

**International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics**  
**Turkish National Member Society Report to**  
**the Interim Meeting of International Committee Representative (IC 16)**

**11 February 2009, Bangkok**

**Overview**

This report summarizes the business of the ISPO Turkey the years between July 2007 - February 2009.

**Current Membership**

Three of the memberships of ISPO Turkey have been cleaned. Because two of the members did not pay their regular yearly fees within the normal period. On the other hand we have had three new members. The Turkish National Member Society currently has 20 members today. Membership is multidisciplinary and includes prosthetist orthotist and technicer/technician (7 members), physiotherapist (7 members), medical doctors (3 members), mechanical engineer (3 members) (Figure 1). The ISPO Turkey members are located in Ankara (15 members), Istanbul (3 members) and Izmir (2 members) (Figure 2).

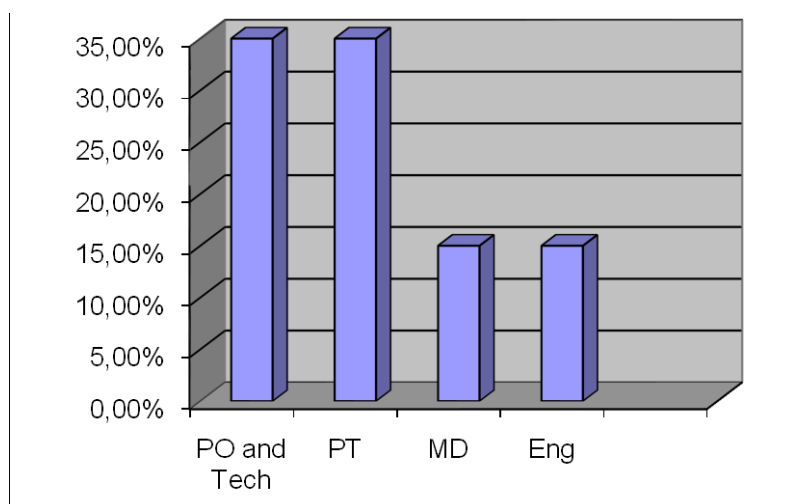


Figure 1. Turkish membership distribution by profession

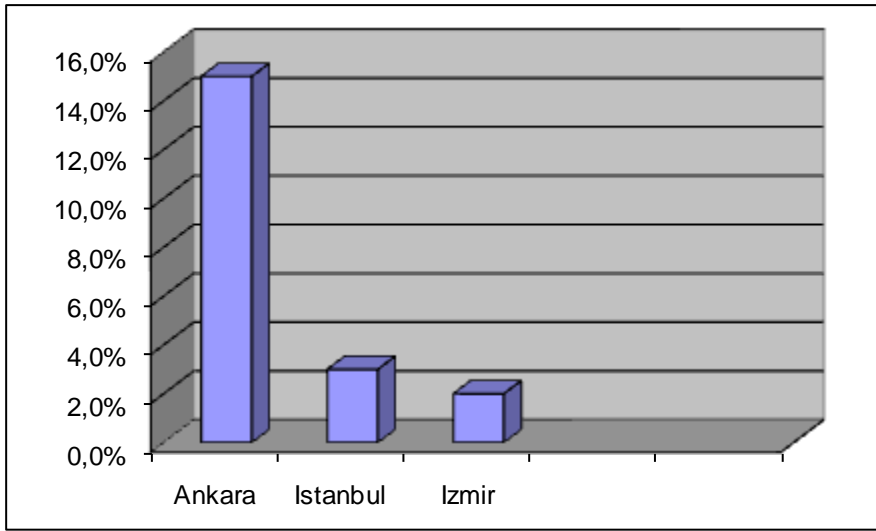


Figure 2. Turkish membership location

### Executive Committee Members

We have six executive committee members. Current executive committee members, their professions, places of work, length of service and years of ISPO membership, are listed below.

Executive Committee Member	Profession, Place of Employment	Years on Committee	Years of ISPO Membership
<b>Ms Serap Alsancak</b> Chairman & International Representative	Professor Physiotherapist Director of P&O Programme, Ankara University, Vocational School of Health, Fatih Cad.197/A, Keçiören, Ankara	4 yrs	18 yrs (since 1990)
<b>Mr Evren Erdem</b> Honorary Secretary	Medical Doctor PhD Private P&O Centre, Bankacı Sokak, 21/A Küçükcesat, Ankara	4 yrs	12 yrs (since 1996)
<b>Mr Haydar Altinkaynak</b> Honorary Treasurer	Mechanical Engineer MSc Lecturer of P&O Programme, Ankara University, Vocational School of Health, Fatih Cad. 197/A, Keçiören, Ankara	4 yrs	11 yrs (since 1997)
<b>Mr Sabri Atesalp</b> Committee Member & International Representative	Professor Orthopedic Surgeon Gülhane Military Medical Academy, Department of Orthopedics, Etlik, Ankara	4 yrs	14 yrs (since 1994)
<b>Mr İlhan Sahin</b> Committee Member	Mechanical Engineer Private P&O Centre, Libya Cad. No.1, Kolej, Ankara	4 yrs	7 yrs (since 2001)
<b>Mrs Kezban Yigiter</b> Committee Member	Associate Professor Physiotherapist Hacettepe University, The School of Physiotherapy, Samanpazarı, Ankara	4 yrs	5 yrs (since 2003)

