



## IMPORTANT NEWS: POSTPONEMENT OF ALL FFN 2020 EVENTS

After extensive discussion of the world's events and the major changes we are facing and will surely face in the months ahead, it is the judgement of the FFN Executive Committee that all FFN face-to-face regional and global congresses should be postponed until sometime in 2021. This decision considered many factors including, first and foremost, for everyone's safety, as well as recovery efforts and ease of travel.

The committee has, therefore, decided to postpone the FFN Global Congress in Toronto (originally scheduled for September 2020) for a year (until September 2021) and the one in Melbourne (originally scheduled for 2021) until 2022. Our plan is to maintain the same program that our Scientific Committee has organized for the 2020 Congress as the foundation of the 2021 Congress and make changes as those who already agreed to be on the 2020 program are unable to participate in 2021. (The same plan holds for our three Regional Expert Meetings scheduled for this year which will also be postponed until 2021.)

One consequence of postponing the 2020 Toronto Congress is that there will not be a General Assembly this year; therefore, elections for officers and Board members cannot take place. Therefore, the FFN Board of Directors has voted to roll over the current elected people for an extra year, so that the same officers, Executive Committee and Board can assure organizational continuity during this unpredictable period.

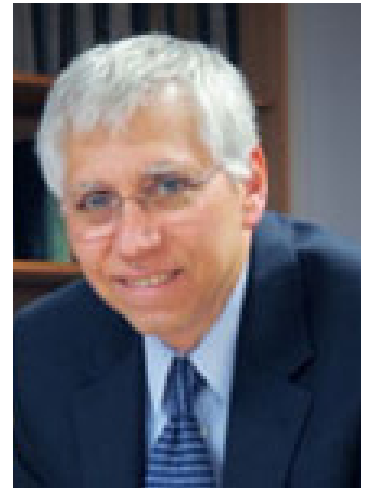
These changes do not by any means imply a suspension of progress. We already are actively exploring the possibilities for considerably enhanced teleconferencing facilities and systems for having virtual Congresses. This will require significant funding from our sponsors, which we believe is entirely realistic, if we come up with some good ideas for how to use them. To this end, please forward any ideas you may have.

These decisions were not easy ones. Rather than devote time and resources to planning Congresses that might not take place in the coming months, we felt organizational efforts would be better spent looking at new ways to reach our growing global membership who are not able to travel and who are very interested in what the FFN can offer to improving care of fracture patients.

I wish all of you good health in the weeks and months ahead. Working together, we will survive this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Jay Magaziner, PhD, M.S. Hyg.  
President



**JAY MAGAZINER**

President

## #JOINTHEFFN

Our new membership portal makes it easy to become an FFN member. It is free to join and you will have access to many great resources, articles and presentations.

Just go to

<https://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org/membership/>

and click on "Join the FFN". The new membership portal will allow members to choose the Special Interest Groups that appeal to them and keep up to date on their work throughout the year and at each annual congress.

Competitive Grant Program in Bone Research

<https://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org/news/latest-news/>

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### FFN WEBSITE NEEDS HELP FROM MEMBERS

Members are encouraged to help the FFN website to climb up search rankings by searching "Fragility Fracture Network" in search engines and to ask their colleagues to do the same. This will enable the profile of FFN to grow as larger numbers of searches improve its ranking, meaning that FFN is more likely to appear on the first page of search results.

### IOF AND FFN TO REINFORCE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WORLDWIDE

A new collaboration agreement between the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) and the Fragility Fracture Network (FFN) will optimize and strengthen the two organizations' common mission to reduce the burden of fragility fractures and improve post-fracture patient care.

The health burden represented by osteoporosis and fragility fractures is growing rapidly at the global level, largely due to ageing demographics. Projections show that by 2050, the worldwide incidence of hip fracture in women and men is likely to increase by 240% and 310% respectively, compared to rates in 1990.

As globally active organizations in the musculoskeletal field, the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) and the Fragility Fracture

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Network (FFN) have complementary visions and missions dedicated to reducing the fragility fracture burden for the benefit of patients and healthcare systems worldwide. The IOF-FFN agreement sets the framework for greater collaboration, joint opportunities, and optimization of resources in areas such as advocacy, education, healthcare professional outreach, conferences and workshops, research, as well as mutual endorsement of flagship operations.

An excellent example of past collaboration is the 2018 Global Call to Action2, coordinated by FFN, which was endorsed by IOF with a total of 81 global, regional and national organisations in the fields of geriatrics/internal medicine, orthopaedics, osteoporosis/metabolic bone disease, nursing, rehabilitation and rheumatology. Together, the organizations called for a systematic approach to fragility fracture care with the goal of restoring function and preventing subsequent fractures.

