

2nd **TBI-Challenge.eu** 19th – 21st September, 2013 in **Vienna**

Biennial Conference
of
BRAIN INJURED AND FAMILIES / EUROPEAN FEDERATION (BIF)
in cooperation with local and European TBI Associations

Traumatic Brain Injury, the illness with the 1000 faces – the silent burden of European societies

Traumatic Brain Injury is the second frequent neurological disease, right after the ischaemic stroke. It represents a silent burden in Europe, which is constantly growing. The TBI is difficult to grasp, because of the many faces of this illness, which always results in an individually different situation after the trauma. From light neuropsychological to the most heavy neurological impairment with full care need everything is possible. Complications, such as epilepsy, depression or headache in most cases lead to chronic strain and handicap and the need of continuous therapy. This is not only a concern of the injured but also the families, the social environment and it also concerns the health and social security professionals and the European governments.

This leads to a very broad field of requirements to the technical and pharmaceutical industries. TBI challenges many scientific areas such as Traumatology, Neurosurgery, Intensive and Internal Medicine, Anaesthesia, Physical Medicine, Neurology, Neurorehabilitation, Social Medicine, Psychiatry or Psychology. Scientific work in different fields has to be also oriented in to collaboration, to be able to elaborate the right answer for each different need.

After the acute phase the long term rehabilitation and reintegration process needs intensive teamwork and strong efforts also to integrate the family care. In our modern times technical and ethical problems have to be solved to assure and improve the individual approach in rehabilitation after brain injury. This also includes prevention before and after TBI as a very important factor.

The conference, in its function to combine industries and medicine, also serves to spread the knowledge about medical, pharmaceutical and technical possibilities of support. Extended use of new and known facilities meets the interest of the TBI affected and the invited and scientific engaged doctors and therapists.

The **TBI-Challenge.eu 2013** is a perfect new medium, to present and discuss existing and innovative pharmaceutical and technical solutions. All groups, taking part in rehabilitation and treatment after TBI are joined to find together new answers and discuss therapeutic approach. The gathered information for acute and long term treatment and for chronic home care will be taken home and shared with the local rehabilitation teams.

The conference is organised by BIF-Europe in cooperation with the Austrian Association of TBI to present European technique and experience in Austria and at an international level. The involved TBI-Associations are supporting the **TBI-Challenge.eu 2013** together with the Austrian Ministry of Health.

I am looking forward to meet you at the conference,

With my very best regards



Nikolaus Steinhoff
President of **TBI-Challenge.eu 2013**

