

Report of my participation to the EAPC Vienna congress, May 2009

I have the great pleasure to express my sincere gratitude to the scientific committee and organizing committee of the Congress for the well-organized event.

My Special thanks to the Open Society Institute (OSI) for granting me the excellent opportunity to attend and participate in the congress even though I had no communication presented at this time. But due to that I had more time to attend any session I was interested in.

I can't refrain not to mention about the EAPC staff, that was very helpful and tireless to respond promptly and offer help if needed even in the visa issue process.

As for the congress itself, as I have already mentioned it was very well-done. I was very much interested in pain issues and found relevant oral and poster sessions that proved being useful. I would like to specifically indicate the importance of the following sessions for me: "Palliative Care as a Public Health Issue", "New Advances in the Management of Breakthrough Cancer Pain" and "Improving Assessment and Classification of Cancer Pain". The plenary lecture topics were very well selected. I could be able to learn more and bring appropriate material back to my colleagues.

I also attended the education session that provide me with some clarification in research focused on palliative care themes. Palliative care service is recently established unit in Georgia, it would be great to collaborate with our foreign colleagues to further explore palliative care matters and consequently improve service in order to better respond to patients' need.

I also would like to mention that the exhibition well complemented the sessions with its diverse topics.

I would be very happy to have another opportunity to participate in other EAPC meetings to get much knowledge and enhance experience in palliative care.

Once again, thank you so much for the wonderful congress days – May 7-10 in Vienna, Austria.

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