



EADPH Newsletter

January 2016

21st EADPH Conference

Oral Health Inequalities in Europe

Congress venue: Danubius Health Spa Resort Margitsziget, Budapest, Hungary

The Organising Committee would like to invite you to the annual EADPH Conference that will be held in the historic city Budapest, 29th September -1st October 2016.

We will have an exciting array of expert guest speakers from across Europe and the main topics will include:

- ♦ *Overview of health and oral health inequalities*
- ♦ *The relationship between health and the economy*
- ♦ *The effectiveness of (oral) health interventions aiming to reduce oral health inequalities: best practices*
- ♦ *Possible ways of ensuring access to oral healthcare services to vulnerable and low income groups*



- ♦ *Exploring the opportunities of population-based preventative initiatives (have been implemented or in process) across Europe.*
- ♦ *Etymology of declining caries rates in many groups of people in Eastern Europe, and those from socio-economically deprived groups in all European Union Member States.*

Important dates for the 21st EADPH Conference

Abstract Submission for **Travel Grants: 15th February 2016**

Abstract Submission: general 30th April 2016

Early Registration: 30th June 2016

The abstract submission guidelines, travel grants (members only) conference details can be found on our website:

<http://www.eadph.org/congresses/current.html>

<http://www.eadph2016.org/#>

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Dates for Your Diary - meetings in 2016

- ♦ 9th European Public Health Association (EUPHA) Conference (9th-12th November 2016)

<https://ephconference.eu>

- ♦ 63rd Congress of the European Organisation for Caries Research (ORCA), (6th-9th July 2016)

<http://www.orca2016.org/>

- ♦ 42nd Meeting of Association of Dental Education In Europe (ADEE)(24th-27th August 2016)

<http://www.adee.org/meetings/>

EADPH Activities in 2015

20th EADPH Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, 17 - 19 September 2015

Ageing and Oral Health-related quality of life



Some of the presentations are available on our website:

<http://www.eadph.org/congresses/20th.html>



EADPH had a successful conference in Istanbul, Turkey. The topic Ageing and oral health-related quality of life was covered extensively by a range of experts in the field, notably Professor Jacques Vanobbergen, (University of Ghent, Belgium), Professor Joke Duyck (KU Leuven, Belgium), Professor Finbarr Allen (University of Cork, Ireland), and Professor Inci Oktay (Yeditepe University, Dental School, Turkey).

The topics of discussions included : implementation of high quality evidence-based oral care, patient-centred approaches, assessment of oral health in relation to general health of elderly populations, and dental team skill-mix, and approaches to oral health promotion for older people. Recommendations were suggested that health care professionals should undergo continuous professional development on special care for the ageing population. The concept and practice of minimally invasive dentistry as a treatment strategy designed to provide cost effective, affordable and less invasive was also recommended.



Former President of EADPH Dr.Gergios Tsakos awards the Travel Grants to two successful EADPH members

Epidemiology Workshop in Bratislava, Slovakia on 12th-13th November 2015

EADPH had a productive workshop on Oral Epidemiology II, which was held in Bratislava, Slovakia. The main focal point of the workshop was to share experiences of different EU countries(UK, Malta, Scotland, Belgium, Switzerland, Slovakia) in oral epidemiological issues and conducting surveys nationally. Professor Jacques Vanobbergen, Dr. Georgios Tsakos, Professor Kenneth Eaton, Professor Dr. T Dietrich, Dr. Colwyn Jones, Dr. Paula Vassallo and consultant doctors from Slovak Medical University presented at the workshop,. The discussion encompassed topics including: questionnaire survey techniques, different dental indices, training and calibration, data collection and the challenges

faced with different age and socio-economic groups when conducting national oral health surveys.



Feedback from the workshop and memorable pictures please follow us:

<https://twitter.com/EADPHEV>

Current issues for better oral health in Europe

EU Makes Me Smile!

On October 13 2015, the Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe hosted its second European Oral Health Summit in Brussels. EADPH supported the roundtable discussion on improving oral health in Europe. The Platform presented the results of its collection of Best Practices in Oral Health Promotion, which tackles the challenges in improving oral health problem in Europe. The Collection contains 28 examples of oral health prevention and promotion programmes from across Europe. The Platform considered these examples as potential solutions for reducing the burden of oral diseases.

Council of the European Chief Dental Officers (CECDO) Meeting in Bern, Switzerland. 26th -27th October 2015

The autumn meeting of CECDO centred around the topic on the impact of sugars consumption, on dental and general health, antibiotic resistance and dental hygiene education in Europe. Dr Georgios Tsakos attended the CECDO meeting on behalf of EADPH. The excellent presentation of the WHO's contribution on nutrition was presented by Dr. Joao Breda who confirmed EADPH's position on the impact of sugar and dental caries.

