a prize draw for 5 e-subscriptions was organised and the winners were:

Hanna Askirka, Minsk
Tatjana Dankova, Minsk
Jolita Statkuviene, Kaunas
Simre Kärt, Tartu
Gunta Zirnite, Riga
6. Networking amongst colleagues

Networking, team building, strengthening connections and building friendships among paediatricians, faculty and delegates was guaranteed and initiated though a well balanced social programme during the Baltic Summer School. Small coffee breaks, joint lunches and dinners and excursions round up the programme and are an important part of the ESPGHAN Team spirit.

On the first day, dinner was organised in the Old Green House, a traditional restaurant in Vilnius whereas on the second day the group enjoyed an evening at the "Vilnius University Coffee".
The final evaluation of the course by the participants was more than positive. All the members of the faculty received excellent grades, and also the school as a whole was considered to be excellent by all the participants. It was also the impression of the faculty members that the course was very successful.

We would like to cordially thank our EPP Partners for their valuable support of the digestive health of children. This educational event was funded solely by our EPP Partners.
We sincerely thank the following EPP partners for their generous support and commitment:

Abbott

AbbVie

Alexion

Dicoform

Nestle Nutrition Institute

Pediatric Nutrition Institute

Nutricia

Early Life Nutrition