Professor Cyrus Cooper, president of IOF, stated: “Currently patient outcomes are poor with significant mortality and morbidity. Unless action is taken, the projected increase in healthcare costs will be unsustainable for most healthcare systems. Through our respective targeted initiatives, complementary expertise, and increased collaboration, IOF and FFN will work to drive much-needed change on behalf of patients worldwide.”

IOF CEO Dr Philippe Halbout added: “Both IOF and FFN recognize the need for impactful advocacy at the policy level, and greater healthcare professional education and training in focus areas such as secondary fracture prevention and post-fracture care. We hope to capitalize on our respective strengths and benefit from synergies to amplify our outreach and effectiveness.”

Professor Jay S. Magaziner, president of FFN, stated: “The bone field is facing impactful new challenges that require the optimisation of resources, the creation of synergies and the mutual cooperative efforts of our respective organizations. FFN’s mission is to optimise globally the multidisciplinary management of the patient with a fragility fracture, including secondary prevention, with a strong focus on strengthening the links between orthopaedic surgery, geriatric medicine and other disciplines such as anesthesiology, nursing and physiotherapy involved in acute fracture management and long-term efforts to optimize recovery in function. We look forward to working collaboratively with IOF as we strive to improve the management of fragility fractures, prevent secondary fractures, and restore functional abilities and quality of life following fracture.”

1. Cooper C, Campion G, Melton LJ 3rd. Hip fractures in the elderly: A World-wide Projection. *Osteoporos Int.* 1992 Nov;2(6):285-9.

2. Dreinhöfer KE, Mitchell PJ, Bégué T, et al. A global call to action to improve the care of people with fragility fractures. *Injury.* 2018 Aug;49(8):1393-1397.

## ABOUT THE IOF

The International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) is the world’s largest nongovernmental organization dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and related musculoskeletal diseases. IOF members, including committees of scientific researchers as well as 260 patient, medical and research societies in 100 nations, work together to make fracture prevention and healthy mobility a worldwide health care priority. [www.iofbonehealth.org](http://www.iofbonehealth.org) @iofbonehealth [www.worldosteoporosisday.org](http://www.worldosteoporosisday.org) [www.capturethefracture.org](http://www.capturethefracture.org)

## ABOUT THE FFN

The Fragility Fracture Network (FFN) is a global organisation, which was founded in order to create a multidisciplinary network of experts for improving treatment and secondary prevention of fragility fractures. The primary focus of FFN is to turn the Global Call to Action into Actual Action. FFN believes that this will be achieved by formation of national alliances between relevant professional associations to persuade politicians and promote best practice among colleagues. National FFNs will catalyse formation of such alliances. [www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org](http://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org) @FF\_Network

## FFN GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION

The publication of a Global Call to Action (CtA) to improve the care of people with fragility fractures in 2018 has now been endorsed by 125 leading organisations from around the world, covering the fields of medicine and nursing for older people, orthopaedic surgery, osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease, physiotherapy, rehabilitation medicine and rheumatology. Further information about the Global CtA can be found at: <https://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org/cta/> and was published in the journal *Injury* in 2018 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.injury.2018.06.032>

## FFN REGIONAL NEWS

### FFN ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Because of its rapidly ageing population, the Asia Pacific region will see a pandemic of hip fractures and other fragility fractures in the next few decades. The global call to action mentioned above offers a way to meet this challenge, through a combination of:

- preventing as many fractures as possible by secondary prevention after every fragility fracture
- treating those that do occur in the best and most cost-effective way, through multidisciplinary co-management, in both the perioperative and rehabilitation phases
- creating multidisciplinary national alliances that can bring about the necessary changes in healthcare policy to facilitate these actions

Fourteen National FFNs are established around the world, including 8 in the Asia Pacific region in the following countries: China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand.

### FFN UK WEBSITE NOW LIVE

The FFN is a global organisation, which was founded in order to create a multidisciplinary network of experts for improving treatment and secondary prevention of fragility fractures. The FFN believes that useful policy change can only happen at a national level and multidisciplinary national coalitions are the most effective way to achieve this. FFN UK was, therefore, created in 2019 founded on the aims of Global FFN. Further information is available via the FFN UK Website: <http://www.ffnuk.org.uk/>



## CTA TOOLKITS

FFN is about to commence the development toolkits to help members to implement the global call to action. These will be published in mid-2020. In the meantime, 'Osteoporosis and fragility fractures: a policy toolkit - a comprehensive resource for European policymakers' was launched in February 2020 by The Health Policy Partnership (HPP). The toolkit provides an overview of the scale of the osteoporosis and fragility fracture challenge facing European societies today and offers policymakers concrete options for improving prevention, care and support in key areas. It also includes country profiles which explore the osteoporosis and fragility fracture policy environment in 10 countries: Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Romania, Spain and the UK. The toolkit was developed under the careful guidance of a multi-disciplinary group of experts from across Europe who were instrumental in framing the research and shaping the content of the document. This included representatives of the FFN and International Osteoporosis Foundation, in addition to several former members of the European and national parliaments, among many others. The work was initiated and funded by Amgen (Europe) GmbH. <https://www.healthpolicypartnership.com/project/osteoporosis-and-fragility-fractures/>

