



Report of the 9th Migrating Course on Epilepsy, September 19th - September 22nd 2019 Vrdnik, Serbia

9th MIGRATING COURSE ON EPILEPSY (MCE) – ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE AND LOGISTICS

This course is organized in memory of late Prof. Nebojsa Jovic, past President of the Serbian League and one of the initiators of the MCE.

The Local Organizing Committee was formed by Aleksandar Ristic, Dragoslav Sokic, Mirjana Arsenijevic, Nikola Vojvodic, and Aleksa Pejovic.

The Course Directors were Aleksandar Ristic and Silvio Basic.

Organizing Committee was formed by Eugen Trinko, Meir Bialer, Alla Guekht, Silvio Basic, Aleksandar Ristic, and Dragoslav Sokic.

Students organized their own trips to the venue, and one student came by plane and at his arrival was picked by pre-arranged transfer. Faculty was picked up and delivered back to the Belgrade International Airport Nikola Tesla by pre-arranged and at times shared transfer. Three faculty members (outside Serbia) came by car.

All students and Faculty Members were given a file during the opening remarks and registration session or subsequently upon arrival, with the printed versions of the program and additional informations regarding their stay in the hotel. Most of the didactic material was made available to the students per link given at the website of the Serbian League Against Epilepsy. In addition, a We Transfer file with course material and pictures taken during the course activities was created and sent to all the participants and instructors.

The students and the instructors were accommodated in the hotel Premier Aqua, Vrdnik. All Faculty Members stayed in single rooms for the period necessary to do their tutorials and lectures (an average of 3.5 nights each). All students arrived on time and remained at the course for its duration.

The Course respected its schedule with little or no delays from the planned sessions' schedules. Certificates of attendance were distributed to the all of the students at the closing Session of the Course. The faculty received a certificate as well.

The course was based on comprehensive educational program combining basic and clinical epileptology.

There were:

- 21 Lectures
- 12 Group works (tutorials, case oriented learning)
- 29 Students' Case Discussions

Covered topics:

- mechanisms of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of AEDs
- basic mechanisms of pharmacoresistance
- etiology, epidemiology and classification of epilepsies
- therapeutic strategies
- seizure semiology in adults, children and infants



- diagnostic evaluation including preoperative non-invasive and invasive monitoring
- differential diagnosis and co-morbidities
- therapeutic strategies and new approaches in epilepsy surgery and epileptic
- status

STUDENTS

There were 30 students. 27 bursaries were given (14 to Serbians and 13 to students from outside Serbia). Three students came as self payers; out of these, one came from Serbia, one came from Bosnia and Herzegovina, and one are from North Macedonia. Students came from different geographical areas:

- Serbia: 15
- Croatia: 9
- North Macedonia: 2
- Montenegro: 2
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 1
- Egypt: 1

The Following table is a list of the participants:

Country	Name and Surname	Bursary
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Natasa Pejanovic Skobic	Self-paid
Serbia	Nikola Ivancevic	Bursary
Croatia	Petra Nimac Kozina	Bursary
Croatia	Biljana Djapic Ivancic	Bursary
Croatia	Nevia Novak	Bursary
Serbia	Mirjana Arsenijevic	Bursary
Serbia	Jovana Ivanovic	Bursary
Montenegro	Sabrina Hadziosmanovic	Bursary
Serbia	Vanja Martinovic	Bursary
North Macedonia	Irena Djorceva	Bursary
Serbia	Djurdjica Bjelic	Bursary
Serbia	Ivo Bozovic	Bursary
Croatia	Nenad Brnica	Bursary
Serbia	Aleksa Pejovic	Bursary
North Macedonia	Kristina Georgijevska	Self-paid
Serbia	Sanja Pilipovic Dragovic	Bursary
Serbia	Ana Kosac	Bursary
Serbia	Aleksandar Dimitrijevic	Bursary
Montenegro	Jelena Lazovic	Bursary



Croatia	Marta Polegubic	Bursary
Serbia	Masa Kovacevic	Bursary
Serbia	Marija Knezevic Pogancev	Self-paid
Egypt	Hamada Ibrahim Zehry	Bursary
Serbia	Maja Milovanovic	Bursary
Serbia	Jelena Janevski	Bursary
Serbia	Ksenija Gebauer Bukurov	Bursary
Croatia	Zeljka Cuk	Bursary
Croatia	Alen Gulin	Bursary
Croatia	Antonija Mahmutovic	Bursary

FACULTY MEMBERS

We had 15 Faculty Members, from Serbia and the rest of Europe. The flights were booked according to preferences initially given and the transfers all went out flawlessly. The local Faculty members came by car to the venue. Nine faculty members came from abroad.

