



EACD Newsletter

January 2022

Message by the Secretary

Dear sir/madam,

The start of a new year is always a special, yet fairly arbitrary, milestone. It's a time when we reflect with gratitude on the past and set our hopes and intentions for the days ahead. What's more, a new year brings in new opportunities and gives us an opportunity to reinvigorate our enthusiasm for chasing goals and dreams. Writing this message to you near the end of January, some of these dreams may already have been caught up by reality, but please do not let yourself be stopped by this. As many great ideas or innovative solutions start by someone with a wild dream.

This brings me nicely to our next **EACD Barcelona 2022 meeting from 18-21 May 2022**. EACD Barcelona 2022 is promising to be a wonderful opportunity to share experiences, to exchange scientific ideas, and foster interactions between all professionals involved in the field of Childhood Disability. The meeting programme is almost ready and will include among other a number of excellent keynotes by prestigious professionals in the field of childhood-onset disability such as among other: Peter Rosenbaum, Christopher Newman, Mijna Hadders-Algra, and Roslyn Livingstone, **and I would like to encourage you all to [register for this exciting event](#) in Barcelona right now to benefit from the early bird rate!**

There is one special interest session though at EACD 2022 that I would like to bring to our attention onto already: the Technology & Innovation – Special Interest session. As mentioned above, innovation and new technologies can change the lives of people with childhood-onset disabilities and their families. However, turning a dream into an accessible, useful product can be challenging. During the Technology & Innovation Special interest session at EACD Barcelona 2022, we would like to give the platform to the people behind these success stories, to tell anyone interested about their journey, course of action, pitfalls, and tips and tricks. Therefore, **we are looking for testimonies of health professionals, users, family members, engineers, developers, etc. who successfully built new solutions for the benefit of people with childhood disabilities, using low-tech or high-tech solutions**. If you are interested to share your story please do not hesitate send a short summary of your testimony (max. 250 words) with descriptive title to admin@eacd.org!

Speaking of our EACD Technology & Innovation Task Force, as part of the process of thinking together and finding innovative solutions we first need to know of course what is out there. That is exactly what the [RehaTech4Child survey by EACD](#) is currently doing. As you may know, EACD launched this Europe-wide survey in December 2021 with a number of partners to identify the digital technologies (e.g., robotic devices and treadmill systems, virtual reality and gaming systems, telehealth) that are used in clinical practices throughout Europe, and to explore the barriers and facilitators in the use of these new technologies in clinical practice. This survey is available in 20 different languages and I would really like to urge you to participate to this important initiative.

Look out also for more such exciting stuff to come. We have dipped our toe last year as EACD as webinar organiser with an event on The Power of New Technologies, and we are planning to continue these kind of online events in the near future. Furthermore, we are also actively exploring the possibilities for a new Training School and other educational opportunities. More information on this will hopefully follow soon!

Best wishes and take care!

Elegast Monbaliu, Secretary EACD

EACD Barcelona 2022

Early Bird Registration deadline: February 15th, 2022



EACD Barcelona 2022
Register now!
And benefit from the low early bird fees

Early bird registration deadline:
31 January 2022,
23:59h CET

EACD 2022
34th ANNUAL MEETING
European Academy of
Childhood Disability
"Harnessing knowledge
into actions"
BARCELONA
18-21 MAY

It will be a great pleasure to the EACD Barcelona 2022 Team to welcome you in Barcelona, from 18-21 May 2022! Barcelona is a magnificent and cosmopolitan city, a perfect venue for the congress thanks to its privileged position on the Mediterranean coast. It has been the gateway and home of several ancient cultures that have always represented the essence of art, culture and progress.

EACD Barcelona 2022 will be offering a wonderful opportunity to share experiences, to exchange scientific ideas, and foster interactions between all professionals involved in the field of Childhood Disability. The EACD

Barcelona 2022 team are preparing also a number of excellent keynotes by prestigious professionals in the field of childhood-onset disability such as among other: Peter Rosenbaum, Christopher Newman, Mijna Hadders-Algra, Roslyn Livingstone.

Join us at EACD Barcelona 2022 and register by 15 February 2022 to benefit from the Early Bird discount! The local organizing committee hopes to greet you in person, but due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, our meeting will be fully hybrid, with the possibility of attending in person or online.

Register here: <https://eacd2022.com/index.php/registration>

Please note that if your abstract has been accepted you will need to register and pay the corresponding fee by January 31st, 2022 to confirm your participation to the EACD Annual Meeting. Only one registration per abstract (i.e. the presenting author) is required.

