

Join us next year !

BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

17<sup>th</sup> year

**THE PAEDIATRIC HAND  
SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON  
PAEDIATRIC TRAUMAS AND  
INFECTIONS, TUMORS,  
CONGENITAL DIFFERENCES,  
SPASTICITY**

Genval/Brussels, Belgium  
February 6-7, 2009



**Program Director**

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**Meeting place :**

Château du Lac  
Avenue du Lac 87, B-1332 Genval, Belgium  
Tel. + 32 2 655 71 11 - Fax + 32 2 655 74 44  
E-mail : seminars.cdl@martinshotels.com

**REGISTRATION FEES**

Before Oct. 1, 2008	470 € (1)
After Oct. 1, 2008	500 € (1)
Resident/Student/Physiotherapist/Nurse	350 € (2)
Optional: touristic visit and banquet	100 € (3) (Feb. 7, 2009)

(1) Fees include meeting attendance, congress bag with the abstract book and all related documents (certificates of payment and attendance, badge etc.), lunches, welcome reception on February 6, and transport by coach from and to the airport on February 5 and February 8. Not included: hotel accommodation, meals except 2 lunches, access to sports facilities. Acknowledgement of registration and receipt of fees will be sent soon after the registration form and full payment are received. Upon request, a letter of invitation will be sent. Payments should be made free of all bank charges and commissions. A 3 % commission will be added to all payments made by credit card. The organizers cannot be held responsible for any personal injury, loss, damage, accident to private property, or additional expenses incurred as a result of delays or changes in air, rail, sea, road or other services, strikes, sickness, weather, war, sports and other causes. Luggage is at owners risk throughout unless insured. The symposium is organized by the 'Groupe pour l'Etude du Membre Supérieur', ASBL, Brussels.

(2) Please include a certificate signed by head of department.

(3) Included : coach transport Genval-restaurant, touristic visit, and dinner in a typical Belgian restaurant.

**Bank transfer :**

Account holder « GEMS »  
Account number :  
BE51 0012 3439 9162 (international)  
001-2343991-62 (Belgium)

BIC or SWIFT code : GEBABEBB  
with Fortis Bank, Route de Lennik 808, B-1070 Brussels, Belgium

Kindly instruct your bank that all charges are at your expenses, and indicate your name and address on your payment order form.

**CANCELLATION**

In the event of cancellation, a full refund (less € 100 as a handling fee) of the registration fees may be obtained, provided that written notification is received by December 15, 2008. A 50 % refund will be made for cancellations received by January 15, 2009. No refunds will be made thereafter.

**CONGRESS SECRETARIAT**

Ms J. Kabamba  
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**CONGRESS INFORMATION**

**Venue**

Château du Lac, avenue du Lac 87  
B-1332 Genval, Belgium  
Tel. : +32 2 655 71 11 - Fax : +32 2 655 74 44  
E-mail : seminars.cdl@martinshotel.com

**Language :** English

**ACCOMMODATION**

Château du Lac (5 stars hotel) - meeting place  
15 km south of Brussels. An invigorating and sophisticated  
ambience, exquisite décor, fine cuisine. Free access available  
at the 'John Harris Fitness Centre' for participants accommo-  
dated at the Château.

Indicative rate : single 195 €/night with bed & breakfast.

Address :  
Château du Lac, avenue du Lac, 87, B-1332 Genval, Belgium  
Tel. : + 32 2 655 71 11 - Fax + 32 2 655 74 44  
E-mail : seminars.cdl@martinshotels.com

When contacting the hotel, please indicate that you are attend-  
ing the "Paediatric Hand Symposium" to receive the reduced  
rate for the dates February 5 through February 8.

Participants can also be accommodated at the hotel "Le Lido",  
a 3 stars hotel located about 2 km from the Château du Lac (no  
transport will be provided).

Indicative rate : single 160 €/night with breakfast.