The Faculty Members of the 9th Migrating Course were the following: Matthew Walker, Dana Craiu, Dragoslav Sokic, Silvio Basic, Emilija Cvetkovska, Felix von Podewils, Milan Brazdil, Aleksandar J. Ristic, Vladimir Bascarevic, Nikola Vojvodic, Galina Stevanovic, Ivana Markovic, Zeljka Petelin Gadze, Davor Sporis, Stevo Lukic. Eugen Trinka canceled his attendance, and Matthew Walker gave his planned lectures, and this was previously arranged between those two faculty members. Therefore, program ran smoothly.

CULTURAL PROGRAM

A Gala Dinner was held at the wine cellar restaurant of the Vrdnicka Kula Hotel on Saturday 21th September. It started on time and the climate of interaction among all was evident. Music and dancing continued until late.

FINAL ASSESSMENT

29 students filled in the evaluation reports and from those, there is a clear positive assessment of the course.

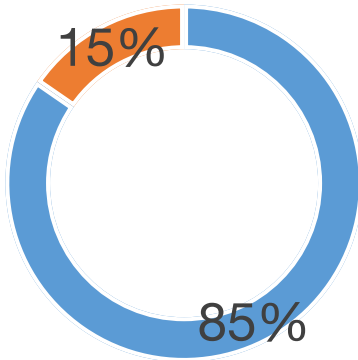
We received positive compliments for all the efforts made towards the success of the 9th Migrating Course both from Faculty Members and students.

The results of the final evaluation are summarized below.



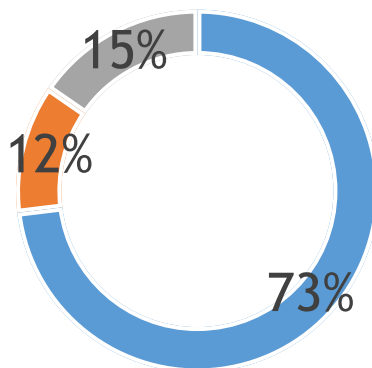


Was this educational course of practical relevance for your professional activities?



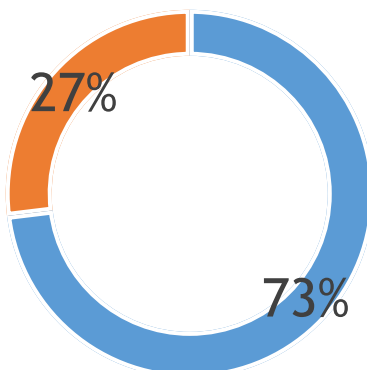
- very much
- much
- sufficient
- little
- not at all

Did the course enhance your previous knowledge?



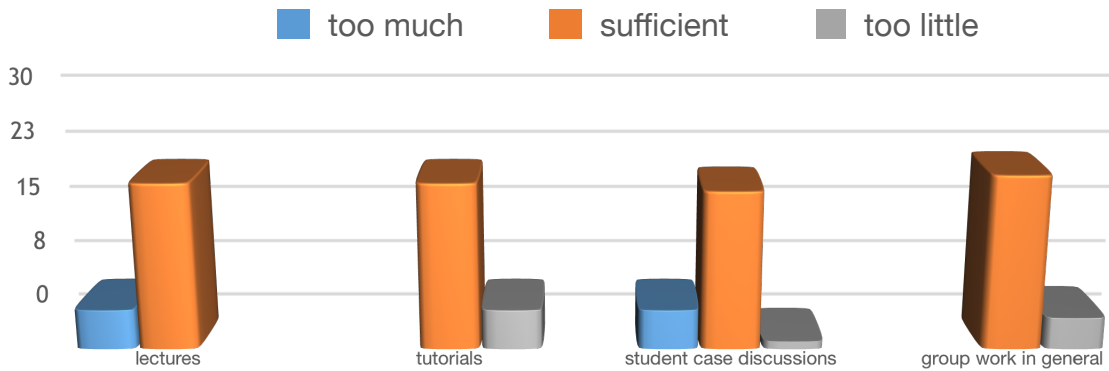
- very much
- much
- sufficient
- little
- not at all

Was it a useful experience for you to prepare, present and discuss your own case in a group setting?

