Excellence in Paediatrics

3–6 December 2009 FLORENCE

Stay ahead in children’s medicine!

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

www.excellence-in-paediatrics.org
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Important Dates

Abstract Submission Deadline ........................................... September 14th, 2009
Early Registration Deadline ............................................ October 5th, 2009
Late Registration Deadline ............................................... November 20th, 2009
Opening Ceremony ....................................................... December 3rd, 2009
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to invite you to attend the “Excellence in Paediatrics” conference in Florence, Italy, from 3-6 December 2009.

“Excellence in Paediatrics” is an annual international conference presented by leading medical publishers Wiley-Blackwell. The aim of the conference is to present the latest, most authoritative overview of key developments in paediatrics.

The conference is primarily aimed at general paediatricians from all over the world, but will also offer a great opportunity to specialists, general practitioners and family doctors and allied health professionals interested in all fields of paediatrics to update their knowledge.

Wiley-Blackwell publishes many of the world’s leading journals and text books in Paediatrics and the Scientific Committee of the “Excellence in Paediatrics” has been drawn from an international group of journal editors. We have invited internationally renowned speakers from more than 20 countries to present the latest findings in child health in 70 sessions including lectures, round tables, debates, and interactive and meet-the-experts seminars.

In addition, a series of interactive workshops has been developed to address key practice topics. Delegates will be able to book these in advance.

The scientific programme will be complemented by poster sessions featuring all accepted abstracts. The 12 best submitted abstracts will be offered oral presentation and will receive “Excellence in Paediatrics Awards”. The Abstracts will be published as a supplement to the Journal Child: Care, Health and Development. Abstracts should be submitted at www.excellence-in-paediatrics.org to be considered for presentation.

We look forward to welcoming you to Florence and Excellence in Paediatrics!

Cordially,

Professor Stuart Logan
Chairman of the “Excellence in Paediatrics” Scientific Committee
Cerebra Professor of Paediatric Epidemiology
Director - Institute of Health Service Research
Director - NIHR PenCLAHRC Peninsula College of Medicine & Dentistry
Editor - Child: Care, Health and Development
Scientific Committee

Chairman:  S. Logan  
Editor, Child: Care, Health and Development

Members:  P. Baxter  
Editor in Chief, Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology

U. Blume-Peytavi  
Assistant Editor for paediatric dermatology, JDDG Journal der Deutschen Dermatologischen Gesellschaft

F. Cotter  
Editor in Chief, British Journal of Haematology

R. Fine  
Editor in Chief, Paediatric Transplantation

M. Gappa  
Associate Editor Europe, Paediatric Pulmonology

J. Golding  
Editor in Chief, Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology

S. Greene  
Editor, Evidence-Based Paediatric and Adolescent Diabetes

V. Hall Moran  
Senior Editor, Maternal & Child Nutrition

D. Isaacs  
Editor in Chief, Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health

A. Konstantopoulos  
President, European Paediatric Association EPA/UNEPSA

D. Moodie  
Editor in Chief, Congenital Heart Disease

V. Moyer  
Editor, Evidence-Based Child Health: A Cochrane Review Journal

A. Rubino  
Chairman of the Scientific Committee “Evidence-based Medicine and Child Nutrition” Meeting

M. Sperling  
Chief Editor, Pediatric Diabetes

J. Thistlethwaite  
Past President, International Pediatric Transplant Association

J. Warner  
Chief Editor, Pediatric Allergy and Immunology

S. Webber  
Editor, Pediatric Transplantation
Conference Information

Congress Venue
The Fortezza da Basso, at a short distance from the Central Railway Station of Santa Maria Novella, is an extraordinary Congress venue and one of the city’s most important monuments from the Medici era. It was designed by Antonio da Sangallo the Younger in the first half of the 1500s on commission from Alessandro de’ Medici.

Firenze Fiera
Forteza da Basso
Viale Strozzi 1
50129 Florence (Italy)
website: www.firenzefiera.it

Exhibition
The Exhibition will be open during Conference hours, from 3-6 December 2009. For exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities, please contact us at excellence@candc-group.com.

Official Language
English is the Conference’s official language. Sessions with simultaneous translation in Italian will be indicated in the final programme.