Call for Bursary Applications!



EACD Barcelona 2022
Call for Bursary applications!
Application deadline:
14 Feb 2022,
23:59h CET

EACD 2022
34th ANNUAL MEETING
European Academy of
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BARCELONA
18-21 MAY

To support people who may otherwise not attend EACD Annual Meetings, the EACD Barcelona 2022 Organizing Committee is providing a number of bursaries for both professionals and families.

Monday 24 January 2022:
Launch call for bursary applications

Monday 14 February 2022:
Deadline submissions for bursaries

Monday 21 February 2022:
Communication of acceptance/rejection to applicants

More info here: <https://eacd2022.com/index.php/bursaries>

Technology & Innovation special interest session: share your testimonies about journeys to new solutions



Innovation and new technologies can change the lives of people with childhood-onset disabilities and their families. However, turning an idea into an accessible, useful product can be challenging. Therefore, we are looking for **testimonies** of people who successfully built new solutions for the benefit of people with childhood disabilities, using low-tech or high-tech solutions. During the Technology & Innovation Special interest session at EACD Barcelona 2022, we would like to give the platform to the people behind these success stories, to tell anyone interested about their journey, course of action, pitfalls, and tips and tricks.

Would you like to share your journey from idea to product during the EACD Barcelona 2022 meeting? please send a short summary of your testimony (max. 250 words) with descriptive title to admin@eacd.org! This call is open to submissions from health professionals, users, family members, engineers, developers, etc.

New National Co-ordinator: Estonia



We are happy to inform you about our first National Co-ordinator for Estonia: Mrs. Jaanika Kukk! She has been a pediatric physical therapist for over nine years, working mostly with children diagnosed with neurological disabilities. Mrs. Kukk is currently also actively attaining her Master's degree in Organizational Behavior at Tallinn University and is a Board Member of the Estonian Association of Physical Therapists. Her mission as

EACD National Co-ordinator for Estonia is to strive towards a multidisciplinary pediatric community in Estonia working together in coordinating optimal health and care principles, and to raise the professional standards amongst Estonian specialists via the development of research and teaching strategies in childhood disabilities.

Update from Finland

Excellent Rehabilitation Practices for Children and Adolescents Co-created in Finland.

Over the past 15 years, the book "[Good Rehabilitation of Children and Adolescents](#)" has been widely used across Finland. The content of the book, developed in collaboration with professionals and parents in the national network, continues to be actual due to the massive social and health care system reform underway in Finland. The good practice in the book is strongly value-based, with extensive reflection on the principles of good rehabilitation, and based on these, the book provides guidelines for delivering the services. The book encourages application of the guidelines individually in a child's developmental environment. The book has been updated for changes in terminology and environmental factors in rehabilitation.

This book has inspired many projects and research that underlines the importance of child's agency and participation, interaction between individual and environment (ICF) and collaboration in rehabilitation. Authors Vänskä & Sipari & Haataja studied in pediatric rehabilitation [what makes participation meaningful using photo-elicitation to interview children](#)

with disabilities. In the research of the [LOOK project](#) an excellent new tool was [co-developed, the CMAP Book](#), to enhance child's right to participate in her/his rehabilitation. In a recent research in Finland, Kinnunen studied the collaboration of adults in her dissertation "[On a discovery journey to a child's participation: Substantive theory of collaboration enhancing the participation](#)" focusing in school-aged children with special needs. Also, Kinnunen & Jeglinsky & Vänskä & Lehtonen & Sipari studied [the collaboration in pediatric rehabilitation for the construction of participation](#). The study results emphasize the need to create a joint understanding of the meaning of participation in rehabilitation and to enable the child's active role in collaboration related to the child's daily life environments.

Salla Sipari, PhD, Principal Lecturer in Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Chair of the National Association for pediatric Rehabilitation

Anu Kinnunen, PhD, Manager (Health Care and Social Sciences), Savonia University of Applied Sciences, member of the National Association for Pediatric Rehabilitation

Swiss Academy of Childhood Disability: 1st Research Day



On 20th of January 2022, the Swiss Academy of Childhood Disability (SACD) organized the 1st Research Day. The SACD Research Day aimed to enhance the interdisciplinary exchange in the field of pediatric rehabilitation research in Switzerland. The goal of the Research Day was to strengthen the transfer of knowledge from research into clinical practice and education and vice versa. The Organizing Committee, led by Dr Sebastian Grunt,

included Prof Christopher Newman, Dr Cristina Simon-Martinez, and Petra Marsico.

