



OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

SEMINAR REPORT

PEDIATRIC
PULMONOLOGY

April 24-30, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the
American Austrian Foundation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. GROUP PHOTO
2. SCHEDULE
3. FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES
4. FELLOWS' CONTACT INFORMATION
5. DIARY

SALZBURG CHOP SEMINAR IN PEDIATRIC PULMONOLOGY

May April 24-30, 2022

31 fellows from 24 different countries
--

7 faculty members from the United States of America and Austria

21 lectures given by faculty

30 interesting case presentations by fellows
--

5 excellent case presentation by fellows
--

Group Photo of Faculty and Fellows



		Sunday 24.04.2022	Monday 25.04.2022	Tuesday 26.04.2022	Wednesday 27.04.2022	Thursday 28.04.2022	Friday 29.04.2022	Saturday 30.04.2022	
07:00	08:00		BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	DEPARTURES	
08:00	09:00		Introductions Pre-Seminar Test	Asthma Andreas Pflieger, MD	Non-Invasive Mechanical Ventilation Danna Tauber, MD, MPH	Assessment of Stridor Andreas Pflieger, MD	Asthma Masqueraders Pelton A. Phinizy, MD		
09:00	10:00		Respiratory Physiology Oscar H. Mayer, MD	Cystic Fibrosis Pulmonary Aspects Ernst Eber, MD, ATSF, FERS	Pulmonary Complications of Neuromuscular Disease Andreas Pflieger, MD	Tracheomalacia, Bronchomalacia and Wheezing Ernst Eber, MD, ATSF, FERS	Dysphagia and Aspiration Pelton A. Phinizy, MD		
10:00	10:30		COFFEE BREAK	COFFEE BREAK	COFFEE BREAK	COFFEE BREAK	COFFEE BREAK		
10:30	11:30		Mechanical Ventilation Julie Fierro, MD, MPH	Chronic Lung Disease of Childhood Julie Fierro, MD, MPH	Chest PT and Airway Clearance Techniques Marlies Wagner, MSc	Foreign Body Aspiration Pelton A. Phinizy, MD	Infant Apnea Danna Tauber, MD, MPH		
11:30	12:30		Polysomnography Danna Tauber, MD, MPH	Pulmonary Hypertension for the Pulmonologist Julie Fierro, MD, MPH	Chest Wall and Spine Deformities Oscar H. Mayer, MD	Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Ernst Eber, MD, ATSF, FERS	Obstructive Sleep Apnea Danna Tauber, MD, MPH		
12:30	14:00		LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH		
14:00	15:00		Pulmonary Function Testing Oscar H. Mayer, MD	Workshop Fellows' Case Presentations	Workshop Fellows' Case Presentations	Free Afternoon	Post-Seminar Test Evaluation & Discussion		
15:00	16:00	Workshop How to Present a Case							
16:00	17:00	Workshop Case Presentations by Faculty to Fellows							
17:00	18:00		<i>17:00 - 17:15</i> OMI Presentation						
18:00	19:00	FACULTY MEETING TO REVIEW THE WEEK					FAREWELL RECEPTION		
19:00	20:00	WELCOME RECEPTION & DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	GRADUATION DINNER Certificates Awarded		
20:00	21:00					<i>20:30 - 21:30</i> CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT			

Learning Objectives for Participants

At the conclusion of this seminar, the participant should be better able to:

1. Review pulmonary physiology and pathophysiology.
2. Review common lung disorders in infants, children, adolescents, and young adults.
3. Recognize the signs and symptoms of various respiratory disorders in infants and children.
4. Discuss diagnostic tools and therapeutics in pediatric lung disorders.
5. Develop an understanding of how to approach diagnosis and both acute and long term management of respiratory disorders.

ACCME Accreditation Statement

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia designates this live activity for a maximum of *22.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*.

Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

FACULTY BOOKLET

PEDIATRIC
PULMONOLOGY
SEMINAR IN SALZBURG

April 24-30, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the
American Austrian Foundation



Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD

Director, Open Medical Institute
American Austrian Foundation

Associate Dean and Gerhard Andlinger Professor
for International Medicine & Distance Learning
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Urology
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Reproductive Medicine
Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics
**Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital
of Philadelphia**

Associate Professor of Urology
Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria

Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD is the Medical Director of the American Austrian Foundation. He is Associate Dean for International Medicine and Distance Learning, Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Urology and Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Reproductive Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2016, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics in the Associated Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He is also Associate Prof. of Urology at the Medical University of Innsbruck and Visiting Professor at the Medical University of Vienna. Amongst others he is a member of the American, German and Austrian Societies of Urology and was awarded the Zuckermandlpreis of the Austrian Society of Urology in 1989. In 1995 he received the Silver Medal, in 2007 the Golden Medal for Merits to the Republic of Austria and in 2014 the cross of honor of the Land Salzburg. As Director of the Medical Program of the American Austrian Foundation he has initiated the Open Medical Institute, a scientific and educational collaboration of Weill Cornell and the New York Presbyterian Hospital, the Children Hospital of Philadelphia, Duke University, Columbia University, the Cleveland Clinic and leading hospitals in Austria. Dr. Aulitzky earned his medical degree at the University of Innsbruck in 1977, was a research associate at the University of Uppsala, Sweden and the Rockefeller University, New York. He received his training as an urologist at the University of Innsbruck and the General Hospital of Salzburg. He is the author of more than 140 publications on Urology, Andrology and Health Care issues and is co-author of books on basic and clinical urology/andrology.



**Danna Tauber, MD, MPH
(Course Director)**

Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
Perelman School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
3401 Civic Center Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19104
USA

Phone: +1-215-590-3749
Fax: +1-215-590-3500
Email: tauberd@chop.edu

Danna Tauber, MD, MPH is a pediatric pulmonologist who specializes in sleep related breathing disorders and caring for children requiring chronic mechanical ventilation. She grew up in New York City and completed her undergraduate studies at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. She received her medical degree and master's degree in public health at Tulane University School of Medicine and completed her pediatric residency at Montefiore Medical Center. Her fellowship training in pediatric pulmonology was at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia with Drs. Julian Allen and Howard Panitch. During her career, she has had multiple leadership roles as medical director for the respiratory therapy department, sleep medicine, and home mechanical ventilation programs. Currently she is the Senior Medical Director for inpatient Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She lives outside Philadelphia with her husband Rob and their dog, a Welsh Springer Spaniel named Baxter.



**Ernst Eber, MD, ATSF, FERS
(Co-Course Director)**

Professor of Pediatrics
Chair, Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
Head, Division of Pediatric Pulmonology and Allergology
and Cystic Fibrosis Centre
Medical University of Graz
Auenbruggerplatz 34/2
8036 Graz
Austria

Phone: +43-316-385-12605 or 12620
Fax: +43-316-385-13300 or 13276
Email: ernst.eber@medunigraz.at

Ernst Eber, MD, ATSF, FERS is a pediatric pulmonologist. He received his medical degree from the University of Graz, Austria and completed his training at the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, University of Graz (with emphasis on neonatology, intensive care, pulmonology and allergology). He also did a Fellowship at the Department of Respiratory Medicine at the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and the Institute for Child Health Research in Perth, Western Australia. Dr. Eber was Secretary and Chair of the Bronchology Group of the Pediatric Assembly of the European Respiratory Society (ERS), Secretary and Head of the Pediatric Assembly of the ERS, and Curriculum Design Director of the ERS. He has been member of a variety of (ERS and American Thoracic Society/ATS) task forces (on flexible bronchoscopy in children, bronchoalveolar lavage, interstitial lung diseases, wheezing disorders, medicines in children, Pediatric and Adult HERMES, primary ciliary dyskinesia, monitoring of asthma, interventional bronchoscopy in children), committees, consensus groups, and national and international scientific advisory boards. He has performed many educational activities in national programs of postgraduate teaching, and in several Postgraduate and School Courses of the ERS and ATS. Further, he is Associate Editor of "Pediatric Respiratory Reviews" and Associate Editor of "Respiration". Dr. Eber's main topics of research projects and publications include: various aspects of cystic fibrosis, assessment of bronchial responsiveness, (infant) lung function testing, flexible bronchoscopy, congenital malformations of the upper and lower respiratory tract, interstitial lung diseases, primary ciliary dyskinesia, and various aspects of bronchial asthma. He is Editor of the books "Pediatric Pulmonary Function Testing" (Karger, 2005) and "Pediatric Bronchoscopy" (Karger, 2010), which both received awards from the British Medical Association, and of the ERS Handbook of Pediatric Respiratory Medicine. Dr. Eber is Professor of Pediatrics, Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, and Head of the Division of Pediatric Pulmonology and Allergology and Cystic Fibrosis Centre at the Medical University of Graz. He is married and a father of four and lives in Graz.