Our honorary secretary contacted ISPO Turkey members to be retired 2 members of the Executive Committee in the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> National ISPO Congress. But there

was no change in the committee at that time. The same executive committee members were requested to continue their work by national members. In this condition as Executive Committee we had a decision about preparation of two members for the next executive committee. These members are from different region of Turkey; one of them is from Istanbul (Mr. Mustafa Gultekin, P.O.Tech.) and the other one is from Izmir (Mr. Salih Angin, Assoc.Prof.P.T.).

Executive Committee of Turkish Scientific Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics (TSAPO) are elected in every two years. This is the only association having a national status by decision of Council of Ministers in January 2002. This means that TSAPO is the only legal authority in P&O field to represent Turkey on international ground. The Association has a six Executive Committee member and 190 members today. Our election was held in October last year.

#### **Committee Meeting Dates**

As the ISPO Turkey we met three times in 2007, eight times in 2008 and two times (probably) in 2009. Three members of the Executive Committee are also The Executive Committee members of Turkish Scientific Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics (TSAPO). The committee meeting of TSAPO is held every three weeks. Thus we (TSAPO and ISPO Turkey together) generally meet more frequently and discuss about our scientific activities and the other P&O matters in Turkey.

#### **Scientific Activities and Publications**

Our national P&O congress is held every two years.

We have organised a national P&O congress, three national P&O courses and, one panel & workshop in an international meeting since July 2007.

<b>Scientific Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> National P&amp;O Congress</b>	<b>17-20 October 2007</b>	<b>4 days</b>	<b>Ankara</b>	<b>419</b>
<b>Harmony System Course</b>	<b>4 March 2008</b>	<b>1 day</b>	<b>Ankara</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>17th ESMAC (Annual Meeting of European Society of Movement Analysis for Adults and Children)</b>	<b>8-13 September 2008</b>	<b>1 day (Prosth Gait)</b>	<b>Antalya</b>	<b>350</b>

Stance Control Orthoses Course	24 September 2008	1 day	Ankara	70
LASAR Posture Course	8 October 2008	1 day	Ankara	61
7 <sup>th</sup> National P&O Congress	October 2009	4 days	Istanbul	450 (estimate)

**6<sup>th</sup> National Prosthetics and Orthotics Congress :** The 6<sup>th</sup> National P&O Congress was held in Ankara between 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October 2007. The meeting was the second joint organization hosted by Turkish Scientific Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics (TSAPO) and the ISPO Turkey, with delegates and guest speakers from Turkey, Canada, England, Germany, Iceland, Israil, Jordan, Pakistan, Scotland and USA. For the first time, with this scope, the congress brought together scientist from Middle East working in the area of prosthetics and orthotics. We had also some participants from Azerbaijan.

The congress was attended by 419 delegates. Scientific programme of the congress consisted of 5 plenary sessions, 5 symposiums, 7 instructional courses, 6 workshops and 12 oral presentations.

The topics of the scientific meetings were discussed

**In the plenary sessions;** ISPO Scientific Activities, New Developments of Upper Limb Prostheses, Surgical and Orthotic Management of Idiopathic Scoliosis, The Principles of AFOs for Neurological Conditions, Surgical and Orthotic Management of Club Foot. In the symposiums; Vertebral Deformities and Orthotics, Rhomatoid Diseases and Orthotic Management, Quality of Life and Functionality in Amputees, Diabetic Foot and Orthotics/Prosthetics, Prosthetics and Orthotics Services and Developments in Turkey and approachment of Social Security Institutions.

**In the instructional courses;** Importance in Prosthetics and Orthotics Design, Ideal Education and Prosthetics and Orthotics Professionals, Ways of Thinking and Practicing: How Students Become Prosthetists/Orthotists, Upper Limb Sockets, Harnessing and Controls, Orthotic Management of Legg-Calve-Perthes, Prosthetics and Orthotics Services and Developments in Different Countries, Skin and Stump Problems and Liner Effects, Liners in Prosthetics, Cosmetic Prostheses. **In the technical workshops;** Management of TF and Casting of Quadrilateral and Ischial Containment Method, Orthotic Management of Polio and Casting/Taking

Measurement of KAFO, Materials Selection of Prostheses and Orthoses, Carbon HKAFO, Variations of TF and KD Socket Design.

These topics were presented and discussed by 13 invited speakers and chairmen from different countries; P.O. Dan Blocka (Canada), M.D. John Fisk (USA), P.O. Detlef Kokegei (Germany), P.O. Karl Becker (Germany), P.T. Roy Bowers (Scotland), P.O. Sophie Hill (England), P.O. Rickard Hanzek (Iceland), M.D. Eli Isikov (Israel), Dr. Bakht Sarwar (Pakistan), Biomed.Eng. and P.O. Raid Alkhatab (Jordan) and M.D. Abdel Fattah-AL Worikat (Jordan). A 55-invited speaker and chairman were from Turkey. There was a good exhibition prepared by 13 P&O firms/manufacturers.

