



Udruženje neurohirurga Srbije – Serbian Neurosurgical Society
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“2nd Theoretical, Practical & Hands-on International Course in Peripheral Nerve and Brachial Plexus Surgery” Belgrade, Serbia, October 31st-November 3rd 2017

OFFICIAL REPORT

2nd Theoretical, Practical & Hands-on International Course in Peripheral Nerve & Brachial Plexus Surgery of the Peripheral Nerve Surgery Committee, World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS), took a place at School of Medicine University of Belgrade, from October, 31st until November, 03rd 2017. This Course was organized and hosted by: World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS), The Peripheral Nerve Surgery Committee, University of Belgrade, School of Medicine, Institute of Anatomy “Niko Miljanic”, Department for Peripheral Nerve Surgery, Clinic for Neurosurgery, Clinical Center of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbian Neurosurgical Society (SNSS) and Southeast Europe Neurosurgical Society (SEENS).

This very important and efficient educational event of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies was held on the occasion of the 94th Anniversary day of neurosurgery in Serbia and 79th Anniversary day of Clinic for neurosurgery CCS (October 31st), in concordance with: 3rd Annual Meeting of Serbian Neurosurgical Society (SNSS) and Joint meeting with Southeast Europe Neurosurgical Society (SeENS). Building on the great success of its predecessor held in Leon, Spain last year, this important educational event comprises Theoretical part-from basic to innovative and hands on cadaver course, the first of its kind in the field of peripheral nerve surgery in Southeast Europe.

It was the first time that one of the world’s top level multidisciplinary events in the field of the Peripheral Nerve Surgery (PNS) was held at School of Medicine, University of Belgrade. The Course was divided on three days theoretical, one day hands-on cadaveric dissection part and half day nursing symposium *Management of Brachial Plexus and Peripheral Nerve Disorders*. Live stream transmission was provided on the WFNS website and YouTube channel for complete duration of the Course.

The Course has been accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®) with 31 European CME credits (ECMEC®s). Theoretical part of the Course has been accredited by the Health Council of the Republic of Serbia as an International Congress and Hands-on part has been accredited as an International Course of the first category and it gathered 155 participants from more than 30 countries worldwide, along with 25 medical students and 15 volunteers, in total 195 participants. Nursing symposium has been

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accredited by the Health Council of the Republic of Serbia as a National symposium with international participation, with 9 credits for lecturers and 5 credits for participants.

The importance of the event has been recognized by all relevant institutions in Republic of Serbia and it was held under the auspices of Ministry of health Republic of Serbia and Minister of health Ass. dr Zlatibor Loncar.

The Course in pictures

The night before the opening of the Course, Prof. Dr Lukas Rasulic, Course Director, officially welcomed distinguished guests and invited speakers to Belgrade with Welcome faculty reception, hosted in the Hotel Constantine the Great.



Picture 1. Welcome Faculty reception (Hotel Constantine the Great, October 30th, 2017)

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Prof. Lukas Rasulic, Course Director and President of Serbian Neurosurgical Society and President of Southeast Europe Neurosurgical Society, along with Dr Mariano Socolovsky and Prof. dr Branislav Filipovic, Course directors, officially opened the Course and welcomed invited speakers and participants. On behalf of Minister of Health, Ass. Dr Zlatibor Lončar, Mrs. Danijela Urosevic, Assistant Minister for European integration and international cooperation, Prof. Dr Nebojsa Lalic, Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Belgrade and Prof. Dr Milos Jokovic, Director of the Clinic of neurosurgery, Clinical Center of Serbia, gave their support and welcomed guests.



Picture 2. Opening ceremony - Course Directors: Prof. Dr Lukas Rasulic, Prof. Dr Mariano Socolovsky, Prof. Dr Branislav Filipovic (October 31st 2017, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade)

After the Opening ceremony, Prof. Madjid Samii gave special guest lecture: *Development of Peripheral nerve surgery: Personal experience in more than 50 years.*



Picture 3. Special guest lecturer - Prof. Madjid Samii (October 31st 2017, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade)

At the end of the scientific program, on October 31st, Gala dinner for faculty and participants was held in the restaurant Aeroklub. On behalf of the Serbian Neurosurgical Society, Prof. Rasulic delivered honorary memberships in Serbian

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Neurosurgical Society to: Mariano Socolovsky, Alain Gilbert, Piero Luigi Raimondi, Rajiv Midha, Debora Garozzo, Eric Zager, Mario Siqueira, Shimon Rockhind, Kartik Krishnan, Thomas Kretschmer, Kåre Fugleholm, Jorge Francisco Clifton Correa, Allan Belzberg and Gregor Antoniadis.



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Picture 4. Gala dinner and SNSS Honorary members (October 31st 2017, Restaurant Aeroklub)

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On November 1st 2017, 4 scientific sessions were held, as well as the 1st Business Meeting of EANS Section of Peripheral Nerve Surgery. In the evening, Faculty dinner took place in Restaurant SOFA.