Official Invitations
Official invitation letters to meet administrative requirements of some countries will be issued upon request. Please note that such letters do not represent a commitment on the part of the Scientific Committee or the Conference Organiser to provide financial assistance or to accept submitted abstracts.

Insurance
Delegates are advised to arrange health and accident insurance before travelling to the Conference. The Conference Organiser cannot accept liability for personal injury or loss / damage to property and belongings of delegates or accompanying persons during the Conference or their stay in Florence.

Conference Badges & Conference Material
Name badges together with the Conference material will be provided on-site to all registered delegates. Access to the session rooms is allowed only to badge holders.
The Scientific Programme of the “Excellence in Paediatrics” comprises of a number of thematic streams that include:

- Infectious Diseases
- Allergy - Immunology - Pulmonology
- Neurology - Social and Environmental paediatrics
- Endocrinology and Growth
- Gastroenterology
- Nephrology and Urology
- Dermatology
- Adolescence Medicine
- Cardiology
- Surgery and Transplantation
- Haematology and Oncology
- Rheumatology
- Genetics
- Neonatology

Specific topics per thematic will be presented in a wide range of over 70 sessions that include lectures, round tables, debates, interactive case studies and meet-the-experts seminars. Additionally, a series of high quality workshops will be offered for a hands on approach on specific topics.

Plenary Lectures

- Influenza pandemic
- How do you differentiate a child with asthma vs. reactive airway disease
- Autism and spectrum disorders - Why is the incidence increasing?
- Fetal hydronephrosis - Should we do a post natal work up or not?
- How is genetic profiling going to impact paediatric practice in the future?
- Management of lumps and bumps
- Preventative cardiology (hyperlipidemia)
- Minimizing immuno-suppression and increasing graft longevity
- Transition into adult care including adherence to treatment
- Environmental exposures and child health: established evidence and open issues
- The science of inhaled medication
- Thyroid dysfunction: management of the enlarged thyroid and management of perturbations in TSH levels
- Coeliac disease - diagnosis and treatment
- Heart failure in childhood: epidemiology, causes and new therapies
- Impact of passive smoking on respiratory dysfunction in children
- New curative treatment for diabetes (treatment of type 1 diabetes)
- Skin care and topical dermatotherapy in newborns and children
- Genetic testing of children with a family history of progressive neurologic disease
- Management of a child with a swollen joint

Round Tables

- Recent developments in vaccines (HPV, Meningococal, CMV, etc)
- Advances in the management of child with asthma
- UTI - Can scarring be prevented?
- Irritable bowel - Recurrent abdominal pain - Work up and management
• Role of diagnostic skin testing and de-sensitisation as a therapeutic modality in childhood allergic diseases
• Treatment of ADHD: drugs or not drugs?
• The myriad of clinical manifestations of milk allergy
• Haemangiomas - Current management
• Optimum management of epilepsy

Debates
• Should we treat the short normal child?
• VUR - Does it need to be diagnosed or treated?
• Indications for prescribing self injectable adrenalin

Interactive Case Studies
• Diagnosis and treatment of a child with a recurrent and/or persistent fever - Is it a rheumatologic disease?
• Indication for sleep studies in children
• Mental health issues in adolescence
• Child with fever: How to assess the evidence
• Early detection and prevention of diabetes complications in children

Meet the Experts
• Child abuse - High index of suspicion
• Hypertension
• Investigation and management of food allergy
• Management of children with headaches
• Family centered care of the child with developmental disabilities
• Brain cooling: recent evidence
• Managing MRSA infections
• Monogenic diabetes in paediatric practice: an underdiagnosed condition
• Medication erros in paediatric patients
• Recent developments in the field of haemoglobinopathies
• Investigation of a child with developmental delay
• Antibiotics for acute otitis media: pros and cons of the observation strategy
• Bronchiolitis
• Management of sleep problems in children with developmental disabilities
• Constipation and obstipation - Work up and management
• Atopic dermatitis
• Is anything effective in treating obesity in children?
• Non surgical vs. surgical treatment of appendicitis
• Is there post vaccine era for pneumococcal disease?
Workshops