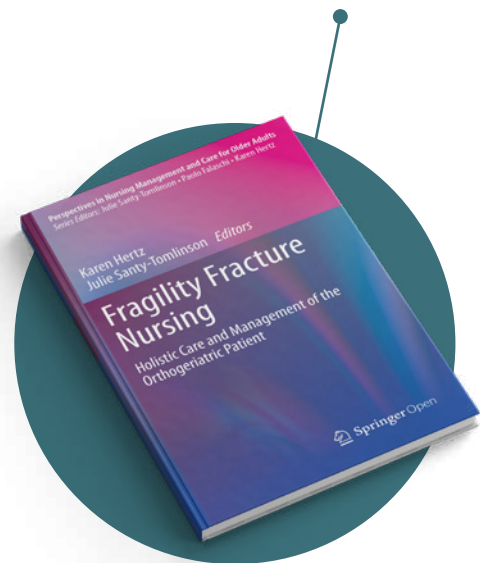


## FFN EDUCATION NEWS

### FRAGILITY FRACTURE NURSING EDUCATION PROJECT CONTINUES TO EXPAND

The Fragility Fracture Nursing Education Project that began in 2017 continues to gather pace with courses taking place as far afield as China and Portugal. In the first few months of this year courses will be taking place in three different Portuguese cities to ensure availability of the programme across the country.

The book that supports the programme "Fragility Fracture Nursing" (Published by Springer) is available as a free eBook at: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-319-76681-2> The book has now been downloaded more than 136,000 times since its publication in 2018. It has been translated into Chinese and Greek.



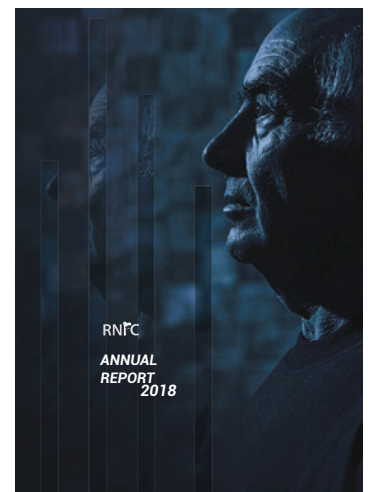
## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All FFN face-to-face regional and global congresses and other meetings have been postponed until sometime in 2021. Information will be posted on the FFN website once further decisions have been made [www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org](http://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org).

## PUBLICATION WATCH

**NATIONAL HIP FRACTURE AUDIT REPORTS**

**NOW AVAILABLE  
IN ENGLISH**





## JOURNAL WATCH

Ebeling, P., Chan, D., Lau, T. et al. Secondary prevention of fragility fractures in Asia Pacific: an educational initiative. *Osteoporos Int* (2019) (epub ahead of print) <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00198-019-05197-y>

Mitchell, P.J., Cooper, C., Fujita, M. et al. Quality Improvement Initiatives in Fragility Fracture Care and Prevention. *Curr Osteoporos Rep* 17, 510–520 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11914-019-00544-8>

Ojeda-Thies, C., Sáez-López, P., Currie, C. et al. Spanish National Hip Fracture Registry (RNFC): analysis of its first annual report and international comparison with other established registries. *Osteoporos Int* 30, 1243–1254 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00198-019-04939-2>

## FFN IS FREE TO JOIN

Encourage your colleagues to join FFN. Membership is free.

### Click here to join

<https://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org/membership/> and click on “Join the FFN”. The new membership portal will allow members to choose the Special Interest Groups that appeal to them and keep up to date on their work throughout the year and at each annual congress.

## FFN EXECUTIVE AND BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	ROLE
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Dieu Donne Niesten	Treasurer
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David Marsh	RegCom Chair
Jacqui Close	SciCom Deputy Chair
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Stefano Eleuteri	EduCom Deputy Chair
Maroun Rizkallah	Deputy Treasurer

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ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS	ROLE
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Monica Perracini	RegCom, EduCom
Pernille Hermann	SciCom
Opinder Sahota	SciCom
Christian Kammerlander	RegCom
Donato Agnusdei	RegCom, EduCom
Robyn Speerin	SciCom
Ellen Binder	SciCom

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Kristina Åkesson	IOF
David Hak	ISFR
Simon Mears	IGFS
Annette Hysten Ranhoff	EuGMS
Takeshi Sawaguchi	AO Trauma
Angie Pearce	ICON
Leo Rodriguez	IAGG
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