



## **6<sup>th</sup> ASPED – ESPE Endocrine Academy report, Casablanca, Morocco, 15-17 October, 2019**

The ASPED-ESPE school (currently called Academy) is an initiative by ASPED in collaboration with the ESPE. It is an annual event aimed at updating the knowledge of young physicians caring for children and adolescents with endocrinopathies in Arab countries. The first school was conducted in 2014 in Abu Dhabi, UAE and in 2019 the school name was changed to ASPED ESPE endocrine academy. The academy has steering committee of five senior Paediatric Endocrinologists from ASPED and ESPE and adapts the format of an intensive course in basic and clinical science of acute and chronic paediatric endocrinology.

The 6<sup>th</sup> ASPED-ESPE Academy was held between 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Ocean Park hotel, Casablanca, Morocco and funded by the Moroccan society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes. This is the first ASPED ESPE school/academy conducted outside the Gulf region. Of the 120 applicants, 40 delegates from 9 countries were selected and the faculty has 10 ASPED and ESPE members. The 2.5 days scientific program encompassed 26 plenary presentations and 34 challenging case/research presentations in 4 small groups. In addition to the usual topics the program has dedicated sessions on neonatal endocrinology, research and endocrinopathies in other illnesses. The latter covered endocrine effects of traumatic brain injury, thalassaemia and cancer therapy. Each of the first 2 days ended with fun and science quiz and the winners of the 4 small group cases/projects were presented in the last day.

The academy enabled participants to network with senior researchers, clinical experts and fellow clinicians in a collegial environment encouraging active discussions and exchange of ideas. In addition to the high scientific level, the social interaction between the school faculty and candidates was remarkable. The social program included Gala dinner and visits to the various local monuments.

The feedback evaluations on the lectures were collected on hard copies while the delegates were given instruction on how to visit the ESPE website and fill in the electronic universal evaluation forms.



