

EAPC-East Newsletter
NR 9 – February 2003

Dear Friends,

Let's share our experience!

One of the main objectives of EAPC and the EAPC East project is to network, communicate and share experience. The Conference in The Hague during the first week of April 2003 is indeed a manifestation of this goal of the organization.

For this issue of the Newsletter I have written a patient case history that illustrates problems of physical and psychological symptoms and psychosocial adaptation. You are all invited to give your thoughts and comments on this patient. The aim of this is to share experience from different parts of Europe. We all have different knowledge, skills and attitudes and we work in different cultural and legal contexts.

Please look into the EAPC East "Forum" read and share your experience and views by answering directly in the forum. Then you can all read the answers and respond.

www.eapceast.org/forum

This week Sylvia is visiting Bulgaria for a national palliative care meeting. In the middle of March we will both go to St Petersburg and support a regional palliative care seminar. One of the goals at that seminar is to share Russian, English and Swedish experience. Urska Lunder in Ljubljana is working hard on a poster, reviewing different standards of palliative care – another way of sharing. The poster will be presented at the Conference in The Hague.

Looking forward to see many of you in The Hague!

Carl Johan Fürst

Palliative care associations in Eastern Europe

If you take a good look at www.eapcnet.org web site you should find the name of your palliative care organisation and the contact address even if you are not yet a collective member of the EAPC. If you are an active palliative care association not on the EAPC web site - Please get in touch with us!

For those going to the EAPC conference in the Hague and if you have an active and new palliative care association it can be useful to know that Help the Hospices will arrange a seminar before the actual conference. The topic is to support new associations who are working to get palliative care established in their country. Please contact Louise Gray for more information: gray@helpthehospices.org.uk

Articles in professional journals

To get permission to publish articles already published in professional Journals on our web site is hard. Even if there is no commercial interest and the author of course is positive to be published again. These experiences Dr Snezana Bosnjak and I made trying to get the right to publish an article on the EAPC-east web site from Springer Verlag on palliative care in Yugoslavia. It was not possible to get the permission and publish for free even though the writer Dr Bosnjak gave her consent and as you know we have no commercial interest.

May I advise you to ask the publisher/editor if it is possible to use your own article for free whenever you get an article published. Just a suggestion!

But we have managed to get an article for you to read on Yugoslavian palliative care but it is from the ESMO newsletter. Thank you ESMO for the generosity! Please find the article on the web site www.eapceast.org under download.

Newsletters with useful information

There are some more Newsletters around concerned with palliative care in Eastern Europe and in the whole world. If you are interested to get in contact here are some e-mail addresses:

ECEPT published their first newsletter dated December 2002.

e-mail address: anna.szczerbak@oncology.am.poznan.pl

Worldwide Hospice and Palliative Care Online is a new initiative from Hospice Information and UK forum for hospice and palliative care worldwide. It is a free bi-monthly electronic publication and the first issue was published in November 2002.

e-mail address: avril@hospiceinformation.info

The first issue of '*Emanuel Hospice Newsletter*' was published in February 2003. This hospice is placed in Oradea in Romania and if you wish to get a copy of the newsletter and would like to be added to the mailing list please send an email to: kirsteen.cowling@bigfoot.com

International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care *IAHPC* has a newsletter, which is also on the website: <http://www.hospicecare.com/Newsletters/february2003/index.html>

For e-mail contact: ldelima@iahpc.com

European School of Oncology

Courses arranged by the European School of Oncology (ESO) are as you can tell by the name about cancer. This time for the first time a passage of palliative care has been taught within the weekly oncology course. There are advanced plans for ESO to give a course focusing on palliative care for people working in palliative care within Eastern Europe. When ESO give courses they are free!

I assure you we will come back as soon as we know more!

Links

Some may not have noticed the possibility to find links on the EAPC-east web site. There is a headline on the web site LINKS and from this issue of the Newsletter we will make small presentations of the links on the site. If you have any suggestions for good palliative care links please share them with us.

Worldwide Education Grants from Help the Hospices.

Congratulations to all of you who received a grant from Help the Hospices call for projects! The successful projects receiving grants were several from Eastern Europe, 15 out of 48 recommended projects, and more than 21.000 £ will be a good help to improve palliative care in several ways.

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