Epileptic Disorders Educational Prize

Epileptic Disorders and the ILAE identify and honor the paper which has made the most significant contribution to the educational mission of Epileptic Disorders, published the previous year in our journal. Papers are nominated by our Associate Editors and members of our Editorial Board, and the final selection is made by the Editor in Chief along with the ILAE President.

Ioana Mindruta
2016 Prize recipient

Dr Ioana Mindruta was awarded the Epileptic Disorders Educational Prize for her paper, Successful epilepsy surgery in frontal lobe epilepsy with startle seizures: a SEEG study by Ana Ciurea, Irina Popa, Mihai Dragos Mallia, Nagy Csilla-Johanna, Andrei Barborica, Cristian Donos, Jean Ciurea, Ioan Opris, Ioana Mindruta. Epileptic Disord. 2015; 17 (4): 363-71. The award will be presented at the 12th European Congress on Epileptology in Prague, Czech Republic to be held 11-15 September 2016.

Born in Romania, Dr Mindruta graduated from the University of Medicine in Bucharest, Romania and then specialized in Neurology and Neurophysiology. During her PhD program, her focus was on “Sleep studies in epileptic syndromes.” She completed her training in epileptology and pre-surgical evaluation at the Grenoble Epilepsy Center under the direction of Professor Philippe Kahane. She founded and coordinated the National Program for pre surgical evaluation dedicated to invasive cerebral exploration.

Dr Mindruta currently works with a multidisciplinary team to select patients for appropriate surgical treatment or neurostimulation procedures. Her current position is head of the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at the University Hospital of Bucharest and lecturer in neurology at the University of Medicine in Bucharest. The main research interest lies in electrophysiological biomarkers and functional connectivity in epileptogenic networks.

Alexandra Liava
2015 Prize recipient

Dr Alexandra Liava was awarded the first Epileptic Disorders Educational Prize for her paper: Paediatric epilepsy surgery in the posterior cortex: a study of 62 cases by Liava A, Mai R, Tassi L, Cossu M, Sartori I, Nobili L, Lo Russo G, Francione S. Epileptic Disord. 2014;16(2):141-64. The award was presented at the 31st International Epilepsy Congress in Istanbul Turkey (5-9 Sept 2015), where she presented their findings.
Doctor Alexandra Liava was born in Greece. She obtained her Doctor in Medicine degree at the University of Milan, Italy and then specialized in Child Neurology and Psychiatry. She completed her training at the G.B Rossi University Hospital in Verona, under the direction of Professor Bernardo Dalla Bernardina. Competent in neurodevelopmental disorders, pediatric neurophysiology and movement disorders, Dr Liava also worked with other teams in Italy and abroad before joining the Neurosciences Department; University of Milano-Bicocca PhD program. She also collaborates with the Claudio Munari Epilepsy Surgery Centre of Niguarda Hospital. Her fields of interest are the surgical treatment as well as neuroimaging and neuropsychology of childhood epilepsies.

**Interview with the leading team of the Claudio Munari Epilepsy Surgery Centre** (Niguarda Hospital, Milano, Italy); Drs. Laura Tassi, Stefano Francione and Giorgio Lo Russo.