**17<sup>th</sup> ESMAC (Annual Meeting of European Society of Movement Analysis for Adults and Children):** We organized a workshop and a panel for this meeting. The topics were about Observational Gait Analysis and Gait Deviations in Amputees. We invited 2 international and 4 national speakers to the meeting. These are Eng. Tim Bach (Australia), Eng. Siegmur Blumentritt (Germany), P.T. Ozlem Yilmaz (Turkey), M.D. Yusuf Yildiz (Turkey), Eng. Haydar Altinkaynak (Turkey) and P.T. Serap Alsancak (Turkey).

**P&O Courses:** The courses were held at P&O Laboratory of Ankara University. In these courses Harmony System was presented in theory and practice by C.P.O. Kai Busiek, Stance Control Orthosis was presented in theory by C.O. Gary Bedard, LASAR Posture was presented in theory and practice by Eng. Siegmur Blumentritt.

**The other activities and plans can be summarized as follows ;**

- The 6<sup>th</sup> National Prosthetics and Orthotics Congress Book was published. We prepared and handed out congress bag, congress programme, congress attendance certificate, congress poster etc. for our national meeting.
- We are working on to modify of ISPO Turkey web-page as both Turkish and English in the TSAPO web-page ([www.turkprot.org](http://www.turkprot.org)).

- Promotion items with TSAPO and ISPO logos were prepared and distributed at the 6<sup>th</sup> National P&O Congress.
- We have just started preparations of the 7<sup>th</sup> National P&O Congress. Our National P&O Congress will probably be in Istanbul in October this year.

We wish to organize and host ISPO World Congress, Istanbul in 2016.

### **Education**

There is no difference about our education system from July 2007 up to this date. As a summary eight years of Primary Education is compulsory for every citizen in Turkey. Primary Education is eight, Secondary Education is four years in Turkey. Higher Education is two years in P&O.

There are 49 Vocational Schools of Higher Health Education in universities. Higher P&O Education is given by six of Vocational Schools of Health include Prosthetics and Orthotics Programme. These are Ankara University, Hacettepe University, Afyon Kocatepe University, Osmangazi University, Trakya University and Dicle University. There is a Technical Vocational High School in Turkey which trains students in the field of P&O in Istanbul. The entry requirement for applications is Vocational High School Diploma or High School Diploma. Students who graduate from vocational higher school can continue their education in a four year programme such as biomedical engineering, physiotherapy and health management.

At the macro level the Higher Education Council carries out the major responsibility for higher education, since the Ministry of National Education is focusing on the general education. The Parliament, Ministry of Finance, the Higher Education Council and the Ministry of National Education have a say in the budget allocation to universities.

### **Learning and Teaching of Prosthetics and Orthotics**

The academic year in the Vocational Schools of Higher Education on Health is arranged according to semester basis at universities. The courses of undergraduate P&O programmes for a-two year are therefore organized on semester basis too. In the Higher Vocational School of Health each semester lasts 15 weeks. At the end of

spring semester, a 20-day practice starts at the clinical placements. P&O students make their clinical practice in national or international P&O centres.

The Higher Education Council has a plan to collaborate with the Ministry of National Education to develop of Vocational School of Higher Education. These changes will affect the philosophy of P&O education and its duration. We had a meeting to the members of Higher Education Council and shared our knowledge and experience about P&O education and needs. We have suggested starting a 4-year education in only one university not the others in Turkey.

### **Development in the P&O Services in Turkey**

According to Turkish Statistics Institute Reports, there are approximately 10 million disabled people in Turkey. Physically disabled people are 8 million. There are an estimated a hundred thousand amputees.

Prosthetic and Orthotic services are provided through state hospital departments and private centres. There are 25 P&O departments of state hospitals in Turkey. The number of private workshops which give P&O services in Turkey have reached to 280. On the other hand there are 300 private Orthotic Centres which sell prefabricated orthoses. These services are mostly provided by prosthetic and orthotic technicians/technicians, physiotherapists, orthopedic surgeons and physical therapy physicians. There are approximately a thousand people interested in P&O today.

There are 23 manufacturers in Turkey. Most of the prosthetic and orthotic components are manufactured by domestic manufacturers. However, Turkey import many prosthetic and orthotic components and they are used common in this field.

Even though much work has been done on improving P&O standards in Turkey such as 'P&O Manufacture and Fitting Rules', 'CE marking of domestic P&O components' and 'Regulations draft to supervise the licensing of the centres working', lack of articles in law and draft resulted in some confusion and unethical conduct last year. This has been largely caused by the fact that when the government makes payments for prostheses and orthoses, it does not consider the quality of the components. Work concerning the new regulations are still in progress.