- Use and abuse of internet by the adolescents
- Acne
- A practical approach to metabolic disease
- Management of child with multiple recurrent infections
- Management and approach of the floppy infant
- Bullous disorders in children
- Haemostasis-haemophilia in children
- Gastroesophageal reflux (GERD) - Work up and management
- Long term follow up and management of a LBW infants?
- Insuline pumps and devices in the treatment of type 1 Diabetes
- Long term management of children with chronic lung disease (CLD)
- Patient and parental management of asthma
- Murmurs and syncope and chest pain
- Behavioural therapy workshop
- Enuresis
- Role of paediatrician in treating infections in relation to immigration in Europe (TB-Malaria- etc)

Topics as of the day of printing (10 July 2009). The topics of the Scientific Programme are subject to change.
Speakers

List of confirmed speakers/chairpersons:

- Prof. Sophie Aronis-Vournas
  St. Sophia Children’s Hospital, Greece

- Dr. Eugenio Baraldi
  University of Padova, Italy

- Dr. Peter Baxter
  Ryegate Centre, Editor in Chief: “Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology”, UK

- Prof. Hans-Peter Berlien
  Ev. Elisabeth Klinik, Germany

- Prof. Ulrike Blume-Peytavi
  Charité University of Medicine Berlin, Germany

- Prof. Franco Chiarelli
  President, the European Society of Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE), University of Chieti, Italy

- Prof. Rolando Cimaz
  Meyer Children’s Hospital, University of Florence, Italy and Hospices Civils de Lyon, France

- Prof. Angus Clarke
  Cardiff University, UK

- Dr. Jacqui Clinch
  Bristol Royal Hospital for Children, UK

- Prof. Finbarr Cotter
  Queen Mary, University of London, Editor in Chief: “British Journal of Haematology”, UK

- Prof. Ron Dagan
  Soroka University Medical Center, Israel

- Dr. Stephen Daniels
  University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine, USA

- Dr. Robert Daum
  University of Chicago, USA

- Dr. Philippe Eigenmann
  University Hospital Geneva, Switzerland

- Prof. Philippe Evrard
  Hôpital Robert-Debré (APHP), Université Paris, France

- Prof. Monika Gappa
  Marien-Hospital Wesel, Associate Editor Europe: “Paediatric Pulmonology”, Germany

- Dr. Refika Hamutcu Ersu
  Marmara University Hospital, Turkey

- Dr. Richard Fine
  Stony Brook University Hospital, Editor in Chief: “Paediatric Transplantation”, USA

- Dr. Stephen Greene
  Child Health, Tayside Children’s Hospital, University of Dundee, Editor: “Evidence-Based Paediatric and Adolescent Diabetes”, UK
Excellence in Paediatrics
3-6 December 2009 Florence
Presented by Wiley-Blackwell

- Prof. John Gregory
  Wales School of Medicine, Cardiff University, UK
- Prof. Donald Greydanus
  Michigan State University, USA
- Prof. Renzo Guerrini
  Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria Meyer-Universita degli Studi di Firenze, Italy
- Prof. John Henderson
  University of Bristol, Bristol Children’s Hospital, UK
- Prof. Sarolta Karpati
  Semmelweis University, Hungary
- Prof. Alison Kemp
  Cardiff University, UK
- Prof. Andreas Konstantopoulos
  President, European Paediatric Association EPA/UNEPSA, University of Athens, Greece
- Dr. Donald C. Liu
  Comer Children’s Hospital, University of Chicago, USA
- Prof. Stuart Logan
  Chairman of the “Excellence in Paediatrics” Scientific Committee, Institute of Health Service Research, Peninsula College of Medicine & Dentistry, Editor: “Child: Care, Health and Development”, UK
- Prof. Simon Kroll
  Imperial College London, UK
- Dr. Kenneth Mack
  Mayo Clinic Pediatric Center, USA
- Dr. Stephen Marks
  Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust, UK
- Dr. Douglas Moodie
  “Ochsner for Children”, Editor in Chief: “Congenital Heart Disease”, USA
- Dr. Antonella Muraro
  University of Padua, Italy
- Prof. Peter Openshaw
  Imperial College London, UK
- Dr. Lu-Ann Papile
  Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s Hospital, USA
- Prof. Larry Pickering
  Emory University, USA
- Prof. Paolo Pozzilli
  Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, UK
- Prof. Prem Puri
  Children’s Research Centre, UK
- Dr. Paul Ramchandani
  University of Oxford, UK
- Dr. Alberto Ravelli
  University of Brescia, Brescia Children’s Hospital, Italy
• Prof. Armido Rubino  
  University of Naples, “Federico II”, Italy

