

HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM THE FFN

Season's greetings to you all.

This has been a fantastic year for the FFN. The Global Call to Action has been endorsed by over 80 international societies involved in the care of patients with fragility fracture.

The next phase is to seek the endorsement of national societies – we will be seeking

you help with this process. There are now more than 20 national FFN's and the number is growing rapidly. Please see the adjacent article about FFN Italy, which is a fantastic example of multidisciplinary working for the benefit of patients. There is no limit to our ambition in

this area – every country in the world surely needs a network to coordinate the acute care, rehabilitation and secondary prevention of patients with fragility fracture. This is the theme for the 8th FFN Global Congress in Oxford. I look forward to seeing you there!

SAVE THE DATE

8th FFN Global Congress

Oxford, United Kingdom, 27–31 August 2019

Join us in a beautiful city famous for its prestigious Universities

Dates to Remember

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Abstract Submission: | 9 April 2019 |
| Early Bird Registration: | 19 June 2019 |
| Get Together/Registration: | 27 August 2019, evening |
| Congress Opening: | 28 August 2019 |



FFN ITALY

Recently FFN Italy was officially established.

The founding board is based on an enthusiastic group of activists composed by four orthopods, four geriatricians, two anaesthetists, two physiatrist, two nurses, one bone specialist, one general practitioner, one psychologist and Professor Paolo Falaschi as the global FFN representative.

Luca Pietrogrande an Orthopaedic Surgeon from the university of Milan is the President, Carmelinda Ruggiero, a Geriatrician from the University of Perugia is the president elect, Giulio Pioli from Reggio Emilia is the chair of the Scientific committee, Stefano Eleuteri psychologist from Rome is the general secretary. FFN Italy has been established in front of a notary. The statute, closely modeled on the articles of the Global FFN, has been approved according to the Italian legal rules. FFN Italy will of course keep updating Global FFN Executive Committee and Board about the work we are undertaking. It was decided to have three presentation meetings in north, central and south of Italy, during 2019. All FFN Italy members are happy to have this opportunity through Global FFN.



International Collaboration of Orthopaedic Nursing

ICON 2019

23 - 24 May 2019
Cornwell Kolding, Kolding Denmark
FSOS (Professional Society for Orthopaedic Surgery Nurses) to host the ICON 2019 in Kolding, Region of Southern Denmark.

ORTHOPEDIC NURSES WALK THE LINE ACROSS BORDERS!

Together we can improve by:
SHARING KNOWLEDGE • COLLABORATE

Registration now open: <https://conferencemanager.events/icon2019/the-event.html>

Global Congress in Oxford. I look forward to seeing you there!

Report of the first FFN Asia-Pacific Regional Expert Meeting

Tokyo University, 24–25th November, 2018

The meeting was attended by 129 healthcare professionals from 16 Asia-Pacific countries, plus Global FFN Board members from UK, Italy and USA:

| Country | Orthop Surgeon | Non-surg MD | Nurse | AHP | Industry | Scientist | Other | Total |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Australia | | 4 | 2 | 3 | | | | 9 |
| China | 3 | 8 | 2 | 1 | | | 3 | 17 |
| Hong Kong | 7 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 2 | | | 18 |
| India | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Indonesia | 2 | | | | | | | 2 |
| Italy | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Japan | 10 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | | 4 | 25 |
| Korea | 3 | 1 | | | | | | 4 |
| Malaysia | 3 | 4 | | 1 | | 1 | | 9 |
| Nepal | 3 | | | | | | | 3 |
| NZ | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 2 |
| Pakistan | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Philippines | 6 | 9 | | | | | | 15 |
| Singapore | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Taiwan | 6 | 3 | | | | | 1 | 11 |
| Thailand | 5 | 2 | | | | | | 7 |
| UK | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| USA | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Vietnam | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Total | 53 | 41 | 12 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 132 |

The mix of disciplines was appropriate, with orthopaedic surgeons constituting the biggest single group, but less than 50% of the total.

The stated goal of the meeting was to stimulate the formation of National FFNs (nFFNs). Before this meeting was planned, there were already nFFNs established in Japan, India and China. The process of planning the meeting itself stimulated the formation of a further six - in Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand. In the course of the meeting, representatives from Indonesia and Nepal expressed their intention to set up nFFNs. The reason for advocating the creation of nFFNs is the publication and wide dissemination of the Global Call to Action to Improve the Care of People with Fragility Fractures in

the journal *Injury* (49: 1393-1397. (2018).

The message of the Call to Action is based on four "pillars":

- I. Multidisciplinary co-management of the acute fracture episode
- II. Excellent post-acute rehabilitation to recover function and quality of life
- III. Secondary prevention after every fragility fracture, via a Fracture Liaison Service
- IV. The formation of multidisciplinary national alliances to achieve policy change that facilitates the above three clinical pillars

A National FFN is one model for achieving the fourth pillar

and thereby the rest. It has the advantage that, through the network of nFFNs and the annual Congress of the Global FFN, transmission of ideas and mutual encouragement are easily available. The programme of the Asia-Pacific Regional Expert Meeting was based around the four pillars <https://nzoa.org.nz/system/files/FFN%20Asia%20Pacific%20Expert%20Meeting%20on%20Fragility%20Fractures.pdf> Thus the Regional Expert Meeting was a key component of the FFN's global drive to get the Call to Action translated into Actual action.

