

## Italian League Against Epilepsy 2021-2022 Report

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*Officer Election Date: February 2021*

### ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The National Congress, held in Padova, was well attended with over 600 members for the 50th anniversary celebrations of our Society. We recall that the booklet 'Our 50 Years' was published on this occasion and the film 'The History of Epilepsy' was presented, again during the celebrations. The presentation of International Epilepsy Day, held in February in Rome at the ASI (Italian Space Agency), was followed by an impressive publicity campaign and an effective anti-stigma campaign. In July, we were invited to the Senate to present our ideal legislative decalogue for People with Epilepsy to policy makers, together with the Patients' Associations. September saw the start of the first training course for young people with epilepsy, organized in collaboration with ISTUD and UIL, to give People with Epilepsy greater insight into the world of work and new employment opportunities.

A new edition started of the 2nd level master's degree course in epileptology, organized by Italian League Against Epilepsy in collaboration with the University of Genoa. A volume 'Vivere con l'Epilessia' (Living with Epilepsy), will be published by Giunti Editore with the Italian League Against Epilepsy logo in bookshops and online. The course organized by the Neuroimaging Commission received excellent comments, as did the course on Myoclonus, by the Epilepsy and Neurophysiological Techniques Commission. Recognition of Italian League Against Epilepsy

Centers is proceeding apace: the site now shows almost 60 Centers recognized by the Society, which throughout Italy offer people with epilepsy care services for the training of school operators, educational material has been prepared and is now in a dedicated section of the website and freely accessible to all. In November, our Society was also included among those being auditioned by the Ministry of Health within the framework of the steering committee for the revision of the National Chronicity Plan, which will soon include epilepsy among the chronic pathologies of institutional attention.

## **CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 AND 2022**

- COVID-19 pandemic
- World Health Assembly resolution with the Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders (IGAP)
- New plan for chronicity

With great sadness, we would like to remind you that this year, two months ago, our colleague and friend Ettore Beghi passed away. He was one of the pillars of our Society, Italian League Against Epilepsy President from 2008 to 2011, a distinguished doctor and researcher appreciated worldwide, worthy of the highest esteem from all of us. We will miss him, as an Epidemiologist and as a Person, and remember him with great fondness.

## **FUTURE PLANS FOR 2023**

- In 2023, the Italian League Against Epilepsy, in cooperation with Fondazione Italian League Against Epilepsy, will publish new calls for research projects, making as much as € 120,000 available to researchers as usual. The projects for the coming year are even more numerous and high-level, starting with the Policentrica in Rome in January and the National Congress to be held in June in the splendid setting of Naples, where we expect you all to join Leda Bilo, local organizer of the Congress.
- The Italian League Against Epilepsy Training Course will be held in Florence, organized by Renzo Guerrini and the Genetics Commission. The Course by the Neuroimaging Commission will also be repeated.
- Also at the promotional level, to improve awareness of epilepsy among the general population, a major campaign is being organized and will be presented on 13 February on International Epilepsy Day.

## **RESEARCH AND ARTICLES PUBLISHED**

- Traduzione e adattamento alla lingua italiana del glossario dei termini più comunemente usati dagli elettroencefalografisti clinici e proposta per il formato del referto EEG (Revisione IFCN 2017). Strigaro G, Bisulli F, Assenza G, Mecarelli O, Grippo A, Meletti S; ON BEHLAF OF LICE-SINC Glossary Study Group. *Clin Neurophysiol Pract.* 8 Nov 2022; 7:325-365

- The 50th anniversary of the Italian League Against Epilepsy (Lega Italiana Contro l'Epilessia). Tassi L, Specchio N, Mecarelli O, Tinuper P, Vigevano F, Perucca E. *Epilepsy Behav Rep.* 20 May 2022; 19:100553

## **MEETINGS**

- Policentrica Cases discussion Webinar, January 2021
- National Congress Webinar, June 2021
- Policentrica Cases discussion Rome, January 2022
- National Congress Padova, June 2022

*Report submitted by Laura Tassi*