

Portuguese League Against Epilepsy

2021-2022 Report

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Carla Bentes, President
Nuno Canas, Secretary General
Cristina Pereira, Treasurer
Maria Manuela Almeida Santos, Past President
Ricardo Rego, Board Member
António Pedro Guimarães, Board Member



Officer Election Date: 19 November 2021

MEETINGS

- 2021: [33.º ENE](#), Encontro Nacional de Epileptologia, virtual, Coimbra, 12-13 March 2021
"Advances in the last 10 years"
- 2022: [34.º ENE](#), Encontro Nacional de Epileptologia, Oporto, 11-12 March 2022
"Epilepsy and Sleep"

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- EPILEPSY WEEK 2021: 50th Anniversary of the Portuguese League Against Epilepsy
A full week of activities for professionals, PWE, caregivers, public and governmental entities!
 - WEBINARS: Epilepsy in Women; Epilepsy for All; COVID-19 & Epilepsy; Cannabinoids & Epilepsy; Pharmacological Treatment; Portuguese Epileptologists Around the World; Devices & Artificial Intelligence; Patients' Associations; Status Epilepticus, Burden of Disease & Management with VNS (Livanova); The person beyond epilepsy (Bial Master Class); DBS for Epilepsy (Medtronic); 50 years later: Does Valproate still make sense? (Tecnifar); Iberian Meeting Sleep–Epileptology (Eisai); Dialogues in Epilepsy; Multimodal Techniques in Presurgical Evaluation (CHUC)
 - CONGRESS: Nacional Meeting of Epileptology, Epilepsy Surgery Forum
 - COURSES: Adult Epilepsy, Childhood Epilepsy, Neurophysiology, Imaging
 - Musical Moment
- Refractory Epilepsy National Centers Meetings (4)
- Educational Initiatives
 - Epilepsy Courses (4)
 - Clinical Cases Discussion ("Dialogues in *Epilepsia*" - Eisai support)
- Awareness Activities
 - International Epilepsy Day [2021](#) and [2022](#)
 - [I am more than Epilepsy](#)
 - [Epilepsy throughout life](#)
 - [Introduction to the art of the theater](#)

- [Sail for epilepsy](#)
- Partnerships with Associations, Societies or Networks
 - Lince (early diagnosis of neuronal ceroid lipofuscinoses) with the Portuguese Neuropediatric Society and National Institute of Health
 - College of Translators for Portuguese with the Brazilian League Against Epilepsy
 - Participation in the Spanish Epilepsy Society Congress (joint session)
 - Collaboration with EpiNet and different Portuguese associations of PWE

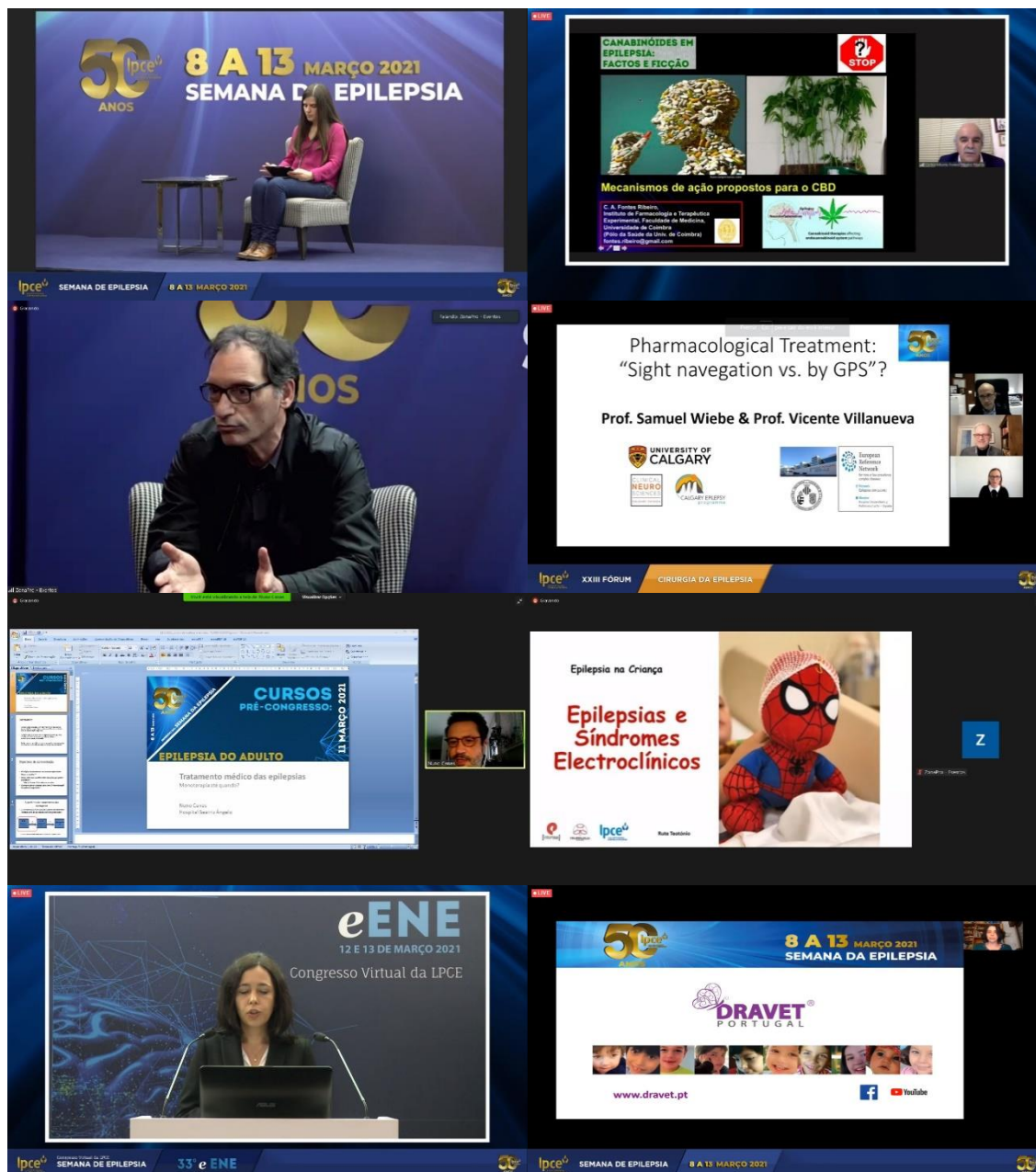
CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 AND 2022