Thanks to impeccable organisation by Takashi Matsushita

and his colleagues in FFN-Japan, including delicious food at the Welcome Reception and Networking Dinner, the meeting proceeded in an excellent, positive atmosphere. We are in the process of gathering the presentations to put up on the FFN website. The final discussion was full of ideas about how to make the next regional meeting even more useful. The Organising Committee for the Tokyo meeting will meet shortly to consider where and when that should be held.

David Marsh
General Secretary, FFN
Co-chair, Regionalisation
Committee

Recently published



Review the full report here: <https://www.noca.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Irish-Hip-Fracture-Database-National-Report-2017-FINAL.pdf>

Article of Interest

As a part of the EuGMS-Congress on 10th of October in Berlin, the core curriculum „Fragility Fracture Nursing“ was introduced to 22 German speaking nurses from the field of orthogeriatric care. Patrick Roigk (M.A.) and Dr. Oliver Mauthner, who are responsible for the project in the German-speaking countries, are pursuing the goal of implementing a community of interest to advance the orthogeriatric nursing in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria.



If you are also interested in collaboration or in further information, please contact either the project responsables or visit the project-homepage.

Patrick Roigk: patrick.roigk@rbk.de,

Dr. Oliver Mauthner: Oliver.Mauthner@fps.ch

Project homepage: <https://fgalterstraumatologie.wordpress.com/>

Book for free download: <https://www.springer.com/en/book/9783319766805>

FFN Supporter



Launch of multidisciplinary alliance aiming to curb Asia Pacific's fragility fractures



Experts from around Asia Pacific gathered in Sydney on November 29th to form the Asia Pacific Fragility Fracture Alliance. Its mission and vision align with those of FFN and the aim is to bring organisations together at a regional level to implement the FFN developed Call to Action. This group will complement the role of national FFNs in Asia Pacific countries.

Formation of the Asia Pacific Fragility Fracture Alliance coincides with an article published in MJA Insight calling for an urgent, cross-disciplinary, multi-sector response to the mounting medical emergency facing Asia's 4.5 billion inhabitants (comprising 60 per cent of the global population). The article appeals for the swift implementation of mobility-maintaining strategies to enable older people to live well, and independently, for as long as possible.

The Alliance's four regional and three global representatives drawn from the osteoporosis, geriatrics, orthopaedics and rehabilitation sectors, will focus on three pillars – improving acute care for those who sustain bone fragility fractures (due to osteoporosis), subsequent patient rehabilitation, and secondary fracture prevention. Members of the umbrella organisation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which underscores their commitment to work collaboratively throughout the Asia Pacific region to improve outcomes for people who sustain fragility fractures.

The Alliance will be chaired by Dato' Dr. Joon-Kiong Lee, an orthopaedic surgeon from Malaysia and Associate Prof Derrick Chan, a geriatrician from Taiwan

“Given our global population is rapidly ageing, with a projected 310 per cent increase in hip fractures for men, and a 240 per cent increase in hip fractures for women by 2050, these alarming statistics demonstrate the need for systematic management of fragility fractures,” said Dr Lee.

“The Asia Pacific Fragility Fracture Alliance will act as a catalyst for systematic change, by driving policy, increasing awareness, and influencing political and professional frameworks across the region.”

Estimates suggest that between 2015 and 2030, the global population aged 60 years and above, will increase by 56 per cent, from 901 million, to more than 1.4 billion, respectively. Moreover, by 2050, the Asian population aged 65 years and above will number 936 million. Between 4.5 - 6.3 million hip fractures are predicted to occur worldwide by 2050, half of which will occur in Asia. The direct medical cost associated with the total number of hip fractures in China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand collectively, is projected to increase from USD 9.5 billion in 2018, to USD 15 billion by 2050.

Worryingly, despite the availability of generally effective and well-tolerated therapies, only a minority of people who sustain fragility fractures are evaluated and treated for underlying osteoporosis. Therefore, many people experience further, debilitating secondary fractures, creating a substantial, but avoidable burden on already strained health care systems.

The MJA Insight article outlines various global and regional strategies to date, designed to systematically manage and prevent fragility fractures, with a common focus on secondary fracture prevention. The article highlights the 2018 Global Call to Action to improve the care of people who sustain fragility fractures, by improving acute multidisciplinary care, rapid secondary fracture prevention and ongoing post-acute fragility fracture care.



Members of the Asia Pacific Fragility Fracture Alliance include the Asian Federation of Osteoporosis Societies, Asia-Oceania Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, Asia Pacific Geriatric Medicine Network, Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association, Fragility Fracture Network, International Osteoporosis Foundation and The International Society for Clinical Densitometry.