

EAPC-East Newsletter

NR 10 – March 2003

Dear Friends,

Some of you will have the opportunity to go to the EAPC Congress in The Hague next week. We are looking forward to see you there! Have a look at the invitation below.

Last week Sylvia and I visited colleagues in St Petersburg. We had a meeting on the issues related to cooperation among clinicians and educators in order to get better impact on the development of palliative care in the region. This is in line with the new EAPC motto: One vision – one voice! In St Petersburg we also had a one-day teaching seminar. We discussed ethical issues, communication and symptom control. All sessions were related to patient case presentations. One topic concerned pain treatment. We had a long discussion on the doses of morphine and whether or not there is a clinical rationale for a dose limit. The basis for the discussion was the great difference in suggested morphine doses between Swedish and Russian doctors. Please give you input through our discussion forum (click on “FORUM” the upper right on the home page!)

Hope to hear from you soon!

Carl Johan Fürst

Grants distributed for the EAPC conference in the Haag

There was an overwhelming response and interest to get financial support to attend the EAPC conference in The Hague! We received more than 40 applications! Of course we would have liked to be able to match the interest with funding but we had no possibility to do so.

But with support by OSI we are delighted to be able to distribute 10 grants for the 8th EAPC conference in the Haag. The grantees are:

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| Kirsteen Cowling, Romania, |
| Monica Gojdova, Slovakia, |
| Tomasz Gradalski, Poland |
| Katalin Hegedus, Hungary |
| Agnes Kirchfeld, Hungary |
| Urska Lunder, Slovenia |
| Daniela Mosoiu, Romania |
| Eva Schaffer, Hungary |
| Ana Stambuk, Croatia |
| Elena Vvedenskaya, Russia |

Let´s meet in The Haag

Until last week more than 80 participants from Eastern Europeans countries have registered to attend the conference. It would be so good to meet all of you, or as many as possible, while in the Haag. There are many meetings and interesting lectures going on so we suggest a special time for us to meet. Thursday, Hall L at 18.00 after the discussion on Policy and organisation: Development of palliative Care in Eastern Europe, Challenges in the Perspective of Five Beacon sites. If we have to change time and place we will announce them on the EAPC booth. See you!

Proceedings and abstracts from EAPC conferences on EAPC web site

For those who will not have the opportunity to take part in the EAPC conference on site we can tell you that the abstracts and proceedings from the conference are available from the EAPC web site: www.eapcnet.org

European Journal of Pain etc?

We have received journals to distribute to someone who has an interest in receiving journals in English for his/her team/institute/clinic/department. European Journal of Pain from 2001 and 2002 and European Journal of Palliative Care 12 issues from 1999 - 2001. The journals will be sent to you if you let me know that you have an interest in receiving them.

It will be on first come first served basis.

Report on the Slovenian 2nd meeting on Palliative Care with international participation December 2002

About 100 participants of different health care professions took part including both 9 journalists and the Minister of Health.

There were several conclusions made from the meeting as the plans for organisation of systematic education for health care professionals, psychologists and social workers under 2003. Read more on the eapceast web site under Download

Multi- Professional week at St Christopher's Hospice 10-14 November 2003

An opportunity for any experienced health or social care professional to work together on exploring key principles and current issues. The course will enable members to develop greater confidence in their practice of their palliative care skills within their own speciality and in multi professional teams; appreciate the latest evidence and thinking in palliative care; and develop a network of colleagues nationally and internationally.

The course is open for, bereavement workers, chaplains, counsellors, doctors, nurses, occupational therapists, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists and social workers.

Course content:

Specialist palliative care practice including:

Symptom control in advanced cancer, Multi professional team working, Spirituality and religion, Challenges in delivering care at home, Palliative nursing issues, Sexuality, Ethics, The patient and family, Working with children, Culture and ethnicity, Personal motivation and professional survival, Difficult counselling situations, Bereavement

A limited number of bursaries are available for applicants from developing countries or those with a financial need. Flights, accommodation, cost of course followed by a clinical placement for a week at the Hospice are included in the bursary.

Application has to be submitted before 12 September 2003

Application forms: e-mail: education@stchristophers.org.uk

Participants need to have good spoken English

Applications are selected by a panel and candidates must be available should a telephone interview be necessary.

Report on the Bulgarian national meeting in Sofia, January 2003

The aim of this first national conference was to create a network of existing initiatives within palliative care in Bulgaria. The meeting gave an overview of the status and development of palliative care in the country as well as held discussion on the future.

Read more on the eapceast web site under Download

Please share with us

Thank you those who do share their experiences and efforts with us. This is an invitation to all of you who have not yet done so! We are very interested in knowing what you are up to in your respective countries concerning palliative care. Please share with us - it gives us good ideas and hope that we all can be part of improving palliative care.

This newsletter is sent to all affiliated to the EAPC-east web site, to persons active and interested in palliative care in Eastern Europe to whom we have an e-mail address and to the EAPC board.

Do you know somebody who would like to get the newsletter, please let us know!

If at any time you wish to be removed from the list to receive Newsletters or need to change your email address with us, please send instructions in a return e-mail or in a message to info@eapceast.org

Until next time!

Kind regards

Sylvia Sauter

Carl Johan Fürst