The major challenge was to create strategies to maintain and increase educational and awareness activities during the pandemic. Also, the celebration of ILAE 50th anniversary, with a full week of online activities, was a very important but successful challenge.

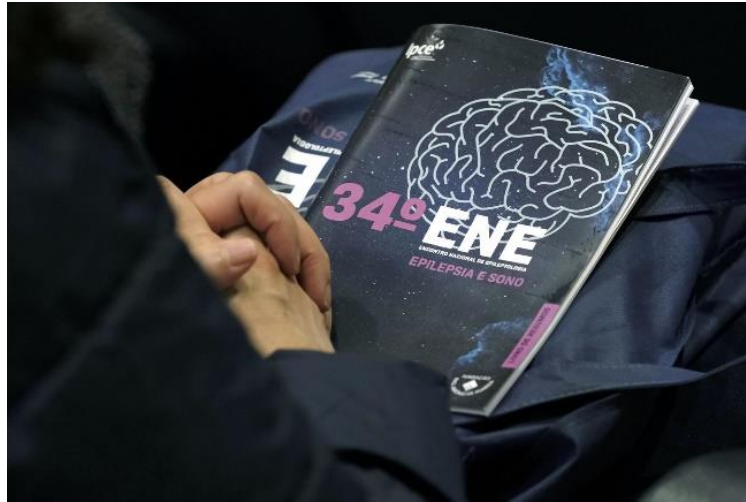
FUTURE PLANS FOR 2023

In line with ILAE mission, the Portuguese League Against Epilepsy wants to ensure that Portuguese health professionals, patients and their care providers, governments, and the public have the educational and research resources that are essential in understanding, diagnosing, and treating persons with epilepsy. Therefore, our future aims are:

- To promote the activity of the Regional Executives Committees of the Portuguese League Against Epilepsy
- To Increase collaboration with YES-Portugal and create a series of educational podcasts in the Portuguese Language
- To organize Annual National Epileptology Meeting, promote biannual meetings of the Refractory Epilepsy Centers and the beginning of Nursing Epilepsy Meetings in Portugal
- To organize or give scientific support to post graduate Epilepsy educational courses
- To foster research, scientific, educational, and social support activities through Portuguese League Against Epilepsy Awards and Grants
- To maintain and promote collaboration with other National and International Societies or Health Professional / Research Networks
- To have a more active role at ILAE and promote the activity of the College of Translators for the Portuguese language.
- To maintain and increase communication with fast access to quality information using a well-structured site and social media
- To interact with policy makers and other stakeholders to define national Epilepsy health programs and decrease asymmetrical access to specialized health care
- To start a retrospective study assessing the number of hospital admissions for epilepsy at the Portuguese NHS and a population-based study to assess prevalence of Epilepsy in Portugal
- To contribute to the Intersectoral global action plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders (2022-2031), adopted in 2022 by the World Health Assembly



50th Anniversary of the Portuguese League Against Epilepsy and Epilepsy Week 2021



34th National Meeting of Epileptology (34 ENE) – Oporto 2022



2022 International Epilepsy Day in Portugal



Sail for Epilepsy in Oporto



Sail for Epilepsy in Almada



Sail for Epilepsy in Lisbon

Report submitted by Carla Bentes