Picture 5. Faculty and participants (November 1st 2017, School of Medicine, Belgrade)



Picture 6. The 1st business meeting of EANS Section of Peripheral Nerve Surgery (November 1st 2017, School of Medicine, Belgrade)



Picture 7. Faculty dinner (November 1st 2017, Restaurant Sofa)



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On November 2nd 2017, 2 scientific sessions were held and Serbian traditional dinner in Restaurant Sokace.



Picture 8. Scientific Program (November 2nd 2017, School of Medicine, Belgrade)



Picture 9. Serbian Traditional Dinner (November 2nd, 2017, Restaurant Sokace)

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On November 3rd 2017, practical part of the Course - cadaveric dissections were held at Institute for Anatomy, School of Medicine Belgrade, as well as the Nursing symposium *Management of Brachial Plexus and Peripheral Nerve Disorders*. In the evening, Farewell dinner & Belgrade clubbing took place in the club Duduru.



Picture 10. Cadaveric dissections (November 3rd 2017, Institute of anatomy "Niko Miljanic")

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Picture 11. Farewell dinner & Belgrade clubbing (November 3rd 2017, Club Duduru)

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The Course in numbers

The Congress was attended by total of 195 participants from 31 countries from 5 continents, including 25 medical students and 15 volunteers. Attendees were medical students, doctors, residents, consultants, but also well known neurosurgeons and world leading masters in peripheral nerve surgery. During the extraordinary 11 sessions, 51 expert from the field introduced participants in the following topics: Basic principles of diagnosis in peripheral nerve injuries, Clinical Examination, Basics, indications and surgical techniques in trauma, Special problems in traumatic injuries, Peripheral Nerve Tumors, Nerve compressions of the upper limbs, Nerve compressions of the lower limbs, Pain and peripheral nerve surgery, What can peripheral nerve surgeons do for tetraplegics?, Adult Brachial Plexus Surgery, Obstetric brachial plexus-the basics.

Practical part-Cadaveric dissections: Dissections by participants-upper limb and lower limb was executed by PNS experts and experts in anatomy and coordinated by Prof. Lukas Rasulic, Course Director.

Prof. Puskas, Prof. Filipovic, Prof. Vitosevic, Prof. Milisavljevic and Prof. Malikovic from the Institute of anatomy, School of medicine Belgrade gave clinical apply anatomy lessons for upper and lower extremity. After that, demo performance surgical approaches to the peripheral nerve surgery of the upper and lower extremity was shown to the participants by Manuel Llusa Perez, Mariano Socolovsky, Bassam Adas and Vincenzo Paterno. Assistance in practical work of the participants was provided by Kare Flugelholm, Eric Zager, Alan Belzberg and Gonzalo Bonilla. 10 work stations and 1 demo station, in total 11 specimens fresh frozen cadavers were present. Everyone agreed that this part of the Course was maximally useful and it was graded with highest grades in the evaluation form.

Whole program was available via live stream at the WFNS website and YouTube channel and it can be viewed at following links:

Day 1: https://youtu.be/u_F0rrxscVM

Day 2: <https://youtu.be/jlPAfJmpK58>

Day 3: <https://youtu.be/Y7PX7CGFgvE>

Day 4: <https://youtu.be/DiygQQsZwbs>

Within the Course, 1st business meeting of the EANS section of peripheral nerve surgery was held. Members of this section were also participants and/or faculties of the Course and they established their work after formal establishing of the section at EANS congress in Venice and agreed about future activities. Report from this meeting was sent to all members.

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Apart of the Course, **Nursing Symposium "Management of Brachial Plexus and Peripheral Nerve Disorders"** was successfully held on November 3rd, led by Prof. Linda Yang and Mrs. Miriana Popadich with 10 presentations and 30 participants. All participants of this Symposium were satisfied with presented lectures and content of the Program.

Instead of conclusion

During the Course, experiences and ideas were exchanged, plans for further development of mutual cooperation and prosperity of the profession have been agreed. An impressive number of attendees, number of speakers and their importance in the world of neurosurgery, topics and lectures, but also social program have contributed to this event to be evaluated by the participants with the highest grade. The days of Congress have been imbued with highest scientific and professional spirit and friendly atmosphere.

Everyone agreed that the common factor for success of the 2nd Theoretical, Practical & Hands-on International Course In Peripheral Nerve & Brachial Plexus Surgery was coordination, synchronization and harmony between organization in all aspects - scientific, professional, educational, social and environmental. *My special thanks and congratulation goes to MIROSS, SNSS & SEENS PCO, Atomic - visual support company, as well as to SNSS Office and my team.*

Report brought by



Lukas Rasulić

Prof. Dr. Lukas Rasulić
Course Director
SeENS President
SNSS President

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