Address :  
Le Lido, 20, rue de Limalart, B-1332 Rixensart, Belgium  
Tel.: + 32 2 634 34 34 - Fax +32 2 634 34 44  
E-mail : lelido@martinshotels.com



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**(Prof. Schuind)**  
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**Université Libre de Bruxelles**  
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**1070 BRUSSELS**  
**BELGIUM**

STAMP



The first annual Brussels/Genval Upper Extremity Symposium, held in May 1992, was on Advances in Hand and Wrist Biomechanics. Since this first meeting, the Château du Lac at Genval has hosted, each spring, the Brussels Hand/Upper Extremity Symposium, dedicated to a specific interdisciplinary topic involving the hand and the upper limb. Each meeting has been attended by 80-150 participants from 15-25 different countries.

In 2009, the topic will be paediatric hand surgery, which has not attracted in recent years the attention it deserves, which is quite unfortunate given the fact that many hand traumas occur in children, and that the majority of congenital differences affect the hand.

The first part of the Symposium will indeed deal with upper extremity paediatric traumatology and infections. Many children fall while playing. Teenagers suffer from sporting injuries, most commonly seen in biking, football and basketball. Fractures below the elbow account for about 1.5% of all cases seen in emergency departments, with distal radius-ulna fractures comprising the largest proportion; but one quarter of these lesions affect children. While most fractures are benign (but controversies remain about the optimal treatment), some affect the physis and may lead to long-term sequellae. Fractures of the carpal bones are rare but do occur in children; scaphoid nonunions are occasionally seen. Phalangeal fractures present special problems in children, in particular fractures of the proximal metaphysis of P1, and physeal and crush injuries of P3. More proximally, fractures at the elbow present specific problems, and may lead to serious and sometimes dramatic complications, including nerve lesions, non-union, malunion, epiphysiodesis, radial head dislocation or Volkmann's ischemic contracture. Although their aetiology is unclear – and trauma seems to play a role in many cases – upper extremity osteonecroses are seen in children and arise specific problems. Paediatric flexor tendon injuries are rare but present specific problems, for diagnosis, surgery, rehabilitation and outcome evaluation. In particular, a debate remains about instituting in this age group an active motion program. Replantation of amputated fingers parts, although technically difficult, shows remarkable success rates in children. Electrical burns can cause extensive necrosis.

Hand infections present as well specific problems in the paediatric population. Some serious infections are the consequence of chronic nail biting or thumb sucking. While in the adult population the majority of cultured microorganisms from hand infections are Staphylococci aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes and anaerobic infections seem to be more frequent in children, requiring an adapted antibiotic regimen, beside the surgical treatment.

Upper extremity tumors will be reviewed and discussed in the second part of the Symposium. While the majority of tumors are benign, malignant tumors such as osteosarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma, the rare chondrosarcoma, and soft-tissue sarcomas may be seen at the upper extremity, with a still significant mortality rate. The most recent algorithms of treatment of these quite serious lesions will be presented.

The third part of the Symposium will deal with congenital differences. These affections are characterized by important clinical and genetic heterogeneity. Associated organ abnormalities are frequent, and various complex syndromes have been identified. The international classifications are not always satisfactory. After the eventual genetic advice, the treatment has to be customized to the particular child. The surgical program should be proposed to the

parents already in the neonatal period, with the aim to allow post-operative cortical reorientation, and if possible to get as normal as possible hands before the begin of school. Special problems will be discussed at the Symposium, including the indications of free toe transfers in symbrachydactyly and other failures of formation (and the difficulties to convince the parents to harvest tissue from the normal foot), the possible indications in the future of composite vascularized allotransplantations, the difficulties of microvascular reconstructions in young children, postoperative rehabilitation, the indications and acceptance of aesthetic or functional prostheses, as well as the lasting psychosocial consequences of congenital hand differences within the context of the emotional responses of the parents. Some vascular malformations of the upper extremity continue to represent a real therapeutic challenge to the surgeon.

A special part of the Symposium will focus on upper extremity spasticity as a result of cerebral palsy or brain surgery at later age. The treatment should be based, not only on the motor deficiencies and contractures, but also on the existence – or not – of discriminatory sensibility and on the intelligence and motivation of the child. There remain nowadays surgical indications, despite the wide use of botulinum toxin.