• Prof. Urs B. Schaad  
  Universitats-Kinderspital Beider Basel, Switzerland

• Dr. Michael Shevell  
  McGill University, Canada

• Prof. Mark Sperling  
  Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh, Chief Editor: “Pediatric Diabetes”, USA

• Dr. Helen Spoudeas  
  University College London Hospitals, UK

• Prof. Annamaria Staiano  
  University of Naples, “Federico II”, Italy

• Dr. Giorgio Tamburlini  
  Institute of Child Health Burlo Garorofolo Trieste, Italy

• Prof. Eric Taylor  
  King’s College London Institute of Psychiatry, UK

• Prof. Ricardo Troncone  
  University of Naples, “Federico II”, Italy

• Prof. J. Richard Thistlethwaite  
  University of Chicago Medical Center, Past President, International Pediatric Transplant Association, USA

• Prof. Yvan Vandenplas  
  Universitair Ziekenhuis Brussel, Belgium

• Prof. Steven Webber  
  University of Pittsburgh, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Editor: “Pediatric Transplantation”, USA

• Prof. Ian Chi Kei Wong  
  Centre for Paediatric Pharmacy Research, UK

• Dr. Elke Wuehl  
  University of Heidelberg, Germany

*As of the day of printing: 10 July 2009*
On the eve of the Excellence in Paediatrics, a scientific meeting focusing on children’s nutrition and particularly the ongoing challenge to help paediatricians acquire the necessary skills to integrate evidence based medicine into their day to day practice.

Evidence based Medicine and Child Nutrition is co-organised by the Cochrane Collaboration and the European Paediatric Association (EPA/UNEPSA) on 3 December in Florence.

**Topics of Scientific Programme:**

- Infant feeding
- WHO growth standards
- Prevention of Food Allergy
- Practical approach to prolonged artificial nutrition
- Obesity

More information on the preliminary scientific programme and the confirmed speakers is available on [www.epa-unepsa.org](http://www.epa-unepsa.org).
Registration

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES (VAT 19% included)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGISTRATION TYPE</th>
<th>Early Registration Until 5 Oct 2009</th>
<th>Late Registration 6 Oct - 20 Nov 2009</th>
<th>ON-SITE Registration 3-6 Dec 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Delegates</td>
<td>590 €</td>
<td>640 €</td>
<td>700 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trainees / Young investigators*</td>
<td>380 €</td>
<td>430 €</td>
<td>490 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students / Nurses**</td>
<td>310 €</td>
<td>360 €</td>
<td>420 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying Persons</td>
<td>110 €</td>
<td>110 €</td>
<td>130 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All prices are quoted in Euros

* Please note that trainees and young investigators are kindly requested to provide the Conference Organiser with an official document, such as ID card, indicating their date of birth.

** Additionally, participants registered as students must submit a copy of a valid student ID card. Participants registered as nurses must submit a certificate of employment / confirmation letter issued by their employer.

Registration entitlements
for Full Delegates, Trainees/ Young Investigators, Students/Nurses:

• 4 days attendance – 3-6 December 2009 to scientific sessions of the Excellence in Paediatrics & the Evidence Based Medicine and Child Nutrition • Conference Material • Access to the exhibition (3-6 December 2009) • Participation in the Welcome Reception • Coffee Breaks daily (3-6 December 2009) • One year subscription to Evidence Based Child Health: A Cochrane Review Journal

Registration entitlements
for Accompanying Persons (valid only for participation to both Events):

• City Tour • Participation in the Welcome Reception

For your information, please bear in mind that the registration fees do not include the insurance of participants against accidents, sickness, cancellation, theft, property loss or damage. Participants are advised to take out adequate personal insurance.
Pre- Registration

You may pre-register online at www.excellence-in-paediatrics.org. Payment can be made by credit card only (VISA, MASTERCARD, DINERS). Personal cheques are not accepted. Euro is the only currency accepted.