Julie Fierro, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Division of Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
3501 Civic Center Boulevard, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104
USA

Phone: +1-215-590-3749/+1-201-396-0322
Email: fierroj@chop.edu

Julie Fierro, MD, MPH is a pediatric pulmonologist who specializes in the care of technology dependent children and children with cystic fibrosis. Dr. Fierro grew up in the United States in the state of New Jersey. She completed her undergraduate education at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland with a major in neuroscience. She graduated from Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and completed a Master's in Public Health from Thomas Jefferson University. Dr. Fierro completed a general pediatrics residency and pediatric pulmonology fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr Fierro's research and clinical interests include bronchopulmonary dysplasia, pulmonary hypertension, and home ventilator management. Recent publications include a study on the clinical factors that influence time to tracheostomy decannulation in children with severe bronchopulmonary dysplasia published in the Journal of Pediatrics. Dr. Fierro is currently a faculty member of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband Tai and children Laurel and Bennett.



Oscar H. Mayer, MD

Attending Physician
Division of Pulmonology
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
The Perelman School of Medicine at the
University of Pennsylvania
Division of Pulmonology
11th Floor Colket Center
3501 Civic Center Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19104
USA

Phone: 215-590-3749
Fax: 215-590-3500
Email: mayero@chop.edu

Oscar H. Mayer, MD is a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at The Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and an Attending Pulmonologist within the Division of Pulmonology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Middlebury College, and his Medical Doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh. He then completed his pediatrics residency at the J W Riley Hospital for Children and then a Fellowship in Pediatric Pulmonology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He has been the medical director of the CHOP Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT) laboratory for the last 15 years. In addition to being an active clinician, he has had specific interests and for the last 20 years he has been the pulmonologist in the Neuromuscular Center and in the Center for Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome since its inception 13 years ago and directs much of the outpatient and inpatient management of these patients. He has broad clinical interests including managing patients with chronic respiratory failure, the pulmonary manifestations of neuromuscular disease, and assessing and managing patients with complex chest wall and spine disease. He is on a number of national committees and study groups involved in pediatric pulmonary function testing, the assessment and management of children with complex thoracospinal disorders and neuromuscular disorders, on which he has lectured nationally and internationally and has published a variety of journal articles and book chapters.



Andreas Pflieger, MD

Consultant in Pediatric Pulmonology
Respiratory and Allergic Disease Division
Pediatric and Adolescence Medicine
Medical University of Graz
Auenbruggerplatz 34/2
Graz 8036
Austria

Phone: +43-316-385-84571

Email: andreas.pflieger@medunigraz.at

Andreas Pflieger, MD is a pediatrician who specializes in pediatric pulmonology and allergology. Dr. Pflieger grew up in the eastern part of Styria and received his medical degree from the Karl-Franzens University of Graz, Austria. A postgraduate education in pediatric pulmonology and allergology at the University Children's Hospital of Graz followed before he completed an education as a general practitioner. After one year of training at the Pediatric Surgical and Orthopedic Department in Graz and further education in psychosomatic pediatric diseases as well as in emergency medicine he completed his training as paediatrician at the Pediatric Department of the Medical University in Graz, with special emphasis on neonatology, hematology-oncology, cardiology, pulmonology, allergology, intensive care and sports medicine. Dr. Pflieger is currently the deputy head of the Respiratory and Allergic Disease Division, Department of Pediatrics and Adolescence Medicine, Medical University in Graz, where he has been a consultant since 1997. This year he has also been awarded the "venia docendi" in pediatrics. He is a pediatric pulmonologist with 15 years' experience in home mechanical ventilation and technology dependent children (tracheostomy care etc.). His research interests are in the fields of physiotherapy and clinical research in cystic fibrosis, asthma and sport, home mechanical ventilation and bronchoscopy, with a number of publications in these topics. Dr. Pflieger is currently member of the European Respiratory Society, Austrian Society of Pneumology, Oesterreichische Gesellschaft fuer Kinder- und Jugendheilkunde, Oesterreichische Diabetesgesellschaft.