Other problems will be discussed as well, for example non-operative and operative treatment of arthrogyrosis, upper extremity distraction lengthening in achondroplasia or other bone conditions (the technique is also used in various congenital differences), the techniques of regional anaesthesiology in young children, or specific techniques of rehabilitation. As always, the Symposium will try to link clinical problems to basic knowledge, and time will be kept to discuss aspects of embryology, development and maturation of the nerves and skeleton (including normal radiologic variants), and progressive acquisition of hand function.

The primary goals of the Brussels/Genval annual upper extremity Symposium, gathering together in a first-class resort close to Brussels experts from different fields (the previous Symposia have been attended by orthopaedic, plastic and general surgeons, anatomists, physiotherapists, rheumatologists, anesthesiologists, pain specialists, radiologists, nuclear medicine scientists, immunologists, pathologists, engineers and basic scientists – we hope as well to attract in 2009 paediatric surgeons), are to promote the exchange of ideas, to establish guidelines on a consensual basis, and to foster collaborative investigations among various specialists. Much time will be set aside for the discussions. Participants are invited to present clinical cases, to be discussed with the invited experts and attendees during round table discussions. Note that the Symposium will not cover obstetrical brachial plexus lesions, which have been the topic of previous Symposia (2004 and 2005).

### SPECIFIC AIMS

- To summarize the state of knowledge of foetal and paediatric development of the hand and upper extremity ;
- To discuss new concepts and protocols of treatment of hand traumas, infections, tumors, and congenital and neurological conditions ;
- To discuss basic research as related to the paediatric hand, including in teratology ;

- To discuss rehabilitation and to determine the most appropriate methods for objective assessment of the results in children ;
- To formulate on these bases recommendations to the medical community ;
- To discuss unsolved problems and potential solutions ;
- To explore future directions of investigation.

### INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

J. Bahm (Aachen, Germany)	S. Hovius (Rotterdam, The Netherlands)
O. Barbier (Brussels, Belgium)	M. Innocenti (Firenze, Italy)
M. Bellemans (Brussels, Belgium)	S. Kay (Leeds, United Kingdom)
W. Boeckx (Brussels, Belgium)	U. Lanz (Bad Neustadt, Germany)
A. Carlier (Liège, Belgium)	P. Loréa (Strasbourg, France)
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I. Degreef (Pellenberg, Belgium)	F. Schuind (Brussels, Belgium)
D. Egloff (Lausanne, Switzerland)	F. Stockmans (Kortrijk, Belgium)
W. El Kazzi (Brussels, Belgium)	P. van Bogaert (Brussels, Belgium)
M. Gebhart (Brussels, Belgium)	C. Vilain (Brussels, Belgium)

### SCIENTIFIC DIRECTORS

- J. Bahm (Aachen, Germany)
- L. De Smet (Pellenberg, Belgium)
- W. El Kazzi (Brussels, Belgium)
- F. Schuind (Brussels, Belgium)

### CALL FOR PAPERS

**October 31, 2008**  
Deadline for submission of abstracts. All abstracts submitted will be acknowledged.

**November 15, 2008**  
Notification of acceptance or rejection of papers.

### FINAL PROGRAM

The final program will be mailed to registered participants and upon request to interested colleagues.

### CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

Available at the registration desk. Upon request, a letter of invitation will be sent.

Brussels International Symposium <b>The Paediatric Hand</b>
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## REGISTRATION FORM

**To be filled in and returned as soon as possible**

Name .....

First name .....

Specialty .....

Title .....

Institution .....

Address .....

City ..... Country ..... Zip .....

Phone ..... Fax .....

E-mail : .....

Arrival date ..... Departure date .....

Special requests (diets, etc.) .....

Please fill in below as appropriate.

- I will participate in the Paediatric Hand Symposium (February 6-7, 2009).
- I would like to attend the touristic visit and banquet on February 7, 2009.
- My registration fees are paid as follows :
  - Enclosed check
  - Money order to Belgian account BE51 0012 3439 9162 (International) 001-2343991-62 (Belgium)
  - Credit card (Euro/Master, Visa)
    - Card type : .....
    - Card account number : .....
    - Cardholders' name : .....
    - Expiration date (mo./yr.) : .....

.....  
SIGNATURE ..... DATE .....