A letter confirming your registration will be sent to you by the Conference Organiser within three (3) working days after receipt of your Registration Fees payment. If you do not receive this letter in due time, please contact the Conference Organiser by e-mail at: reg-excellence@candc-group.com.

* Important notice: On-line payment process for “Excellence in Paediatrics” Conference and the “Evidence Based Medicine and Child Nutrition” Meeting (registration, accommodation, etc.) is fully encrypted, in order to protect credit card transactions, using VeriSign SSL certificates.

On-Site Registration

After November 21st, registration can only be made on-site at the Conference Secretariat, which will be operating at the Conference Venue from 3-6 December 2009.

Cancellation & Substitution Policy

For written cancellations or substitutions* received:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Administrative Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prior to September 1st, 2009</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from September 2nd, 2009 to September 30th, 2009</td>
<td>€ 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from October 1st, 2009 to October 31st, 2009</td>
<td>50% of registration fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from November 1st, 2009</td>
<td>100% of registration fee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All refunds will be processed one (1) month after the conclusion of the Conference.

* A Registration Form duly filled in, is required for the replacing delegate.

For any further information or clarification you may contact the Conference Organiser:

AC&C Professional Congress Organiser (PCO)
1A, Pierias Str., 144 51 Metamorphosi - Greece
Tel: +30 210 68 89 130, Fax: +30 210 68 44 777
Registration e-mail: reg-excellence@candc-group.com
Call for Abstracts

Abstracts can be submitted to any of the following topics:

- Infectious Diseases
- Allergy - Immunology - Pulmonology
- Neurology - Social and Environmental paediatrics
- Endocrinology and Growth
- Gastroenterology
- Nephrology and Urology
- Dermatology
- Adolescence Medicine
- Cardiology
- Surgery and Transplantation
- Haematology and Oncology
- Rheumatology
- Genetics
- Neonatology

Other paediatric topics for presentations will also be accepted.

All accepted abstracts will be presented in the Abstracts Book that will be distributed to Conference delegates and will be published as a supplement in *Child: Care, Health and Development*, official Journal of the European Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health, the British Association of Community Child Health and the Swiss Pediatric Society.

Abstracts submitted for the Excellence in Paediatrics can be submitted by e-mail or online at www.excellence-in-paediatrics.org/abstracts. The site provides step-by-step instructions on the abstract submission process and procedure.

- The abstract submission deadline is September 14th 2009.
- In order to submit an abstract, at least the presenting author has to be registered to the Conference.
- An author may present one (1) paper only, however he/she may be co-author to more.
- The author acting as contact person will have been notified about the successful submission of the abstract within three (3) days of submission. In the event that you do not receive such notification, please contact the Conference Organiser.
- The Scientific Committee will decide upon the presentation type (oral or poster), date and time of presentation.
- Only the 12 best abstracts will be presented as oral presentations. All other accepted abstracts will be presented as posters.
- Presenting authors will be informed about the status of the abstract (accepted/rejected), on October 21st 2009.
- If you wish to withdraw an abstract, please contact the Conference Organiser before September 14th, 2009, otherwise the papers will be published in the abstract book and/or be posted on the Conference’s website if accepted.
- Research previously published or presented at international meeting and/or conferences is not acceptable.

*Please address any inquiries regarding abstract submission to scient-excellence@candc-group.com.*
Awards

A limited number of abstracts will receive special awards on the basis of their scientific merit and originality.

Best Abstracts Awards
The 12 best abstracts will receive the “Excellence in Paediatrics Award”. The awards ceremony will take place during the Opening Ceremony. Only the 12 awarded abstracts will be presented as oral presentations in 3 special sessions in the main conference hall. Additionally, the presenting authors will receive:

- Honourary certificate
- A complimentary registration for the 2010 “Excellence in Paediatrics”
- A book voucher of €100 value for all Wiley-Blackwell books

Best Posters Awards
The 3 best posters will receive the “Best Poster - Excellence in Paediatrics Award”. The awards ceremony will take place during the Closing Remarks session of the conference. The presenting authors will receive:

- Honourary certificate
- A complimentary registration for the 2010 “Excellence in Paediatrics”

Young Investigators Awards
The 3 best abstracts submitted by scientists under 35 years old will be awarded the “Young Investigators - Excellence in Paediatrics Award”. The awards ceremony will take place during the Closing Remarks session of the conference. The presenting authors will receive:

- Honourary certificate
- A complimentary registration for the 2010 “Excellence in Paediatrics”
- Complimentary accommodation for the 2010 “Excellence in Paediatrics”

A young scientist may receive this distinction over and above any other award. On such occurrence, the award recipient will be entitled to only one complimentary registration for the 2010 “Excellence in Paediatrics”.

