



EUROPEAN CONTACT
LENS SOCIETY OF
OPHTHALMOLOGISTS



NEWSLETTER 18 July 2019

Please also consult the [ECLSO website](#)

Dear Members of ECLSO, dear friends,

Just keeping you informed about our most recent news:

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ECLSO Symposium Nice and oncoming events

On June 14th, ECLSO organised its own Symposium at SOE in Nice, drawing a full audience room and active participation from the participants.

The sessions were about myopia control and presentations were given by Dr Cornelius Berzas (Germany), Dr Carina Koppen (Belgium), Dr Andrena Mc Elvanney (UK), Dr René Mély (France), Dr Adriana Stanila (Romania), and dr Ömür Uçakhan (Turkey). Their power point presentations will be available very soon in our section for “Members only”.





During the annual General Assembly, we felt pleased and honoured to accept Moldova as a new National Group of ECLSO, represented by Dr Ala Paduca. In her speech she expressed the desire to contribute actively to sharing of knowledge in the field of contactology. Welcome!

In the ECLSO Praesidium meeting on Saturday June 15th, it was decided to organise the **49th ECLSO full congress on September 18th and 19th 2020 in the Novotel Tour Eiffel in Paris**. The main hot topic will be **myopia control**; specialty and soft contact lenses and ocular surface pathology will contribute to the high standard quality of the programme. At the same time, we provide practical workshops and a special educational programme for young ophthalmologists.

A main topic of the latest ECLSO Praesidium meeting was how we can involve young ophthalmologists in our network. We realise they are already overburdened with work, but still we dare to defend the point of view that every ophthalmologist should have a basic knowledge about contact lenses and recognize their pathology. Please help us find a solution to make our programme more accessible for young MDs.

But in the meantime, mark your calendar: 49th ECLSO congress in the Novotel Tour Eiffel, Paris, on September 18th and 19th 2020!!

49th ECLSO

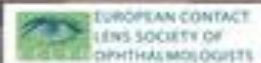
European Contact Lens and
Ocular Surface Congress

**EUROPEAN CONGRESS
ON MYOPIA CONTROL**

**18-19
September
2020**

Novotel Tour Eiffel

Paris - France



Please visit www.eclso.eu

For any information, please contact: regis@eclso@europe-organisation.com
For accommodation, please contact: es@europe-organisation.com



‘A truly global gathering’ - BCLA Conference hailed a success by eye health experts from around the world

A worldwide focus on myopia control is starting to take effect, with audiences at the BCLA Clinical Conference more engaged with the concept than ever before.

Speaking to a packed crowd at the event in Manchester, keynote speaker Jeffrey J Walline from Ohio State University said: “When I first started talking about myopia control there would be 10 people in the audience. Five would be my family and the other five would be in the wrong room. Things have changed now.”

A dedicated track on the second day of the three-day conference focused solely on the issue of myopia control, with Dr Walline chairing a session which explored the myths and misconceptions in myopia management, compared the benefits of myopia management over putting children into contact lenses and questioned whether or not you could be successful in myopia management without measuring axial length.

As part of the discussion, Dr Walline concluded that spending time outdoors at an early age can delay the onset of myopia but it doesn’t necessarily slow its progression.



The conference saw hundreds of eye care professionals from across the world descend on the Manchester Central Convention Centre to enjoy a packed programme of lectures, workshops and peer discussions.

Outgoing BCLA President Sunil Shah, who officially handed over the chains to Alcon's Jonathon Bench at the event's gala dinner, said: "This conference was a truly global gathering featuring the very best speakers on the subjects that matter most to 21st century eye care professionals. To see so many countries from around the world represented in both delegates and speakers proved the enduring international appeal of the BCLA.

Highlights of Ljubljana Refractive Surgery Meeting 17th - 18th May 2019

The LRSM is not just a surgery meeting organised by Dr Kristina Mikek (Morella Okulisti, Ljubljana) but it also presents a scala of presentations on top level ophthalmology, albeit refractive surgery. And even more, our report on the conference should invite you to send in more reports on similar national meetings you attended and found interesting.

In the first part of the congress Dr David O'Brart (UK) offered a sort of counter-panel to other speakers, who presented case-studies supporting use of new technologies like Femto-second laser assisted cataract surgery (FLACS) or combinations of refractive surgery and cross-linking. David O'Brart expressed his appreciation for the research activities of the speakers, but underlined the need for an evidence based approach by conducting preferentially randomised controlled studies (RCT). As for FLACS specifically, it has not been proven to give superior results compared to conventional phako-emulsification and costs related to purchase of the laser and disposables remain extremely high.



In the session about “Irregular cornea and keratoconus” ECLSO President Dr Carina Koppen presented the results of a 2-center study on the fitting of specialty lenses in a population of newly diagnosed keratoconus patients. Scleral lenses prove to be most popular but corneal contact lenses do keep an important place in the correction of these patients. About 2/3 of patients needed lens fitting at the time of diagnosis, underlining the conclusion that cross-linking is performed rather late in the disease process, i.e. when the patient is already contact lens dependent for good binocular vision.

David O’Brart in a reaction dismantled cross-linking myths by outlining the facts and separating them from “generally held beliefs”. Fact is that epi-on is much less effective, if effective at all, than epi-off cross-linking. Fact is also that the way in which we remove epithelium has a defining effect on the healing process after cross-linking.

In his presentation about drug delivery by contact lenses, Dr Sarenac expressed his mixed feelings about the current effectiveness of the method. Some good results have been reported in dry eye treatment and post-operative management but generally the delivery of drugs by contact lenses remains rather unpredictable. New areas of investigation are opened by research on nanoparticles in contact lenses, that would allow for calibrated delivery of drugs, a glue layer on the inside of the lens containing the drugs and 3D-printing of lenses containing drugs.

Dr Michael Mrochen surprised the audience by a philosophical view on evolution in medical care. According to him, steady scientific evolution in medical applications will be alternating with sudden innovative surges, triggered by technological inventions. The invention of crosslinking, of scleral lenses and of the premium IOL’s are examples of such “shock wave” innovations. He also sees the development of digital health platforms as another example of such innovative leaps that will shift the attention of medical care from the surgeon to patient centered choices.

So far a very incomplete survey of this very interesting local meeting in Slovenia!

Dr Carina Koppen, ECLSO President

Dr Ömür Uçakhan-Gündüz, ECLSO Secretary-General

Frank Van den Eynde