Pelton A. Phinizy, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
University of Pennsylvania
Perelman School of Medicine
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
3501 Civic Center Boulevard, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104
USA

Phone: +1-215-590-3749
Fax: +1-215-590-3500
Email: phinizyp@chop.edu

Pelton A. Phinizy, MD is a pediatric pulmonologist who specializes in complex airway and aerodigestive disorders. Dr. Phinizy grew up in New York City and completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Michigan. He graduated from Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and completed his pediatric residency and pulmonology fellowship at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York. He is an Assistant Professor at The University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine and attending physician at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He serves as associate program director for the pulmonary fellowship, is the co-director of the bronchoscopy service, and associate director of the Pulmonary Advanced Diagnostic Center striving to bring minimally invasive techniques such as Endobronchial Ultrasound guided biopsies from adult interventional pulmonary to the pediatric realm. His research interests include flexible bronchoscopy, aerodigestive and airway medicine, and bronchopulmonary dysplasia. He lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA with his wife, Dorit, and children, Dale and Felix.



Marlies Wagner, MSc

Senior Physiotherapist
Division of Pediatric Pulmonology and Allergology
Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
Medical University of Graz
Auenbruggerplatz 34/2
8036 Graz
Austria

Phone: +43-316-385-12620
Fax: +43-316-385-13276
Email: marlies.wagner@medunigraz.at

Marlies Wagner, MSc is a physiotherapist from Graz, Austria. After finishing her general physiotherapy education, she specialised in working with patients with respiratory disorders. She has been working as a chest physiotherapist in the Division of Pediatric Pulmonology and Allergology, Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, Medical University of Graz/Austria for more than 20 years. In 2000 she completed her diploma in „Atemphysiotherapie“, and in 2010 she graduated the Master Course in Cardiorespiratory Physiotherapy. Her clinical expertise is in respiratory disorders with a special interest in cystic fibrosis (children & adults). For the last two years she has been chairing the Working Group for Cardiorespiratory Physiotherapy of the Austrian Society of Pneumology, and recently she was elected as Secretary of the International Physiotherapy Group for Cystic Fibrosis (IPG/CF). She co-authored a couple of papers and is an active collaborator of ongoing studies, including ACTIVATE-CF. In addition, she is a lecturer in basic respiratory education for students in physiotherapy and in the Master Course of Cardiorespiratory Physiotherapy. She lives in Graz with her husband and her three children.

Fellow Booklet

Pediatric Pulmonology



Rahel Argaw, MD
Addis Ababa Univ., CHS, SoM
Department of Pediatrics
Zambia
5775 Addis Ababa
Ethiopia
rahel.argaw@aau.edu.et



Noiba Azimova, MD
Specialized Scientific and Practical Medical
Center of Pediatrics - Tashkent
Department of Pediatrics
3, Proezd Talant, 2 Chimbay Street
100179 Tashkent
Uzbekistan
noiba.shakhova@gmail.com



Ivan Bambir, MD
University Hospital Centre Zagreb
Department of Pediatrics
Kispaticeva 12
10 000 Zagreb
Croatia
ivan_bambir@hotmail.com



Katerina Boshkovska, MD, PhD
Institute for Respiratory Diseases
Department of Pediatrics
N. Kozle b.b
1000 Skopje
North Macedonia
katerinaboss@yahoo.com



Livia Elena Brezeanu, MD
Clinical Emergency Hospital for Children "Grigore
Alexandrescu"
Department of Pediatrics
Bulevardul Iancu de Hunedoara, Nr 30-32
11743 Bucharest
Romania
liviabrezeanu@yahoo.co.uk



