

## **Report of Session Held during the EADPH Meeting in London on 15 November 2012**

### **From the Special Interest Group for Periodontal Epidemiology**

#### **Chairs**

Professor Kenneth A. Eaton

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Dr Roos Leroy (not present in London)

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#### **Date and Location of Last Meeting**

During EADPH conference held at the Royal British Institute of Architects in London on Thursday, 15 November 2013.

#### **Number, Name and Country of Participants**

Attended by 14 delegates who were:

Corneliu Amariei*	(Romania)
Kenneth Eaton*	(United Kingdom)
Carmen Hanganu*	(Romania)
Vicki Hanson	(United Kingdom)
Aura Heimonen	(Finland) University of Helsinki, Institute of Dentistry
Henrik Jansson	(Sweden)
Roberto Labella	(United Kingdom)
Mirela Moisei	(Romania)
Grigorian Mircea*	(Romania)
Agha Pasheyev*	(Azerbaijan)
Alina Puriene*	(Lithuania)
Cristina Puscasu*	(Romania)
Rasa Skudutyte-Rysstad*	(Norway)

Paula Vassallo\* (Malta)

\* = has attended previous SIWG Periodontal Epidemiology workshops

### **Programme**

Brief Powerpoint presentations, which addressed the questions set out below, were made by members from : Azerbaijan, Finland, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The questions were:

- Have there been any national, regional or local periodontal epidemiological studies in your country in the last 10 years?
- If there have been, what methodology was used?
- What were the key results?
- Do you believe them?
- If not why not?
- If there have been no periodontal epidemiological studies, why has this been?

The Powerpoint presentations from: Finland, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom are attached to this report and can be downloaded from the EADPH website.

After the presentations a discussion took place.

### **Main Results**

During the discussion it was agreed that with the exception of the United Kingdom none of the countries (represented at the meeting) has attempted to gather periodontal epidemiological data at a national level. Malta was about to do so and other European countries not represented at the meeting had done so in the past. However, as described by König et al. (2010) and Leroy et al. (2010), the quality of the studies was variable and it was impossible to compare the results in a meaningful way.

It was agreed that the members of the group should initiate a survey in their own countries using an agreed methodology and a standardised questionnaire which would be drafted in English and then translated into the language of the country.

### **Proposals for Forthcoming Meetings**

As mentioned above, a questionnaire was proposed. Its aim was to survey general dentists to investigate their perceptions with regard to their role in the prevention, management and treatment of periodontal diseases and how they diagnosed and treated these diseases.

The next meeting (in Malta) in November 2013 would either consider the questionnaire or, if fast progress had been made, the preliminary results of the study.

### **State of Publication**

The Periodontal Epidemiology SIWG has already published a paper (Leroy et al. 2010) which has documented the current problems in periodontal epidemiology.

## **Tasks to Complete Before the Next Meeting**

Alina Puriene, Rasa Skudutye-Rysstad and Paula Vassallo agreed to produce the first draft of the questionnaire for general dentists with help from Ken Eaton. Once the questionnaire had been drafted it was agreed to send it to Henrik Jansson for his comments and then to all those who had attended the London meeting for their comments.

By March 2013, a questionnaire has been drafted. It is planned to send it to those who attended the London meeting together with a request that they have it translated into the language of their countries and then pilot it informally amongst ten general dentists in their countries to check that the general dentists understand the questions. Discussions about the design of a study which would use the questionnaire have concluded that considerable work will be necessary, if a full multi-national survey is to take place. Funding, ethics approval, co-ordination are among the issues to be resolved. These will need to be discussed during the Malta meeting.

## **Next Meeting of the SIWG**

As explained above, the next meeting of the periodontology SIWG will be in Malta on 14 November 2013.

## **Powerpoints from the London Meeting**

Finland -	Aura Heimonen
Lithunaina -	Alina Puriene
Norway -	Rasa Skudutye-Rysstad
Sweden -	Henrik Jansson
United Kingdom -	Ken Eaton