

Polish Society of Epileptology

2021-2022 Report

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Officer Election Date: 2018



ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- We tried to promote the implementation of international best practice standards to the diagnosis treatment of epilepsy and comorbidities.
- We collaborated with the Ministry of Health at national level to promote epilepsy as neurological and public health imperative.
- We organized pro-patient webinars on How to live with epilepsy.
- Polish Society of Epileptology in 2021/2022 actively supported the campaign for people with epilepsy "You are not alone" - its goal is to create awareness about epilepsy and support patients suffering from this disease.
- In June 2021, a debate was held by the Medical Council raising the issue of Caring for patients with epilepsy: work, study, therapy. How to provide a patient with epilepsy with the best possible social environment: the possibility of education, work, and realization of family life, among other things, through interdepartmental cooperation, was discussed among medical experts but also parliamentarians.
- An important part of our activities in 2021/2022 were contacts with the Ministry of Health and the National Health Fund. An appeal to support the medical, social, economic, educational, and integration needs of patients with epilepsy and take concerted action to eliminate current gaps in the care and treatment system for this group of patients. On 17 September 2021 the conference "Directions of strategic development of Polish neurology" was held.
- One of the problems is the reimbursement for patients of new AEDs in epilepsy.
- Polish Society of Epileptology joined social activities related to the International Epilepsy Day by preparing building illuminations in many cities in Poland as part of the campaign Let's Shine a Light for epilepsy in Poland 2021 Cooperation with IBE and ILAE:
 - Women and Epilepsy a new resource from IBE
 - Emergency Response (Ukraine) Task Force
 - Polish Society of Epileptology made a financial donation to Ukraine in the amount of 25,000 PLN (approx. 5300 EUR)

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 AND 2022

The problem of preoperative diagnosis non-invasive as well as invasive. There was an interdisciplinary meeting of neurologists and neurosurgeons held in November 2022. The purpose of this meeting was to establish a neurological-neurosurgical consensus on the criteria and principles of eligibility for surgery, cooperation in qualifying teams, organization, and equipment of neurosurgical centers to treat epilepsy surgically.

FUTURE PLANS FOR 2023

- Update the latest version from 2019 of recommendation on treatment patients with epilepsy in Poland
- Promote and influence the decision-making system to create comprehensive care for patients with epilepsy, create reference centers and improve the possibilities of surgical and alternative therapy
- Discussion among the Minister of Health, neurology, and child neurology societies on the project to create epileptology as a skill in neurology

MEETINGS

- Days of Epilepsy 2021 online webinars
 - Challenges of modern neurology, an interdisciplinary approach to epilepsy
 - Sessions were held in a new educational online formula
 - The project lasted for 3 weeks, during which participants were able to log on to the educational platform and review lectures covering topics of the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy with an interdisciplinary approach
 - According to audience interview, more than 5700 users participated in this project
- Jubilee XXX Conference on Epilepsy organized by Polish Society of Epileptology, Warsaw, 14-16 May 2021, online, 400 participants
 - Traditionally, the XXX Conference was preceded with the XXVI Epilepsy and Pregnancy Symposium organized by the Epileptology Foundation
 - The important session in memoriam of Professor Jerzy Majkowski was honored by the presence of lecturers Professor E. Perucca and Professor J. Czuczwar, who presented issues of scientific and clinical importance to Professor Jerzy Majkowski – the father of Polish epileptology
 - One of the sessions was focused on neurostimulation seen as a promising treatment epilepsy, attended by invited guests Silvio Basic, Maxime Dibue-Adjei and Milan Brazdil
 - Another session on drug therapy was attended by prof. V Villeneuve
- XXXI Conference on Epilepsy organized by Polish Society of Epileptology, Warsaw, 19-21 May 2022, 300 participants
 - National experts in various fields of epilepsy were invited to give lectures
 - Topics covered included as usually: epilepsy and pregnancy, video-EEG diagnostic values in different types of epileptic syndromes and non-epileptic events

- We discussed the subject of stroke mimics and chameleons, and problems of differential diagnosis of paroxysmal motor incidents
- We talked about the progress in genetic study and tried to answer the question whether it is worth seeking "genetic" diagnoses in adult's comorbidity in epilepsy

Report submitted by Joanna Jędrzejczak