Irena Dautaj, MD
University Medical Center of Tirana "Mother
Teresa"
Department of Pediatrics
Street Rruga e Dibres Nr. 372
1000 Tirana
Albania
irenadautaj@yahoo.com



Joao Dias, MD
Centro Hospitalar Médio Ave
Department of Pediatrics
Rua Artur Cupertino Miranda 150
4760-107 Porto
Portugal
fariadias94@gmail.com



Lyzette Alejandra Garcia Bonilla, MD
Instituto Nacional de Pediatría
Department of Pulmonology
Insurgentes Sur 3700C
04530 Mexico City
Mexico
biohitgan@gmail.com



Ivana Gondová, MD, PhD
Children University Hospital Banská Bystrica
Department of Pediatrics
Námestie Ludvika Svobodu 4
974 01 Banská Bystrica
Slovakia
ivanagondovaa@gmail.com



Bitseat Woldegebriel Haile, MD
Addis Ababa - College of Health Sciences
Department of Pediatrics
Addis Ababa
+251 Addis Ababa
Ethiopia
Bitseat.woldegebriel@gmail.com



Astghik Hakobyan, MD
Arabkir JMC
Department of Emergency Medicine
30 Mamikonyants
0062 Yerevan
Armenia
astghik88@mail.ru



Sonila Hysa, MD
'Mother Theresa' University Hospital Center
Department of Pediatrics
Rruga e Dibrës, Nr. 372
1005 Tirana
Albania
sonila.gjoka@gmail.com



Sabina Khalilova, MD
Azerbaijan Medical University
Department of Pediatrics
Babek Avenue 85 k
AZ1000 Baku
Azerbaijan
dr.sabrina@mail.ru



Marija Krutulyte, MD
Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health
Sciences Kaunas Clinics
Department of Pediatrics
Eiveniu g. 2
50009 Kaunas
Lithuania
marija.krut@gmail.com



Goda Laucaityte, MD
Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health
Sciences Kaunas Clinics
Department of Pediatrics
Eiveniu Street 2
50161 Kaunas
Lithuania
glaucaityte@gmail.com



Snezhina Lazova, MD, PhD
University Hospital Pirogov
Department of Pediatrics
Bul. "General Eduard I. Totleben" 21
1606 Sofia
Bulgaria
snejina@lazova.com



Gergana Lengerova, MD
Medical University - Plovdiv
Department of Internal Medicine
Vasil Aprilov 15 A
4000 Plovdiv
Bulgaria
gergana.lengerova@yahoo.com



Vendula Martinů, MD
Second Faculty of Medicine, Charles University
and University Hospital Motol
Department of Pediatrics
V Úvalu 84
15006 Prague
Czech Republic
Vendula.Martinu@fnmotol.cz



Besart Merovci, MD
University Clinical Center of Kosovo
Department of Pediatrics
Lagjja e Spitalit
10000 Prishtine
Kosovo
m_besart@hotmail.com



Tamar Metreveli, MD
TSMU G. Zhvania Pediatric Academic Clinic
Department of Pediatrics
Lublina Street 21
0159 Tbilisi
Georgia
tamarmetreveli.tm@gmail.com



Anja Mussler, MD
SALK-PMU
Department of Pediatrics
Müllner Hauptstraße 48
5020 Salzburg
Austria
a.mussler@salk.at



Oghenetega Obrerhor, MD
Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospitals
Complex
Department of Pediatrics
Ilesa East
PMB 5538 Ile Ife
Nigeria
tegggz34@gmail.com



Kwabena Osman, MD, MBA
University of Ghana
Department of Pediatrics
Guggisberg Avenue
GA-221-1570 Accra
Ghana
agyapapa@hotmail.com



Gizem Ozcan, MD
Ankara University Faculty of Medicine
Department of Pediatrics
Balkiraz Mah. Tıp Fakültesi Cd. Ankara
Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi Cebeci Hastanesi
Çocuk Sağlığı ve Hastalıkları ABD.
Mamak/Ankara
06620 Ankara
Turkey
gizemaltay87@hotmail.com



Pablo Perea, MD
Hospital Infantil de México Federico Gómez
Department of Pulmonology
Doctor Márquez 162
06720 Mexico City
Mexico
pablopv28@gmail.com



