



## Following the 10<sup>th</sup> National Epilepsy Congress

### 10. Ulusal Epilepsi Kongresi Ardından

Candan Gürses

Istanbul University Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Department of Neurology, Istanbul, Turkey

The 10<sup>th</sup> National Epilepsy Congress was held at Seferihisar, İzmir, between May 12-15, 2016. Significant differences were noted compared with the previous congress both in terms of scientific level and the number of participants.

The congress started with the traditional half-day electroencephalography course. Anıl Gürkan and colleagues sang Greek-Turkish songs in the opening cocktail reception and created a warm atmosphere, which fostered fusion.

There were 300 participants in this congress compared with the 275 participants in the previous congress (2014). I should emphasize that the number of both residents and specialists increased. This congress also provided full-scholarship participation for the first time to first authors of novel abstracts who were aged younger than 40 years, either student or resident.

A total of eighteen individuals applied for scholarship. Other than the 18 oral presentations, 26 other individuals applied for oral presentation without scholarship. These figures were 14 in the 2014 congress, and 44 in the 2016 congress. However, only 26 people could present posters due to time restrictions. The number of poster presentations was 74 (2016) vs. 40 (2012), which was also doubled. First, second, and third place awards were awarded for oral and poster presentations; the ever increasing scientific level has been flattering for all of us.

Our awards were not limited to only oral and poster presentations. Two manuscripts were awarded the Kenan Tükel

Clinical Sciences Award, and one manuscript was awarded the Esat Eşkazan Basic Sciences prize. Furthermore, one original article among the articles published in the Epilepsy Journal was awarded for the first time with participation in the European Epilepsy Congress to be held in Prague, Czech Republic, September 11-15, 2016. The names of the prizewinners are listed on the society's web site. It was further gratifying that the prize-winning presentations and articles were on very different topics, with each researcher choosing different areas of interest instead of limiting themselves with popular topics. 'Blue Note' entertained everyone on the awards night with popular songs.

Another feature of this congress was the honorable opportunity to host our old and beloved professors who are currently retired.

The congress venue, Seferihisar-İzmir, was also outstanding; Seferihisar is one of the 12 slow cities of Turkey. In this fast flowing world, having the chance to slow the pace of life and look around calmly was precious. I believe our participants had the opportunity to travel the city after the congress.

The most pleasant feedbacks were extremely valuable for us, the congress board members, and made all the fatigue fade away.

In the name of the 2014-2016 Turkish Epilepsy Society Board

#### *Ethics*

*Peer-review: Internal peer-reviewed.*

**Address for Correspondence/Yazışma Adresi:** Candan Gürses MD, Istanbul University Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Department of Neurology, Istanbul, Turkey  
Phone: +90 533 364 86 96 E-mail: candangr@icloud.com

**Received/Geliş Tarihi:** 05.06.2016 **Accepted/Kabul Tarihi:** 06.06.2016

©Turkish Journal of Neurology, Published by Galenos Publishing House.

This article is distributed under the terms of the "Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial 4.0 International Licence (CC BY-NC 4.0)".