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Polish National SECEC delegate

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Report from Poland

Dear Dr Willems,

I would like to make short update on our shoulder efforts in Poland.

1. Interest in shoulder and elbow.

Most of the efforts tend to increase the knowledge and interest in shoulder and elbow, encourage surgeons to study and research in that matter and obviously promote SECEC. Generally there has been increasing interest in shoulder surgery in recent years. It can be seen by number of small courses and companies insisting on teaching shoulder surgery (arthroscopy in particular) to new surgeons.

To pass that impression into more detailed information we have currently sent survey on shoulder surgery to orthopaedic centres around Poland. Such a survey was performed 2 years ago. We hope to learn more about appreciation of shoulder problem in the country and increase awareness and presence of SECEC. The survey is under supervision of myself as SECEC National Delegate and section of shoulder and elbow surgery of Polish Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology.

2. New members.

One of the issues is to encourage the new members from my country to join the SECEC. It is obviously not that easy and quick to increase the number of new members. For more experienced surgeons criteria to join might be the limit. It is a bit easier to become a junior candidate and I see the greatest potential in that area. Happily right now we will have 5 new applicants from my department. We have rising number of young surgeons in other orthopaedic centres of Poland. Some of them are trained locally and nationally, other being fellows from international centres.

Since most of the procedures and modern approach is relatively new it needs some more time to obtain and present own results. We are now getting closer to finish studies in our department. Unfortunately not many centres are strongly interested in research these days. It needs time to build labs for experiments and biomechanics. However I am sure it will eventually come with time and increased number of procedures performed in Poland. That is why my colleagues and myself try to participate in many courses to have a chance to

speak about research and train new procedures. Part of it is also promoting SECEC every time being on stage.

3. Courses and meetings.

This year we had at least 3 medium-size shoulder courses in the south of Poland, one in central Poland and at one in Warsaw. For the first time dr Pelka organized very successful cadaver course. Shoulder and Elbow Section of Polish Orthopaedic Society is working and preparing meeting in Lodz by prof. Fabiś and will have a session during Polish Orthopaedic Society meeting. There are other meetings to this year including ESSKA upper limb course in November in Warsaw.

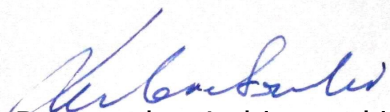
Part of our department activity is also to attend the meetings and courses in Russia, Ukraine and Bielarus, where there is great need to promote knowledge, modern approach and new techniques.

- Poznan Courses:

Last year we had very successful FESSH meeting organized by prof. Romanowski together with FESSH/SECEC course in Poznan. The course was very well accepted and in our opinion was a great idea to share common interest in very difficult subjects: paralytic shoulder and stiff elbow. SECEC has received the reports from dr Jenó Kiss- who was coordinator on behalf of the SECEC and was very supportive.

In past years we already organized 3 international shoulder courses in my city, 2 of which had SECEC support. As we expected we had increasing number of participants not only from Poland but also from more eastern countries.

Therefore lastly I would like to discuss the next international course in Poznan- that would be already 5th. The idea of the course is upper limb surgery and rehabilitation. This formula worked very well before. That includes shoulder, elbow and wrist, both lectures and workshops (arthroscopy, arthroplasty, biomechanics, rehabilitation, cadaver lab). Usual number of participants was 300-450, although for FESSH we had over 1000. All the facilities and organization were practised and gone very efficiently before. The course is international. We certainly anticipate the guests from both Poland but also aim at Central-Eastern Europe. At the moment we have kind confirmation from distinguished lecturers from SECEC executive to joint the meeting as well from FESSH and EWAS. I sure it will good opportunity to meeting during Poznan Course.



Przemysław Lubiatowski