Marc Schlapschy, MD
Klinikum Klagenfurt
Department of Pediatrics
Feschnigstrasse 11
9020 Klagenfurt
Austria
marc.schlapschy@hotmail.com



Dajana Shallari, MD, MSc
University Medical Center of Tirana "Mother
Teresa"
Department of Pediatrics
Kongresi i Manastirit
1001 Tirana
Albania
dajanasmd@gmail.com



Madina Syzdykova, MD
Astana Medical University
Department of Pediatrics
Beibitshilik
010000 Nur - Sultan
Kazakhstan
madina.syzdykova@mail.ru



Maciej Szczukocki, MD
Jan Kochanowski University of Kielce
Department of Pediatrics
Grunwaldzka 45
25-736 Kielce
Poland
mszczukocki@gmail.com



Milanka Tesic, MD
Mother and Child Health Care Institute Belgrade
Department of Pediatrics
Radoja Dakica 6-8
11070 Belgrade
Serbia
tesicmilanka@yahoo.com



Anneli Viidebaum, MD
Tartu University Hospital
Department of Pediatrics
Lunini 6
50416 Tartu
Estonia
anneli.larionova@kliinikum.ee

DIARY



Rahel Argaw, MD
Addis Ababa Univ., CHS, SoM
Department of Pediatrics
Ethiopia

Sunday, April 24, 2022

My trip to Austria was at the time of the Ethiopian Orthodox Easter celebration and my birthday. At the beginning of my trip, I felt homesick, but that transformed into awe as soon as I landed in Salzburg, surrounded with a beautiful mountain range and greenery. At Schloss Arenberg, we received a kind greeting from Stephanie Faschang and the faculty members, followed by a delicious dinner which filled our heart with warmth. Conversation was also kindled among the attendees. However, the party ended early as everyone needed rest before a fresh start on Monday.

Monday, April 25, 2022

We started the seminar at 8:00 AM and you could feel the anticipation and excitement of the attendees. It reminded me of my early days in medical school, where we sat eagerly to absorb knowledge from our teachers. After a brief orientation about the seminar week and the OMI's seminars goals and objectives, we eased our way into the pre-test. While navigating through the test, I thought that some of the questions had multiple correct answers and I clearly understood my strengths and weaknesses in the field of pulmonary medicine. Dr. Mayer started the lectures by reverting to basic science in speaking about Respiratory Physiology. This enables us to enhance our understanding of normal body function and eventually identify disease state. After a morning coffee and delicious croissant, Dr. Fierro took us through a series of practical examples of patient – ventilator desynchrony while invasively ventilating a

patient. This was followed by Dr. Tauber's lecture on Polysomnography, a topic which I wanted to have a clear understanding of since we don't have readily available polysomnography study in my country, limiting my exposure. The afternoon session was initiated by a lecture delivered by Dr. Mayer, who eloquently described pulmonary function testing in children accompanied by well identified cases which helped to engrave the science into our brain.

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Asthma, one of the primary causes of hospital visits for children, was addressed by Dr. Pflieger. His lecture explicitly went through the pathophysiology and genetics of asthma. He pinpointed the importance of diagnosing pre-school asthma with a collection of symptoms, as asthma masquerading disease in young children is a common occurrence. A detailed algorithm which aids in diagnosing asthma in children was presented in the lecture. However, due to resource limitation, the algorithm may not be applicable in my country. In fact, knowing the rise in the prevalence of asthma in Africa, my brain started to ponder the question: "how many patients are we actually missing by simply using symptoms as a diagnostic tool to capture asthma in children?" Advances in asthma therapy, including immunotherapy, were highlighted, indicating the future hope in treating patients with severe asthma. I would like to thank Dr. Pflieger for sharing relevant literatures as supplementary readings. We then transitioned to a lecture about Cystic Fibrosis. I was taught by my professor that cystic fibrosis is a disease that mainly affects Caucasian people. However, cases are being reported in Africa, as test availability has improved particularly in Northern and Southern Africa. Moreover, we have recently identified patients with cystic fibrosis in Ethiopia, indicating the tip of the iceberg, as we don't have an established screening program. It was therefore an honor to attend the lecture of Dr. Eber, an expert in the field, who clearly narrated the basics about cystic fibrosis and treatment. Even though we are far from providing care to our identified patients, this lecture induced hope that cystic fibrosis care is advancing and resulting in a better quality of life and survival. Despite gloomy weather, the coffee break was buzzing with loud conversations and laughter. As we got to know each other, cases and management peculiarities for each country were discussed, bringing our experience to another level. Survival of new-borns in LMIC remains to be a challenge, even though progress and promising results have been made in recent years to curb the situation. However, new challenges are arising, as babies survive with additional diseases, among which chronic lung disease and retinopathy of prematurity are leading. Therefore, I attended the lectures on Chronic Lung Disease and Pulmonary Hypertension with utmost interest, realizing the need to establish a multidisciplinary team to tackle the multifaceted problems.

