

# **8th Moroccan Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology and Eastern Mediterranean Advanced Courses in Epilepsy and Electroencephalography Report**

**Marrakech, Morocco**

**3-5 May 2024**

**International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE-CEMA)**

**Moroccan League Against Epilepsy (LMCE)**

**Moroccan Society of Neurophysiology (SMNPH)**

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**Fez, Morocco**

## **May 2024**

The 8th Moroccan Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology, combined with the EMR Advanced Courses in Epilepsy & Electroencephalography, was held from May 3 to 5, 2024, at the Mohammed VI Museum Conference Center for Water Civilization in Marrakech. This event, characterized by its international scope and high scientific caliber, provided an exceptional platform for young specialists and seasoned professionals alike to deepen their knowledge in epilepsy and clinical neurophysiology.

## **Participants and Scope**

The congress attracted 245 participants, including neurologists, neurosurgeons, neurophysiologists, psychiatrists, and rehabilitation experts from over 20 countries. Notable attendees came from the USA, Canada, Brazil, Finland, France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Denmark, Malaysia, Belgium, the UK, and numerous African nations such as Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Senegal, Chad, DR Congo, Mali, Benin, Cameroon, Niger, and Togo. The diverse assembly

aimed to foster a robust exchange of knowledge and collaborative spirit among emerging neurologists, particularly from Africa.

### **Scientific Program**

The congress featured a comprehensive and varied scientific program designed to encourage deep knowledge exchange and multidisciplinary collaboration. It included plenary lectures, expert panels, oral communication sessions, clinical case discussions, practical workshops, and poster presentations. Sessions were moderated and presented by world-renowned experts, ensuring exceptional scientific quality.

### **Highlights of the Program (Epilepsy and EEG Themes)**

#### **2 May 2024 (TCs)**

- Essential rules for correctly interpreting an EEG
- EEG of preterm infants, newborns, and infants
- Identifying and correcting EEG artifacts
- Recognizing unusual EEG rhythms

#### **3 May 2024**

- Periodic EEG patterns in the ICU
- Coma EEG
- Continuous EEG monitoring

#### **4 May 2024**

- Optimization of antiepileptic treatment
- Choosing an antiepileptic drug
- Semiological aspects of epileptic and non-epileptic manifestations

#### **5 May 2024**

- American Clinical Neurophysiology Guidelines for ICU EEG Interpretation
- Various oral communications on epilepsy and EEG

Practical workshops covered a range of topics from basic EEG interpretation and reporting to advanced EEG reading techniques. Participants engaged in group presentations, case discussions, and critical analysis of case-study movies with EEG plotting.

## **Opening Session and Advanced EEG-Epileptology Courses**

The congress opened with a session followed by advanced EEG-Epileptology courses organized by the Moroccan Society of Neurophysiology in collaboration with the Moroccan League Against Epilepsy and the ILAE EMR. These courses aimed to deepen participants' theoretical and practical knowledge, covering essential topics such as correct EEG interpretation, physiological EEG activities from neonates to adults, and EEG artifact management.

## **Clinical Case Discussions**

A dedicated session for clinical case discussions in EEG & Epilepsy allowed participants to present complex cases and receive expert advice. The final session focused on EEG in preterm infants, neonates, and infants, discussing key messages for EEG interpretation in this population and epileptic and developmental encephalopathies.

## **Keynote Speakers and Contributions**

The success of the event was significantly enhanced by the contributions of esteemed speakers and workshop leaders, including:

- ❖ *Aatif Husain, USA*
- ❖ *Boulenouar Mesraoua, Qatar*
- ❖ *Fatiha Lahjouji, Morocco*
- ❖ *Jamal Mounach, Morocco*
- ❖ *Peter Kaplan, USA*
- ❖ *Imane Chahid, Morocco*
- ❖ *Kaoutar Khabbach, Morocco*
- ❖ *Philippe Gelisse, France*
- ❖ *Safaa Zahlane, Morocco*
- ❖ *Soumia Mrhar, Morocco*
- ❖ *Zouhayr Souirti, Morocco*

Their dedication to sharing knowledge and expertise was instrumental in exceeding the course's expectations. Feedback indicated that 98% of participants found the course immensely valuable for their daily practice and professional development.

### **Acknowledgments**

Special thanks are extended to the organizing and scientific committees, particularly President Zouhayr Souirti who have been pivotal in implementing these courses in Morocco, along with Abderrahmane Chahidi, Mohamed Chraa, Rachid Belfkih, Kaoutar Khabbach, Imane Chahid, and Hicham Fadel.

In conclusion, the 8th Moroccan Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology and the EMR Advanced Courses in Epilepsy & Electroencephalography have significantly contributed to the advancement of clinical neurophysiology and related disorders, fostering valuable scientific and human connections among participants.