Whilst the Research Day would initially take place in Bern, the pandemic situation forced the Organizing Committee to change the meeting to be online. The 1st Research Day included an attractive program, with 5-minutes presentations to allow for exchange on various topics of childhood disability and in various formats. The Research Day welcomed more than 50 participants in this first edition, that was kicked off with the keynote of Prof Christopher Newman on "Opportunities and challenges in childhood disability research: the importance of networks". Next, there were 4 sessions with 27 presentations in the categories *study protocols, preliminary findings, and final study results*. A scientific committee formed by researchers on different fields (Prof Regula Everts, neuropsychologist; Prof Stéphane Armand, kinesiologist; Prof Peter Weber, pediatrician; Prof Sylvie Rey, occupational therapist; Prof Huub van Hedel, physiotherapist) rated all the presentations and determined the three best abstracts and presentations from each category. The winners (see Table 1 for each category) received a prize sponsored by the Anna Müller Grocholski Foundation in the award ceremony.

Additionally, we inaugurated the Early Career Researchers' Forum, a space for discussions in the field of childhood disability for researchers in Switzerland, to foster collaborations between researchers. The platform is held in Slack and contains different channels for discussion also on other important topics like 'Transition from academia to industry', 'Mentorship', 'How to combine research and clinical practice', and other topics than the members can propose according to the needs.

The participants gave positive feedback on the 1st Research Day and the Organizing Committee is currently discussing the planning for the 2nd Research Day, to be organized in

the beginning of 2023. The full program can be found on the website of the SACD (<https://www.sacd.ch/de/researchday>).

EACD RehaTech4Child Survey

RehaTech4Child Survey

Aim: To explore the barriers and facilitators in the use of new digital technologies

The [RehaTech4Child Survey](#) is still open, and EACD invites all health care professionals active in the area of childhood-disability to participate in the survey! The knowledge gained from this survey is foreseen to help eventually in designing

the future technological developments based on the feedback from professionals active in the area of childhood disability.

Click here to go to the survey:

[A Cross-European Survey «RehaTech4Child»](#)

Available languages:

[English](#), [German](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Italian](#), [Portuguese](#), [Turkish](#), [Polish](#), [Dutch](#), [Swedish](#), [Finnish](#), [Danish](#), [Romanian](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Georgian](#), [Croatian](#), [Serbian](#), [Slovene](#), [Lithuanian](#) and [Estonian](#).

Upcoming General Management Committee Vacancies



The posts of **Chair-Elect** (Term 2022-2026; 1 year as Chair-Elect, 3 years as Chair), **GMC Member & Communication Officer** (Term 2022-2025), and **GMC Member & National Networks Officer** (Term 2022-2025) will be up for election at the next EACD Annual General Meeting (May 19th, 2022) during the EACD Barcelona 2022 Meeting. Dr. Arnab Seal will finish his term as Chair in 2023. Dr. Lorna Wales will finish her second term as GMC Member in 2022 and is not eligible for re-election. Prof. Jeroen Vermeulen will finish his first term as GMC Member in 2022 and is eligible for re-election. These positions offer an exciting opportunity to shape and guide the activities of the EACD. Should you have any queries about any of the vacancies, or interest in applying for any of these positions, please contact [Prof. Elegast Monbaliu](#), EACD Secretary, or [Prof. Nana Tatishvili](#), Chair of the Nominations Committee.

We would kindly like to ask members of EACD who would like to apply for any of the above-mentioned vacancies in the EACD General Management Committee to please send your Curriculum Vitae and Motivation letter to admin@eacd.org by at latest March 31st, 2022 as part of the official election procedure.

Mac Keith Press update

Book highlights

Children with Vision Impairment: Assessment, Development, and Management

by Naomi Dale, Alison Salt, Jenefer Sargent, and Rebecca Greenaway.



Vision impairment is a long-term condition caused by disorders of the eye, optic nerve, and brain. Using evidence-based knowledge, theory, and research, this book provides practical guidance for practitioners who are involved in the care and management of children with long-term vision impairment and disability. The book is divided into four sections following the ICF-CY model: (1) eye disorders, vision and brain, (2) child development and learning from birth to older childhood, (3) habilitation, orientation, reading and assistive technologies and (4) social relationships and participation in everyday contexts.