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Chronic respiratory support, particularly in a non-critical set up, is not commonly practiced in Ethiopia. Nonetheless, Dr. Tauber did a wonderful job in introducing different device options with detail and narrated the challenges. I surprisingly learned that RAM cannula is a useful interface for non-invasive ventilations, somehow confirming the success of our practice as we often use RAM cannula to deliver CPAP by using locally made bubble CPAP made with plastic bottles. We then embarked into pulmonary complication of neuromuscular diseases with Dr. Pflieger, who stressed the applicability of regular lung function measurement and sleep study in predicting infections and nocturnal hypoventilation. This was rightly followed by a lecture delivered by M. Wagner, an enthusiastic professional who did her best to go through different techniques and used devices. The chest wall and spine lecture was mind blowing. The details that one should seek before addressing severe deformities was indeed an engineering and

architectural success. Dr. Mayer rightly said, “this is the ART of medicine, not the science of medicine”. This lecture highlighted the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to develop locally relevant solutions to challenges. In the afternoon, different cases were presented, demonstrating the different level of care offered to children. In the evening, we walked to the Mirabell Garden and indulged in its mesmerizing beauty. After dinner, a few colleagues from Georgia, Lithuania, Estonia, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, and myself had a wonderful time discussing our traditional foods, dances, and touristic attractions. We surely learned a few tips in the art of wine tasting.

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Stridor, the scariest of all medical symptoms, was the first topic of the day. Dr. Pfeger's pictures of rare encounters opened our eyes to the importance of endoscopic evaluation in patients with persistent symptoms. This was complemented by Dr. Eber's lecture on Tracheomalacia and Bronchomalacia, Wheezing Management. Then, a sci-fi movie-like lecture was delivered by Dr. Phinzy. The short videos were fun to watch and very exciting. During the free afternoon, we went to the top of the Salzburg Castle, enjoying the panoramic view of the city. It was quite a difficult walk to the top of the castle, but it was worth it! Moreover, the chamber music concert in the evening was really appealing, demonstrating the musical talent here in Salzburg, the city of Mozart.

Friday, April 29, 2022

The last day came with mixed feelings, sadness because the seminar is ending and happiness because I will soon be back home with my family where a belated Easter celebration awaits. Nevertheless, lectures topics included asthma masqueraders and aerodigestive diseases, both of which are challenges in my daily practice. The lecture series were then concluded by our course director, Dr. Tauber, as she went presented about management of infant apnea and obstructive sleep apnea. It really was an honor to participate in this seminar, taught by experts in the field.



Maciej Szczukocki, MD
Jan Kochanowski University of Kielce
Department of Pediatrics
Poland

Sunday, April 24, 2022

I arrived in Salzburg by car around 6:30PM. The drive took me about eight hours, but I enjoyed the landscapes of Czech Republic and Austria. Additionally, after a period when all medical conferences were online, I was hungry for an in-person seminar. After a quick check-in and leaving my luggage in my room, I went to the welcome reception. Ms. Stephanie Faschang, the OMI Executive Director, welcomed us and introduced the course directors, Dr. Dana Tauber and Dr. Ernst Eber, and the faculty. She then discussed provided an overview of the week. Next, there was the chance to get to know other course participants over a delicious dinner. My new friends, who had attended previous seminars, made me feel positive about the upcoming events of the week.

