NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Friends and supporters of ambulatory surgery!
As you see in the multi-national notices below, IAAS and its member organizations continue to advance the patient-focused approach that is at the core of ambulatory surgical care. Not only multi-national, but also multi-disciplinary, we bring together the nursing, anesthetic and surgical clinical specialties as well as administrative expertise. Join us at the next IAAS Congress and join in the cutting-edge discussions with the specialty experts.

Plan now to join us in beautiful Porto, May 2019!

Beverly K Philip, MD, President

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Netherlands
Last week in September, a large Swiss delegation of surgeons, anaesthesiologists, hospital managers and surgical assistants made a study trip to Dutch centers for day surgery. In Switzerland, there is currently political pressure to organize health care more economically, with an emphasis on ambulatory surgery. Against this there is resistance from Swiss colleagues in so far as they certainly welcome the idea from a qualitative point of view, but have difficulty with the purely economic argument. There is as yet no national association for AS in Switzerland, but on the initiative of the "Walker Project", Prof. Gian Melcher, after an exploratory visit last year, has now brought a wide group of colleagues to my own Day Center in the University Hospital AMC in Amsterdam, a branch in Amsterdam from the Abicadem chain (a international chain of private clinics with among others orthopedic and plastic surgery), a large Eye Hospital in Rotterdam, and the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Dordrecht, where my colleague Xavier Falieres, chairman of the Dutch Daycare Association and GA member of IAAS, has received the guests and showed them around. The Swiss guests were very enthusiastic about the approach of ambulatory surgery and the different aspects of the various facilities in the Netherlands, and
intend to come back with more colleagues in January 2019. This might be a starting point for a Swiss organization!

Jan Eshuis
Medical Director of Day Surgery  Amsterdam University Medical Center

USA
US Ambulatory Surgery Center Association Offers Educational Programs, Addresses US Senate Committee

The US Ambulatory Surgery Center Association (ASCA) will host its next Winter Seminar in Austin, Texas, January 17–19, 2019. This event will feature three specialized tracks focused on ambulatory surgery center (ASC) management essentials, infection prevention in ASCs and coding and reimbursement strategies. The program will feature expert speakers, multiple networking opportunities and extended sessions that will give attendees opportunities to take a deep dive into specialized content. Register today.

ASCA 2019, ASCA’s next annual Conference & Expo, will take place May 15–18 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee. This meeting is known for its expansive exhibit hall, which routinely attracts the largest number of ambulatory surgery product and service providers to assemble under one roof at a US-based meeting of ambulatory surgery professionals each year. Details and registration information will be available soon.

Ambulatory surgery center administrator and ASCA member Ty Tippets, MD, testified before the US Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in September about the rising interest in consumerism in health care in the US and the ability of quality and price transparency to lower the cost of care. "If we are to truly empower patients to get the best value for their health care dollars, both price and quality data must be transparent, meaningful and comparable across all settings where care is available,” Tippets said.

Portugal
APCA - 20th Anniversary Commemorative Session

Associação Portuguesa de Cirurgia Ambulatória organised a session commemorating the 20th anniversary of the association, which took place on September 15, 2018 (Portugal National Health Day), held at Seção Regional Norte - Ordem dos Médicos - Porto.

This session aimed to review the history of ambulatory surgery in Portugal, and a video was presented by APCA, where the most relevant facts and dates of this course were presented.

At the same time APCA honoured 10 personalities who stood out in these 20 years of the history of the AS in Portugal and made a decisive contribution, so that our country can occupy a prominent position in the World.

The initiative was attended by the Secretary of State and Health, Dr. Fernando Araújo, one of those honored by the APCA.

The honorees were:

Dr. Manuel Seca
Dr. Paulo Lemos
Dr. Lima Cardoso
Enf Argentina Neves
nf Fátima Malafaia

Dr. Alberto Roxo
Dr. Mahomed Americano
Dra. Cláudia Borges
Dr. Eurico Castro Alves
Dr. Fernando Araújo

Carlos Magalhães
Presidente APCA

Spain

Spanish association for AS (ASECMA) has had several international and national activities during this year

First 12th National DS Symposium in Madrid April 19-21. Under the general topic - Answers to all AS challenges - we had an excellent national meeting, with a large range of interesting topics and participation of anaesthesiologist, health managers, nurses and surgeons.

Many topics were covered and the meeting included Face to face sessions and workshops for Anaesthesia, Surgery and Nursing.
63 papers were accepted and the best papers were presented in general session.

Second. 2nd European IAAS Congress. Budapest may 11-12.
Members of ASECMA to an active part in the scientific programme.
Fernando Docobo presented the experience in “Undergraduate training program in DS” and “Ambulatory laparoscopic cholecystectomy-a nationwide perspective”.
Dr. Luis Hidalgo presented “What factors prevent ambulatory haemorrhoidectomy? “
L. Hidalgo. and F. Docobo chaired a Poster Session where 8 free papers were presented by ASECMA members.
Participation in general Assembly and closing ceremony with presentation 3rd European Congress IAAS. Valencia 2020.

Third. Participation in 7th AS Iberic Congress, and 10th AS National Portuguese Congress. Jun 27-29 Lisbon
Main topics were Innovation in AS. New technologies. New strategies. Benchmarking. AS Communication Novas Tecnologias. This was an excellent meeting with Spanish participation in the main anaesthetic, surgery and nursing sessions and in the free papers.

2019-2020 Next events:

Planning the 3rd European IAAS Congress Valencia, 9th Iberic Congress and 14th National DS Congress are in progress, possible date last week in March (with a pleasant weather).
Valencia has an excellent communication by air, train, road and ship. Venue will be Congress Valencia Center near city centre with excellent airport communication. Accommodation is very easy in hotels of several categories in Congress Center environment.

Fernando Docobo Durantez. ASECMA Scientific Committee President
Luis Hidalgo Grau. ASECMA President

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS
Registration is open
Preliminary programme now available online

British Association of Day Surgery Annual Scientific Meeting
Celebrating 30 years of BADS the meeting will take place in London on 27-28th June. 2019. Details here

Ambulatory Surgery
Volume 24.3 now ready for download.

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