

**Report on the 10<sup>th</sup> ESPE Maghreb School held in a mix Format between Algiers, Rabat and Sfax, from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022**

After two years of absence because of the COVID 19 pandemic, ESPE Maghreb School returned this year in a mix format, with the students being in a face-to-face meeting with local faculty in each of the Maghreb countries, the European faculty being connected with the 3 groups via zoom.

The Algerian group was in Algiers, the Capital of Algeria, the Tunisian group in Sfax, a city, located 270 km (170 mi) southeast of Tunis and The Moroccan group was in Rabat, the capital of Morocco. Two students were allowed to participate virtually because of a suspected COVID 19 infection.

Due to the special nature of this meeting, it was shortened to 3 days in place of the usual 5-day meeting.

The meeting, which was conducted as usual in the French language, marked the first of the third three-year cycle of this teaching programme and hence the 10<sup>th</sup> Maghreb School to date. This year's teaching faculty comprised six professors from the Maghreb Countries: Asmahane Ladjouze and Meriem Bensalah from Algeria; Zineb Imane and Sana Abourazzak from Morocco; and Thouraya Kamoun and Mongia Hachicha from Tunisia; and five colleagues from Europe/ North America: Juliane Léger and Marc Nicolino from France, Cécile Brachet from Belgium, Guy Van Vliet from Canada and Rasa Verkauskiene from Lithuania. We were sad to say goodbye to our former coordinator Malcolm Donaldson from the UK, but glad to welcome Rasa this time.

The student faculty consisted of 29 students from Algeria (11), Morocco (11) and Tunisia (7).

We started the meeting by paying tribute to a former student of the Maghreb school, Dr Baaziz Hadda who disappeared last winter, in the presence of her sister, also a doctor to whom all the students and teachers sent their condolences.

The intensive Three-day programme featured interactive lectures focusing on Obesity, Calcium and bone (Rickets), Diabetes Mellitus (Type 1 Diabetes, DKA), puberty (Physiology, precocious and delayed puberty); Growth (SGA, Growth hormone treatment), thyroid problems (acquired hypothyroidism, Hyperthyroidism) and DSD (46,XY DSD).

The teachers have uploaded their lectures online on a dedicated section of the ESPE website so that students can download and view them before the meeting.

Small group sessions included the ever-popular teachers' cases on days 2 and 3. There were 2 groups in Algeria one group in Morocco and one in Tunisia. Each group was connected to a teaching faculty member from Europe Canada. Because of the shortened time of the meeting, we didn't have small group sessions for the students' cases and research projects. But the clinical students' cases were discussed for each student with his tutor from the teaching faculty before the meeting. Each student delivered a case study to the plenum.

The standard was very high this year with excellent case presentations. For the first time, we awarded 3 prizes for best case report – One for each country.

This year, we missed our excursion session and the singing with Malcolm, but this was, by common agreement, and despite the unusual nature of the meeting, an excellent ESPE Maghreb School.

This year, we say farewell to Dr Guy Van Vliet from Canada who will be replaced by Professor Lorenzo Iughetti from Italy. We express our gratitude and thanks to Professors Thouraya Kamoun from Tunisia, Zineb Imane in Morocco and Meriem Bensalah in Algeria for all their hard work in making the 10<sup>th</sup> Maghreb School such a success. We also thank Novo Nordisk for their support of Maghreb School since 2018.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Maghreb School is scheduled to take place in March 2023 (6-10<sup>th</sup>) in Algeria or Tunisia (depending on the politics situation between Algeria and Morocco). It will (hopefully) be a face-to-face meeting of 5-day and it will be followed by the 7th Maghreb Seminar envisaged on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Asmahane Ladjouze, on behalf of the Maghreb School faculty.

