



SASPEN News

Past presidents of SASPEN, Prof Demetre Labadarios, Prof Renee Blaauw and Mrs Janicke Visser, have been recognised by being awarded honorary membership to the society. This is a small token of appreciation for their tremendous work in establishing SASPEN, and their dedication to advancing the stance of the dietetic profession in South Africa. SASPEN is privileged to have you as members.

First ESPEN Life Long Learning course

The first European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN) Life Long Learning (LLL) course was presented in South Africa from 11-13 February 2016. Three events were held in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Pretoria with the theme, "ICU nutrition: treatment and problem solving".

The course was presented by Prof Rémy Meier from Switzerland. Prof Meier is a medical doctor who furthered his training in internal medicine, gastroenterology and clinical nutrition. He is a previous chairman of ESPEN, and currently co-director of the LLL educational programme. The programme consisted of four 30-minute lectures, and the day concluded with an interactive case discussion. This was a great opportunity to engage with an international nutrition expert on the day-to-day challenges faced with regard to the nutritional care of critically ill patients. The LLL course was made possible by Fresenius Kabi, in collaboration with SASPEN. SASPEN's sponsor is thanked for bringing this event to our shores. The LLL courses are available on the ESPEN website free of charge. To learn more about the LLL courses presented by ESPEN, follow the link www.lllnutrition.com

Dietician's Week

SASPEN is planning a number of events for the year ahead. The first event on the horizon is Dietician's Week, which is taking place from 6-10 June 2016. This will be the third year that SASPEN joins the British Dietetic Association (BDA) in jointly promoting the dietetics profession. The theme of Dietician's Week this year will focus on

disease-related malnutrition. SASPEN will be joined by the Enteral Nutrition Association of South Africa, and also seeks the involvement of other prominent societies representing dietetics in South Africa. There has been wonderful participation from individual centres in the past, especially on social media. SASPEN is in the process of developing material and planning events around this week. Keep an eye out for information on our social media platforms for further developments, which will also appear on the BDA's website, www.trustadietitian.co.uk

SAGES Congress

The South African Gastroenterology Society (SAGES) Congress will take place in Pretoria from 5-8 August 2016 and SAGES will be joined by SASPEN and the South African Gastrointestinal Nursing Society in hosting this congress. More information on the congress is available on the official congress website at www.sages2016.co.za and registration opens on 22 February 2016. We hope to see you there!

nutritionDay

nutritionDay is a worldwide initiative to fight malnutrition in healthcare institutions. This year, nutritionDay is taking place on 10 November. On this day, hospitals and nursing homes have the opportunity to participate in a one-day cross-sectional audit. Each participating institution will receive a detailed report, based on the data submitted. As South Africa has never participated in this initiative before, this year, SASPEN and ENASA will endeavour to facilitate participation therein. The event is still in the early planning phase, and more information will be communicated via the various social media platforms, SASPEN news and via e-mail. To learn more about nutritionDay, please visit www.nutritionday.org

SASPEN values your input and would like to hear about your initiatives. Please like us on facebook, follow us on twitter and join us on LinkedIn. You can visit the webpage on www.saspens.com, or download the SASPEN application on your device.