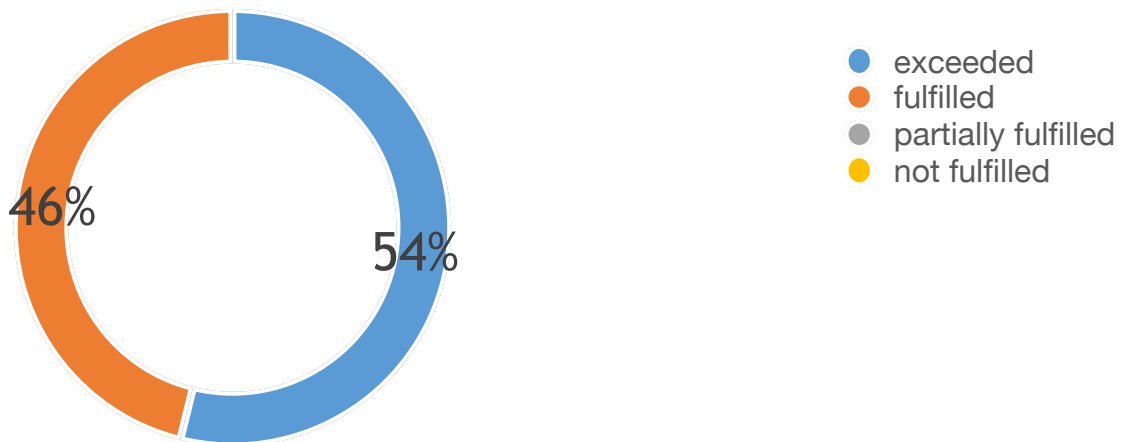


- very much
- much
- sufficient
- little
- not at all

Did you find the discussion of cases from other participating useful?



How do you rate the amount of time allocated to each of the different learning methods?



Did this educational course meet your expectations?



PROGRAM

Arrival Day

18.00 - 19.00 Distribution of materials

Migrating Course: Structure and Goals

Day 1 (Thursday, 19 SEP 2019)

Moderators: Basic S, Ristic AJ

09.00 – 09.30 Opening Remarks and Introduction of speakers and participants (Ristic AJ, Basic S)

09.30 – 10.30 Basic pharmacokinetic aspects of the AED and their mechanisms of action (Sokic D)

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee Break

Moderators: Sokic D, Sporis D

11.00 – 11.45 New and newest AED – why do we need it (Basic S)

11.45 – 12.30 Relevance of AED study design to clinical practice (Lukic S)

12.30 – 13.30 Group work (1,2,3,4)

13.30 – 15.00 Lunch

15.00 - 16.00 Group work (1,2,3,4)

16.00 – 17.30 Students' Work Presentations (Basic S, Sokic D)

17.30 – 19.00 Students' Work Presentations (Ristic AJ, Lukic S)

19.00 – Dinner

Day 2 (Friday, 20 SEP 2019)

Moderators: Vojvodic N, Cvetkovska E

09.00 – 09.45 Epilepsy etiology aspect and its relations to future treatment (Walker M)

09.45 – 10.30 Easy to treat epilepsies (Ristic AJ)

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee Break

Moderators: Lukic S, Petelin Z



11.00 – 11.45 Pharmacoresistance: pathophysiology and clinical features (Basic S)

11.45 – 12.30 Pharmacoresistant epilepsy treatment (Sokic D)

12.30 – 13.30 Group work (1,2,3,4)

13.30 – 15.00 Lunch

15.00 - 16.00 Group work (1,2,3,4)

Moderators: Walker M, Sokic D

16.00 – 16.45 Pharmacoresistant epilepsy – differential diagnosis (Cvetkovska E)

16.45 – 17.30 Antiepileptic drugs and EEG (Petelin Gadze Z)

17.30 – 18.00 Coffee Break

18.00 – 19.30 Students' Work Presentations (Walker M, Craiu D)

19.00 – Dinner

Day 3 (Saturday, 21 SEP 2019)

Moderators: von Podewils F, Stevanovic G

08.00 – 08.45 Cornerstones in epilepsy pharmacotherapy (Sporis D)

08.45 – 09.30 Epileptic syndromes in childhood and their treatment (Craiu D)

09.30 – 10.15 Epilepsy in adolescent and adulthood – clinical approach (Walker M)

10.15 – 11.00 Idiopathic generalized epilepsy: pathophysiological concepts and long-term course (von Podewils F)

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break

Moderators: Ristic AJ, Vojvodic N

11.30 – 12.15 Epilepsy and elderly – pharmacotherapy implications (Vojvodic N)

12.15 – 13.00 Epilepsy and pregnancy – treatment strategies (Sporis D)

13.00 – 13.45 Status epilepticus treatment (Trinka E)

13.45 – 15.00 Lunch

15.30 – 20.00 At leisure

20.00 – Galla Dinner

Day 4 (Sunday, 22 SEP 2019)

Moderators: Sokic D, Ristic AJ



- 09.00 – 09.45 Epilepsy surgery general principles (Trinka E)
- 09.45 – 10.30 Presurgical evaluation of pharmacoresistant epilepsy (Brazdil M)
- 10.30 – 11.15 Resection techniques in epilepsy surgery (Bascarevic V)
- 11.15 – 11.45 Coffee Break

Moderators: Lukic S, Sporis D

- 11.45 – 12.30 Stimulation techniques in epilepsy treatment (Brazdil M)
- 12.30 – 13.20 Students' Work Presentations (Sporis D, Vojvodic N)
- 13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

Departures

Group work

- 1 EEG tips and tricks (Sokic D, Cvetkovska E)
- 2 What to do now? – cases from clinical practice (Basic S, Markovic I)
- 3 Neuropsychology and neuroimaging of epilepsy in practice (von Podewils V, Ristic AJ, Petelin Gadze Z)
- 4 Epileptic encephalopathies (D. Craiu, Stevanovic G)