

# What do European Young Pediatric Nephrologists look like? Toward a Young Pediatric Nephrology Network (YPNN)

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- 1- European Society for Paediatric Nephrology
- 2- Paediatric Nephrology, Lyon, France
- 3- International Pediatric Nephrology Association
- 4- Paediatric Nephrology, Porto, Portugal
- 5- Paediatric Nephrology, Leuven, Belgium
- 6- Paediatric Nephrology, Hannover, Germany
- 7- Paediatric Nephrology, Turino, Italy



## 1- Background and methods

As European pediatric nephrologists, we aim to obtain a **high standard of patient care and scientific research**.

To reach this goal, **high-quality post-graduate education is mandatory**. Therefore we were interested to evaluate conditions for pediatric nephrology training in Europe, and to improve our knowledge of young European pediatric nephrologists and their expectations.

**On behalf of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology, we launched a questionnaire for European Paediatric Nephrologists below 40 years of age to study different items:**

- General characteristics
- General medical education
- Specific education for paediatric nephrology in the country of origin
- Daily medical practice
- Research
- Teaching
- Conferences and publications
- Involvement in national and international societies
- Use of ESPN website
- Participation to ESPN-IPNA Junior Classes.

Results are expressed as median (min-max).

## 4- Research and publications

### Master of science (MSc)

Obtained, n=23  
Not obtained, n=34  
Ongoing, n=2  
Year of graduation: 2008 (2005-2013)

### PhD

Obtained, n=13  
Not obtained, n=38  
Ongoing, n=7  
Not determined, n=1  
Year of graduation: 2012 (2006-2014)

### Principal investigator (PI) position (past or current)

Yes, n=24  
No, n=32  
Not determined, n=3

### Part of industry-sponsored clinical trials

Yes, n=24  
No, n=33  
Not determined, n=2

Proportion of total worked time for research: 10% (0-95)

### Which research is performed?

No research at all, n= 10  
Basic science, n= 2  
Clinical science, n= 31  
Both, n= 14  
Not determined, n=2

### A few comments from responders

*Research is performed after work.*  
*Research is performed on my spare time!*

## 2- General characteristics

**59 young European Pediatric Nephrologists answered.**

At a median age of 35 years (28-40), 53 of them have full-time positions. Among them, 50 women.

### Country of origin

Armenia, n=1  
Belgium, n=10  
Columbia, n=1  
Croatia, n=1  
Czech Republic, n=2  
France, n=20  
Germany, n=1  
Italy, n=3  
Lithuania, n=1  
Malta, n=1  
Netherlands, n=1  
Norway, n=1  
Poland, n=1  
Portugal, n=1  
Serbia, n=1  
Spain, n=2  
Sweden, n=1  
Switzerland, n=1  
Turkey, n=5  
UK, n=4



### Current position

Academic lecturer, n=1  
Clinical instructor, n=2  
Assistant/associate professor, n=2  
Professor, n=1

Attending and consultant, n= 23  
Researcher, n=1

Fellow, n=8  
Trainee, n=1  
Resident, n=7  
Registrar, n=1  
PhD student, n=3

Not determined, n=9

## 5- Teaching, conferences and publications

### Teaching

Involved, n=44  
Where?

In a medical school (n=8), in the hospital (n=18), both (n=17), not determined (n=1)

### International conferences

Ever attended an international conference, n= 47  
Ever presented a poster, n= 41  
Ever presented an oral presentation, n= 27  
Ever gotten an invited talk, n= 15

### Publications

Ever published an original paper in an international journal as first author, n=30

## 6- Scientific societies

### ESPN and IPNA

Ever been on the ESPN website, n= 45

Interested by a **dedicated page** on the website for young pediatric nephrologists, n= 51

Attended the first ESPN-IPNA Junior Classes in Porto in 2014, n= 10

Aware of the possibility to get a master in case of attendance to the Junior Classes three years in a row, n=28

### Membership in national and international scientific societies

National societies, n= 41 (and 4 with no national society)

ESPN, n= 21  
ERA-EDTA, n= 15  
IPNA, n= 16

## 3- Clinical activities

### Primary activity

Clinical (N=33), research (N=4) or combined (N=22)

### Medical education

Beginning med school: 1999 (1993-2005)  
MD degree: 2006 (2000-2014)

### Pediatric nephrology

Beginning training: 2010 (2001-2015)  
Practicing: 2011 (2005-2015)  
57 pediatricians and 2 nephrologists!

### Hospital

University hospital, n=47  
General hospital, n=11  
Private practice, n=1 (shared time)  
Not determined, n=1

N= 58 practicing medicine at the time of the questionnaire

### Medical activities

Pediatric nephrology only, n=22  
Pediatric nephrology + another speciality, n=6  
Pediatric and adult nephrology, n=2  
Pediatric nephrology and general pediatrics, n=28  
Not determined, n=1

### Specific pediatric nephrology

Clinical nephrology, n=58  
Hemodialysis, n=37  
Peritoneal dialysis, n=40  
Renal transplantation, n=35

### Description of the clinical duties

On-call system for pediatric nephrology: n=35  
Median: 7 nights per month (2-30)

Nights in the general pediatric ward: n=44  
Median: 1.8 nights per month (1-10)

Outpatients clinics for pediatric nephrology: n=48  
Median: 20 patients per week (2-300)

Proportion of total worked time for clinical duties: 80% (5-100)

## 7- Conclusion

The EDTA has launched the **Young Nephrology Platform** (YNP in 2013) for all European nephrologists below 40 years of age. As such, they have a dedicated session at the EDTA conference every year, and they also organize a specific meeting on a yearly basis.

From these preliminary results, it appears that the launching of a **Young Pediatric Nephrology Network (YPNN)** among the ESPN would be interesting.

The results of this questionnaire help us to bridge the gap, and to improve collaborations and networking among the future generation of Paediatric Nephrologists in Europe.

We have **some ideas for this YPNN**: a dedicated page on the ESPN website, a specific YPNN session during the next ESPN meetings, social networking....

We would like to thank all the physicians who helped us by filling the questionnaire. For those who have not participated yet, we know that you are busy, but **you can still be part of this adventure**: it will take you less than 10 minutes to answer; you can send the questionnaire by mail, or by fax 0033-4-27-85-67-68, at your easiest convenience.

**We still need your input and ideas, do not hesitate to share them with us!**

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