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CME Accreditation

“Excellence in Paediatrics” has applied for CME Accreditation to the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME). The EACCME is an institution of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS). EACCME credits are recognized by the American Medical Association towards the Physician’s Recognition Award (PRA).

Professional Congress Organiser

AC&C
Professional Congress Organiser
C&C International
Group of Companies
www.CandC-group.com

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T. +30 210 68 89 130
F. +30 210 68 44 777
www.excellence-in-paediatrics.org
1A, Pierias Str, 14451
Metamorfossi, Athens
Accommodation

Please see below information on the three (3) Conference hotels which offer special rates to the “Excellence in Paediatrics” delegates. For additional options, please contact the Conference Organiser’s Hospitality Department at hospitality-excellence@candc-group.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOTEL</th>
<th>CAT</th>
<th>DISTANCE FROM CONFERENCE VENUE</th>
<th>CLOSEST TRAIN STATION TO HOTEL</th>
<th>ACCOMMODATION PACKAGE 3 overnights, DBL FOR SGL USE / DBL</th>
<th>EXTRA NIGHT DBL FOR SGL USE / DBL per night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WESTIN EXCELSIOR FLORENCE</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>1.4 km</td>
<td>S. Maria Novella (0.9 km)</td>
<td>€ 660 / € 720</td>
<td>€ 210 / € 230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND HOTEL FLORENCE</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>2.5 km</td>
<td>S. Maria Novella (0.8 km)</td>
<td>€ 660 / € 720</td>
<td>€ 210 / € 230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOTEL ADLER CAVALIERI</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>1.9 km</td>
<td>S. Maria Novella (0.5 km)</td>
<td>€ 342 / € 510</td>
<td>€ 130 / € 160</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Three (3) nights minimum stay. The accommodation package cost will not be altered in case of reduction in actual room nights.

Included:

- Hotel accommodation for three (3) overnights (3-6 December 2009)
- Breakfast
- C&C Events Management hospitality desk at the hotel
- Communication of C&C Events Management with the delegates
- Taxes

Booking Policy for Hotels in Italy

Standard Check-in Time: 15.00 hrs

Standard Check-out Time: 12.00 hrs

In case you would like to check-in earlier and/or check-out later than the standard hours, please take into account that you may do so upon request and depending on room availability. Please bear in mind that an additional charge will be incurred for late check-out.
General Information

- Please note that accommodation will be offered on a “first come-first served” basis. Since hotels close to the Congress venue are very popular, please make your reservation as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

- Accommodation can be booked by downloading and filling all fields of the Accommodation Form available on-line at www.excellence-in-paediatrics.org/accommodation. Please return the Accommodation Form to C & C Events Management. Fax Number: +30 210 6844777 attn Hospitality Dept, E-mail: hospitality-excellence@candc-group.com.

- A letter confirming your reservation will be sent to you by e-mail within five (5) days after receipt of your reservation and your payment. Should you not receive a confirmation letter, please contact C & C Events Management. E-mail: hospitality-excellence@candc-group.com.

- All hotel bookings are considered valid upon full payment and receipt of the hotel voucher.

Cancellation and Substitution Policy for Accommodation Bookings *

- Written cancellations received prior to September 10th 2009 are entitled to a full refund.

- Written cancellations received between September 10th and October 31st 2009 will incur charge of one (1) night stay.

- There will be no refund for cancellations received after October 31st 2009.

- Substitutions regarding accommodation will be accepted until October 31st at a 50 € administrative fee.

- No substitutions will be accepted after October 31st 2009.

All refunds will be processed two (2) months following the conclusion of the Conference.

