

BSSSE12 - personal comment by Silvia

I am a Pediatrics resident with a strong passion for child neurology. My daily practice mainly focuses on pediatric epilepsy, therefore I thought that the Baltic Sea Summer School on Epilepsy could be a great opportunity to improve my knowledge in this field. My application was accepted and one hour later I had my flight ticket bought, ready to go! With a heavy suitcase and a light heart I left Italy heading to Vilnius, ready for a new adventure.

At my arrival I was warmly welcomed by Dr. Peter Wolf and Dr. Rūta Mameniškienė, who were able to create from the very beginning the perfect atmosphere to put students at their ease. In this multicultural environment we spontaneously transformed from perfect unknown to colleagues and, most of all, friends.

The course turned out to be extremely interesting both in the content selection and in the teaching method. I was positively surprised by the faculty members' ability to use the relatively short time to cover a wide range of topics, focusing on the most relevant issues and, at the same time, being able to guarantee a high scientific level to the program. The professional background diversity among the participants and the highly interactive structure of the course contributed to create a relaxed and informal atmosphere, allowing students to feel comfortable when asking questions and when proving themselves. Each student was recognized an important role, with possibility to present case reports and research projects and to take part to discussion, regardless his experience and knowledge.

I really appreciated the practical, case-oriented approach that was frequently adopted and that will help me to easily remember these topics. I am sure that this summer school will be of significant relevance for my professional activities. The course schedule was very tight but did also include an adequate amount of time for social events which allowed us to strengthen our international relationships while enjoying Lithuanian food, music and culture.

The bottom line is that his course really exceed my expectations and I therefore highly recommend it to anyone who is always chasing spikes and waves!

Silvia