Monday, April 25, 2022

At 8:00 AM, Dr. Tauber welcomed us again and we took the pre-seminar test. The OMI's mission is to promote brain gain, so it is important to know what the baseline knowledge is to estimate how much information has been learned during the week. The first lecture was about respiratory physiology. It is not an easy topic, but Dr. Oscar H. Mayer explained the respiratory system in detail. After the coffee break, Dr. Julie Fierro had a presentation about mechanical ventilation. I learned a lot about the principles of it, how to assess patient-ventilator synchrony, and how to apply proper ventilation strategies. Dr. Dana Tauber presented a lecture about polysomnography, which helped me to understand the indications for PSG and what could be the abnormalities. After the lunch break, Dr. Oscar H. Mayer, in connection with his previous lecture, described all the pulmonary function tests and some interesting cases showing how to properly interpret lung function studies. After each lecture, there was a time for discussion and questions, as well as the chance to share personal experiences. Afterward, Ms. Stephanie

Faschang gave a presentation about the OMI and the American Austrian Foundation. I admired the opportunities that are provided for doctors all over the world and how many achievements have already been made. Later on after dinner, as an international pulmonologist group, we went to explore Salzburg by night.

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

In the morning, Dr. Pflieger introduced to us the current information about asthma. It was a very interesting lecture and will surely positively influence my daily practice. I listened to Dr. Eber present about cystic fibrosis with great interest. The modulator drugs are being introduced in Poland this year. All the important information, such as the mechanism of action, the efficacy of those drugs, and possible side effects were discussed. The following topics were chronic lung disease of childhood and pulmonary hypertension for the pulmonologist, both presented by Dr. Julie Fierro. In Poland, pulmonary hypertension is treated mostly by a cardiologist, but it is good to understand the subtypes of PH and possible treatment options. After lunch, fellows presented their cases. It was a great opportunity to see the diversity of diseases and learn about diagnostic and treatment approaches in different countries. I spent the afternoon sightseeing in the beautiful city of Salzburg. I bought some Mozartkugels for my friends and family and spent the evening with my new friends in a very nice atmosphere, tasting the local Stiegl beer.

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

The first lecture by Dr. Tauber provided a lot of useful information about non-invasive ventilation, and the second lecture by Dr. Pflieger was very informative about the pulmonary aspect of neuromuscular disorders. Marlies Wagner shared with us her knowledge about the chest physiotherapy and airway clearance techniques. She also brought some of the positive expiratory pressure devices and showed how they are used. I listened attentively to Dr. Mayer's lecture about chest wall and spine deformities, especially to the history of a patient who was treated with an innovative surgical procedure. I was stressed the whole day because I had to present my case in the afternoon. The atmosphere was friendly, and during my presentation I realized that all the stress was unnecessary. All the presented cases were very interesting.

Thursday, April 28, 2022

In the morning, Dr. Pflieger and Dr. Eber had lectures about Stridor and wheezing. After the coffee break, Dr. Phinzy gave a lot of useful information about the foreign body aspiration, complimented with a lot of cases. Next, Dr. Eber explained different diagnostic algorithms for primary ciliary dyskinesia. After the lunch break, there was a free afternoon, so I went with my friend to the Hohensalzburg Fortress. We also visited some shops to buy souvenirs. Finally, our evening was enriched by an excellent classical music concert at Schloss Arenberg.

Friday, April 29, 2022

The last day started with a lecture by Dr. Phinzy about the asthma masqueraders and dysphagia and aspirations. Later, Dr. Tauber spoke about infant apnea and obstructive sleep apnea. I gained a lot of information about sleep disordered breathing in infants and the treatment of OSAS in children. After the lunch break, we took the post-test. This time the questions seemed much easier, proving to me how much I learned throughout the week. In the evening, there was a farewell reception and graduation dinner. It was time to say goodbye. I gained a lot of knowledge and found a lot of new friends from all around the world. The OMI seminars are a great opportunity to become a better doctor. It is also a great way to practice your language and presentation skills. I will surely encourage my polish colleagues to apply for the OMI seminars.