* This cancellation and substitution policy applies only to individual room bookings. For group bookings please contact the Hospitality Department at hospitality-excellence@candc-group.com

Important Notes:

NON ARRIVAL will result in the release of the reservation by the hotel and no refunds will be made.

LATE ARRIVAL / EARLY DEPARTURE (based on the dates of the confirmed booking) will result in the charge of the total accommodation amount and no refunds will be made.
General Information about Florence

Passport and Visa

For citizens of EU member countries, a valid passport or identity card is sufficient to enter Italy. For citizens of non-EU countries a valid passport is required for entering Italy. As a visa is required for certain countries, please refer to the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp) or contact the nearest Italian Embassy / Italian Consulate in your home country for more information.

How to get there

By train: High speed trains link the major Italian and European cities to Florence main station S. Maria Novella (www.ferroviedellostato.it).

By Plane: “Amerigo Vespucci” International Airport provides direct flights from Florence to the main European cities (www.aeroporto.firenze.it/IT/index.php). Taxis and bus services (Ataf: Tel. 800/424500 - www.ataf.net; Sita: Tel. 800/373760 - www.sita-on-line.it) are available to take you downtown (20 minutes). The Volainbus line connects Americo Vespucci Airport to the city centre with buses every 30 minutes. Pisa International Airport “Galileo Galilei” (www.pisa-airport.com) is connected to the Central Train Station of Florence (S. Maria Novella) by a shuttle train (50 minutes) or by Bus (www.lowcostcoach.com) (70 minutes).

By Car: The A1 (E35- Milano-Roma/ E45 Roma-Napoli) is the main motorway linking Florence to northern and southern Italy. From the north on the A1, exit at Firenze Nord and then simply follow the signs for Centro. If arriving from Rome, exit Firenze Sud. The A11 leads west to the Tirrenian coast and on to Genoa and the French border. Information are available at: www.autostrade.it.

Taxis

In Florence taxis can be reserved by phone (+39 055 4242 and +39 055 4390, from mobile +39 055 4224242) or may be found at the official taxi stands. You cannot stop a taxi on streets.

Credit Cards

Most major credit cards are accepted in restaurants and shops.

Currency and Exchange

The national currency of Italy is the Euro. Exchange can be secured from local and exchange offices, which usually charge a commission fee. Banks are open Monday to Friday from 08.00 / 08.30 am to 01.00 / 01.30 pm. They are also open in the afternoon, usually from 02.30 / 3.00 pm to 04.00 / 04.30 pm.
ATM

ATMs are located all around the city. They can also be used for cash advances on major credit cards such as MasterCard or VISA.

Telecommunications

The international access code for Italy is +39. The outgoing code is 00 followed by the relevant country code (e.g. 001 for the USA or Canada, 0044 for the United Kingdom). Public payphones are available all over Italy and use phone cards, which can be purchased from electronics shops, tobacconists’ (tabacchi), newsstands and bars. For information concerning mobile phone use in Italy (telephone transmissions are based on GSM technology), please ask your provider.

Time

Italy is GMT+1. Italy 12:00 - London 11:00 - New York 18:00 - Sydney 20:00.

Weather Conditions

Winters in Florence are cool and damp. The city receives the majority of its rainfall in the winter months and experiences occasional snowfall. November and December are generally the wettest months; December to January are the coldest months. On average throughout winter Florence will see 6 to 8 days of rain per month.

Average temperatures:

December (°C)   Avg Low: 4°   Avg High: 11°   Avg precip: 5.21 cm
December (°F)   Avg Low: 38°  Avg High: 52°  Avg precip: 2.05 in

Electric Power

All suppliers are 220 volts, 50Hz AC.

Water

Tap water is drinkable in Florence.

Shopping Hours

Most shops are generally open in winter 9:00-13:00 and 15:30-19:30. Some large department stores and supermarkets stay open during the lunch break, as do some shops in the city center. Certain types of shops, such as clothing boutiques, supermarkets and large stores, are closed all day Sunday and on Monday morning.

Healthcare

Emergency and urgent medical care is available at hospital Emergency rooms at the hospitals with an emergency telephone number, 118, for 24-hour access to emergency medical assistance throughout Italy. If transport to a hospital is required, an ambulance is sent - if transport is not required the First Aid Service (Guardia Medica) is sent.
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