

# Southern Europe Regional Expert Meeting of **Fragility Fracture Network**

**25|26**  
APRIL  
2020

**23**  
Nations'  
Joint Effort

**ATHENS**  
**GREECE**  
War Museum

[REMAthens2020@ff-network.org](mailto:REMAthens2020@ff-network.org)



## SOUTHERN EUROPE - REGIONAL EXPERT MEETING ON THE MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION OF FRAGILITY FRACTURES

Dear Colleagues,

Because of its rapidly-ageing population, the Southern Europe region, like other global regions, will see a pandemic of hip fractures (and other fragility fractures) in the next few decades. The healthcare systems will not be able to cope with this. The FFN - a global organisation - offers a way to meet this challenge, which was published (by FFN plus other international organisations) in 2018 as a Call to Action<sup>1</sup>, through a combination of:

- preventing as many fractures as possible by secondary prevention after every fragility fracture
- treating those that do occur in the best and most cost-effective way, through multidisciplinary co-management, in the peri-operative and rehabilitation phases
- creating multidisciplinary national alliances that can bring about the necessary changes in healthcare policy to facilitate these actions

You can learn more about the Global FFN from its website: <https://www.fragilityfracturenetwork.org/>, where you can also join the FFN completely free of charge, gaining access to its website resources.

The best way to **catalyse** the creation of the required national alliances is to set up **national FFNs** that bring together surgeons, physicians skilled in care of the elderly, anaesthetists, rehabilitationists, nurses and physios and allows them to speak with one voice. Being part of the global FFN is invaluable in learning from the experience of others and avoiding having to 're-invent the wheel', but the actual action has to take place at national level. FFN-Greece, FFN-Italy and SEFRAOS in Spain were set up to do precisely that. There are now thirteen National FFNs worldwide.

The Regional Expert Meeting will focus on how to **implement** the recommendations of the Call to Action and explore all the issues surrounding fragility fractures in the elderly patient, including the lessons that have been learned about creating national FFNs and achieving healthcare policy change. If you belong to any of the healthcare disciplines listed above and want to make a difference in your country, this meeting is for you. The meeting will be held in Athens in April of 2020, with expert speakers from many European countries. The registration fee will be very modest and will include a Networking Dinner.

If you want to be informed about the programme and would consider attending, or if you simply want to receive further mailings from the FFN, send an email to [REMAthens2020@ff-network.org](mailto:REMAthens2020@ff-network.org) giving your title, given name and family name, your discipline and place of work, including your country.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

Professor David Marsh, General Secretary, Fragility Fracture Network

Professor Elias Panagiotopoulos, President of FFN-Greece

<sup>1</sup>Dreinhöfer et al (2108). A global call to action to improve the care of people with fragility fractures. *Injury* 49: 1393-7