[Click here to order the book!](#)

[Click here to read an Interview with Naomi Dale and Holly – Mac Keith Press](#)

The Musculoskeletal System in Children with Cerebral Palsy: A Philosophical Approach to Management

by Martin Gough and Adam Shortland

Do we need a paradigm shift in our approach to the assessment and management of the musculoskeletal system in children with cerebral palsy? This book encourages clinicians to reflect on how their thoughts and approaches are shaped by the clinical society. Using new perspectives and expertise, this book will inspire clinicians to rethink conventions about the child with cerebral palsy, consider how they communicate these new concepts to their fellow clinicians, and act to bring about positive changes in the management of children with cerebral palsy.

[Pre-order now!](#)

SINDA: Standardized Infant NeuroDevelopmental Assessment

by Mijna Hadders-Algra, Uta Tacke, Joachim Pietz, Heike Philippi

Is there a way to accurately predict neurodevelopmental disability within the first year of life? Standardized Infant NeuroDevelopmental Assessment (SINDA) has been developed as a screening instrument for infants aged 6 weeks to 12 months corrected age, to assist early detection of infants at high risk of neurodevelopmental disorders. It is the first developmental instrument to allow a comprehensive (360-degree approach) including “all” dimensions of development. It can be used quickly in virtually any environment and requires only simple equipment, so excellent when financial and time considerations are important.

[Pre-order now!](#)

EACD Members get 20% off all books and courses published by Mac Keith Press!
Click [here](#) to find the EACD Member discount code.

DMCN Podcasts

[The Musculoskeletal System in Children with Cerebral Palsy](#)

Author Podcast with Gough and Shortland

[Children with Vision Impairment](#)

Author Interview with Naomi Dale, Jenefer Sargent, and Alison Salt

[Gross Motor Function Measure User's Manual 3rd Edition](#)

Author Interview with Peter L Rosenbaum

New DMCN Publication Highlights

[Genetic diagnosis of basal ganglia disease in childhood](#)

In this study of 62 children with basal ganglia disease, Baide-Mairena et al. combined whole-exome sequencing and mitochondrial DNA sequencing to identify several genetic conditions affecting basal ganglia metabolism. The paper is free access for a limited time only.

[Neurological features in infants with congenital heart disease](#)

Butler et al. found that neurological examination abnormalities were common in infants with congenital heart disease aged 5 to 12 months. They highlight the need for early developmental services and adherence to American Heart Association recommendations for developmental follow-up for this high risk group.

[Declining prevalence of cerebral palsy in children born at term in Denmark](#)

This cohort study of nearly 1 million children by Larsen et al. found that a reduction in maternal smoking during pregnancy, fewer children being born post-term, and advances in neonatal treatment have led to the declining prevalence of cerebral palsy in Denmark.

Check out more on the [DMCN homepage](#) and the very latest releases on [Early View](#).

Other Meeting Updates

BACD 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting goes virtual!

The British Academy of Childhood Disability (BACD) has made the decision that its 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting on Thursday 17 March 2022 will be a fully virtual meeting. The 2022 BACD Annual Scientific Meeting will focus on Managing Pain in Childhood Disability, and registration fees for this event have been reduced by 50%. Find out more [here!](#)

IAACD / AusACPDM 2022 Register now!

The Combined 11th AusACPDM and the 3rd IAACD Conference 2022 will take place from 1-5 March 2022. It will be a fully virtual and accessible conference over four days with more than 100 sessions. All content will also be available for the delegates for three months after the conference. Click [here](#) here to register for Better Together 2022!

AACPDM 2022 Meeting: Call for Abstracts!

The AACPDM 2022 Scientific Program Committee is thrilled to be planning an in-person meeting in Las Vegas September 21-24, 2022! The [abstract submission website](#) is now open and is set to close on Monday, January 31, 2022 at 11:59pm EST

SAVE THE DATE: EACD Barcelona 2022

Join us at the 34th Annual Meeting
Meeting theme: "Networking knowledge into actions"
18-21 May 2022, Barcelona (Spain)

www.eacd2022.com





European Academy of Childhood Disability

The European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD) is an international not-for-profit association founded in 1989, whose members have a scientific and/or clinical interest in the area of Childhood Disability. The mission of the EACD is to promote and support evidence-based education and research in Europe for the benefit of people with childhood-onset disabilities.

[EACD Website](#)

This message was sent to you by European Academy of Childhood Disability
International not-for-profit association

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