

## **XXVII International Congress of Pediatrics**

*The International Pediatric Association (IPA) Congress of Pediatrics took place from 24 to 29 August 2013 in Melbourne (Australia).*

2,800 delegates from 119 countries took part in the International Forum. Russia was represented by more than 50 pediatricians from Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Yakutsk, Perm, Krasnoyarsk and other regions.

The most discussed topics included issues of global children's healthcare involving measures taken to reduce infant and children's mortality around the world, children's immunization coverage augmentation and nutritional status correction, as well as issues of mental health, ethical issues of pediatrics and burden of socially significant childhood diseases.

The symposium organized by the World Health Organization, where the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the WHO pocket book of hospital care for children was presented, attracted great interest of delegates from many countries. The employees of the Scientific Center of Children's Health taking part in the international WHO project on medical care rendering improvement actively shared their experience of work with this universal instrument during the discussion.

Russian pediatricians took active part in the poster session of the Forum as well, having presented more than 100 messages.

Such forums are a great opportunity for meeting colleagues and strengthening international cooperation. The Melbourne event was not an exception. Russian pediatricians were pleased to meet their colleagues and friends from many countries, with whom they have been engaged in a scientific dialog for many years. Executive committee chairman of the Union of Pediatricians of Russia, Academician A.A. Baranov concluded new promising scientific cooperation agreements with the American Academy of Pediatrics and pediatric communities of Angola and Ethiopia during the Congress.

Russian pediatricians also visited the University children's hospital at the invitation of colleagues from the medical faculty of the Monash University with great interest. The head of the hospital, Professor Nick Fraser explained to the doctors the inpatient hospital operation organization and presented information on scientific and educational projects in pediatrics. This visit proved to be a great opportunity to start joint theoretical and practical programs of pediatric clinics in Russian and Australia.

General Assembly of the International Pediatric Association took place in the framework of the XXVII International Congress of Pediatrics, which involved national, specialized and regional IPA communities.

The future President of the International Pediatric Association – Zulfiqar Bhutta (Pakistan) – with term of office in 2016-2019 was elected at the Assembly. Panama was elected to host the next Congress in 2019.

EPA/UNESPA President, Deputy UPR Executive Committee Chairman, Professor L.S. Namazova-Baranova (as a representative of the European region) and Chairman of the Turkish Pediatric Society, Professor F. Cullu Cokugras were elected into the Standing Committee of the Association.

Concluding the Melbourne Congress, President of the International Pediatric Association, Professor Andreas Konstantopoulos (Greece) defined the association's mission for the coming years as the "active protection of children's interests" and urged to close the ranks of pediatricians from all over the world tighter in order to improve quality of care rendering to children in all countries and continents.

**Captions to photos:**

1. Delegation of pediatricians from Russia with colleagues from Ukraine
2. During the presentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the WHO pocket book at the symposium
3. Poster report presented by MD, PhD E.V. Antonova
4. Executive Committee Chairman of the Union of Pediatricians of Russia A.A. Baranov concluding agreement with colleagues from the American Academy of Pediatrics
5. During the visit to the emergency department's reception ward of the Melbourne children's hospital
6. Reception ward
7. Meeting colleagues