

EAPC-East Newsletter
NR 3 – June 2002

Dear Friends!

This, our third newsletter is sent to all affiliated to the EAPCeast 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.

EU-project and standards

The EU-project we applied for in January on “Development of palliative care in Eastern Europe” has been turned down which we of course found very sad and unfair. We received some feed back on our proposal and we will try again for the 6th Framework, which is open for application late this fall or early next year. In the mean time we have sent in an “Expression of Interest” to the 6th Framework.

The project is generally the same as before with some improvements. The start of the project is collecting and compiling standards of palliative care from all over. In an earlier Newsletter we asked for your help to collect and tell us where to find Standards on palliative care. This is still of interest to us.

Please send us information on all standards you have access to, local, regional national already formulated or in process. Thank you!

Education and training bursaries for hospice and palliative care services

A grant programme is shortly to be launched to support the education and training of individuals and organisations working overseas from the UK. As part of the new UK Forum for Hospice and Palliative Care overseas, the programme is managed by Help the Hospices and overseen by an Education and Training Sub-Committee.

In order to identify funding priorities, the committee is keen to hear from individuals and organisations working in developing and resource-poor countries that would be interested to apply for a grant.

If you wish to express an interest in applying for a future grant please contact Nick Pahl at Help the Hospices for a registration form. E-mail: n.pahl@helpthehospices.org.uk
Expressions of interest must be received by 15 July 2002.

Download materiel in English on www.eapcnet.org

We have understood that many of you have an interest in written materiel in English in the theme of palliative care. There are possibilities to download some articles from the EAPC web site www.eapcnet.org/publications/eapcpub.html

- *Report and recommendations on palliative medicine education and training for Europe
- *Depression in Palliative Care: A pragmatic Report of an Expert Working committee
- *Clinical practice recommendations for the management of bowel obstruction in patients with end-stage cancer
- *Morphine and alternative opioids in cancer pain: the EAPC recommendations

Improvement on the web site www.eapceast.org

You have now the possibility to download documents from our web site. We also have added some links where you can find material in English to down load directly, like materiel from

the WHO. See if you find something of interest there right now. We will try to find articles and material of interest for you to download. Keep checking!

Reflections from the Lyon congress

2nd congress of the research network of EAPC was held in Lyon, France in May and we would like to share some reflections on the congress from a participant.

Prof. Katalin Hegedus, Budapest, Hungary

From my personal point of view the Lyon Conference, first of all the Eastern European session was very useful. I was personally involved in that topic because we participated in the David Clark and Michael Wright survey about Eastern European palliative care services. I think it is difficult to speak about "Eastern Europe" because these countries are at very different economical and cultural level and they have very different needs. It would be better to speak about "former communist countries" or about Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

It was interesting to meet with colleagues from Eastern Europe during a lunch, organised by Karl Johan Fürst and Sylvia. Unfortunately very few people could participate at Congress from Eastern Europe. I hope it will be possible to apply for grants to participate in Hague Congress of 2003, because these congresses are too expensive for us.

I had two other good experiences: one of them was the Euthanasia Session . It was a big debate on the new Belgian Euthanasia Law during the Plenary Session. The other one was the EAPC Research network session with a Western European research in it (by Stein Kaasa). I got a lot of methodological help for my researches. I would like to read the results of this survey in a paper (it was not possible to get it, I asked at the EAPC booth).

Thank you Katalin!

Some have been kind enough to share with us the palliative care activities in your region or country. It is very inspiring to see the amount of courses and education opportunities there are. Please keep us informed.

Educational activities 2002-2003 Croatia

3rd "8 + 6 Tuesdays" course for volunteers (basic and advanced) - April, May, June, July 2002. Zagreb, Svacicev trg 16

4th and 5th repetition, autumn 2002 and spring 2003 - domestic teachers, Zagreb, Svacicev trg 16

1st "8 Fridays" - bereavement course for volunteers - spring 2002 - domestic teachers lead by Melita Stipancic, Zagreb Rusanova 10

2nd repetition - spring 2003, Zagreb, Rusanova 10

Kent seminar in palliative care - *"teaching the teachers"*- interdisciplinary audience 2002 - 5 days - English teachers only, Zagreb, Croatian Medical Association, Subiceva 9

Kent seminar course repetition spring 2003 - 5 days – English teachers only, Zagreb, Croatian Medical Association, Subiceva 9

Kent course elaborated as "integrated module" for undergraduate studies at the Medical Faculty, spring, 2003 - 5 days - domestic and guest teachers, Zagreb, Salata 3

Conference on stopping the senseless treatment, for physicians, philosophers, law interested persons etc, autumn 2002 - 1 day conference - domestic and guest teachers, Zagreb, Croatian Medical Association, Subiceva 9

Paediatric Palliative Care Conference - for paediatricians, paediatric oncologists, psychologists, clinical pedagogic staff/volunteers etc, spring 2003, 1 day conference - domestic and guests lecturers, Zagreb, Croatian Medical Association, Subiceva 9

2nd registered nurses conference - 8 June 2002 - 1-day conference - domestic lecturers, Virovitica

3rd registered nurses conference spring 2003, Virovitica

4th postgraduate Course on Chronic Malignant Pain - diagnostic and treatment – medical professionals - spring 2003 - domestic teachers, Zagreb, Medical Faculty, Salata 3

7th symposium on Malignant Pain Treatment – interdisciplinary audience, spring 2003, Karlovac

Network of Group Presentations about Palliative Care - primary care/family medicine - one year project - in cooperation with Chair for family medicine.

Teams consisting of physician, nurse and social worker/psychologist will present related aspects of palliative care during an hour (3 times 20 min.). The lectures will be given twice a month at primary care/family medicine's working places (Health homes, Emergency centres, Clinical hospitals, etc). The serial of presentations will start September 2002 and end in November 2003 (during July and August 2003 holidays), about 20 lectures in all.

Congresses and grants

There are many interesting courses and conferences on palliative care and related themes to be found around the world. We would like to make information about them easy accessible and publish information about them on our web site. But you can get information about conferences on many sites; also on sites linked to our web site, so we have picked some criteria for the conferences/congresses we will publish in the future. We would like your opinion on our suggestion.

One criterion is localisation of the course/conference. If it will take place in Eastern Europe and is translated or totally in English we are happy to spread information on the course/conference.

A second criterion is if there are grants to apply for directly through the conference/congress.

Let us know your opinion and give us suggestions.

Fundraising through Singing?

In the year 2000 43 countries around the world raised over 1.5 million US\$ for hospice care world wide through the musical event Voices for Hospices. The next opportunity for this simultaneous activity will be in October 2003 where you can raise funds and awareness by organising a musical performance under the umbrella of Voices for Hospices 2003. For

further details and application forms www.voicesforhospices.org for information on taking part please contact Katherine Meadows, e-mail: kwo@easynet.co.uk

Twinning!

Would you be interested in twinning with another hospice/palliative care unit?

Do you and your staff speak foreign languages well enough to be able to communicate?

English, French, Spanish?

So many efforts are made to get twinning arrangements going and we would like to add to the efforts.

Please take a first contact and we will see what we can arrange.

Reactions

We would like your reactions on the Newsletter, both positive and negative.

Next EAPC-east Newsletter will be published in September 2002. We are happy to spread news about palliative care activities in your country or region

In the future the Newsletter we will be distributed to those registered at our web site - so hurry up and register - www.eapceast.org

If you know of somebody that would be interested in getting the EAPC-east Newsletter please let us know.

Have a nice summer and lets hear from you!

Sylvia Sauter

Carl Johan Fürst