Sugar or no sugar: that is the question?

The WHO has developed guidance on sugars which can be found ([link](#)) and recommends that the average daily energy intake from sugars should not exceed 5%. This was based on results of two systematic reviews. One systematic review examined the association between sugars and dental caries and the other the relationship between sugars consumption and weight gain.

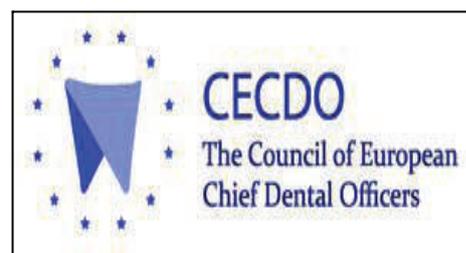
In England, there has been a growing momentum on tackling sugars consumption and more specifically sugary sweet drinks. There has been a campaign to increase social awareness on sugars, obesity and diet related diseases, by Jamie Oliver, the Celebrity chef. He launched an open petition to the public, to 'Introduce a tax on sugary drinks in the UK to improve our children's health, which has already gained 153,233 signatures. The British Medical Association

(BMA) has recommended the introduction of a 20% tax on sugar and use the money to subsidise fruits and vegetables. Public Health England (PHE) published 'Sugar reduction: Responding to the challenge', in which the evidence was reviewed to identify actions which are likely to be effective in decreasing sugars consumption at the population level. In its report, it made several recommendation including the introduction of sugar tax, reduce advertising of sugary products to children, reducing opportunities to market and advertise high-sugar food and drink products and raising awareness about the impacts of sugar on health. The British Dental Association (BDA), the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the Faculty of Public Health, Action on Sugars have highlighted the need to tackle obesity and dental caries through a concerted effort to reduce the nation's sugar intake. Although the introduction of sugar tax was debated in the UK Parliament, the government has ruled it out.

Hungary, Norway, Finland Denmark, France, some states in the US, Mexico and Australia have already imposed taxes on sugary foods and drinks. Current evidence from these countries show that fiscal measures have impacted on purchase patterns of the population leading to a reduction in sales and purchases of sugary foods and drinks.



Presentation by Dr. Paula Vassallo, Chair of the Platform for Better Oral Health



Special Interest Working Group

Special Interest Working Groups (SIWG) were formed in 2008 to highlight on the prevalent issues in Public Oral Health. At the beginning the groups were focused on Oral Cancer Prevention, Gerodontology, Periodontal Epidemiology, Tooth surface loss/Erosion, Caries Epidemiology & Prevention and Health Services Research. In 2012, two further groups (Quality of Life and Dental Public Health Education) were established and one group (Health Services Research) stopped work.

Within last 7 years the groups were focused in their intrinsic issues and developed appropriate collaborations to address the identified deficiencies in scientific aspects. The involved activities were defining criteria for diagnostic, standardized clinical issue and survey of each field of interest. Each of the SIWGs is publishing and follow up their group works incessantly as part of their main activities. Group activities are guided by the chairpersons. The recent change in Tooth Erosion group was Margaritis Vasileos as a new chair. Information available at: http://www.eadph.org/about/special_interest.html

Most Current well known discussion about "Sugar Tax" and "E-Cigarette" are being cross-reviewed by some groups.

Sugar Tax has been a debatable issue for past 2-3 years not only in individual countries but also as a whole in Europe as a main cause of obesity, heart diseases, diabetics and tooth erosion.

At the next ORCA meeting on 6th of July will be held in Athens an workshop related to sugar issue. Information will be available soon on the website <http://www.orca2016.org/>

It is evident that the E-Cigarette causes other inherent organ related diseases which can lead to Cancer (i.e. pop-corn lung disease). E-cigarettes are often touted as a safer alternative to traditional cigarettes, but according to a study released by the Harvard School of Public Health, they may just pose a different threat than their nicotine-filled counterparts.

According to the study, 75 percent of flavored e-cigarettes and their refill liquids were found to contain Diacetyl, "a flavoring chemical linked to cases of severe respiratory disease" such as the incurable condition called "Popcorn Lung."

According to Harvard, the condition otherwise known as bronchiolitis obliterans was "colloquially termed "Popcorn Lung" because it first appeared in workers who inhaled artificial butter flavor in microwave popcorn processing facilities."

But despite the name of the disease, there is absolutely nothing savory about it. Popcorn Lung is a debilitating and irreversible respiratory disease which causes "scarring in tiny air sacs in the lungs that lead to excessive coughing and shortness of breath" similar to that seen in people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

The study was published online on 8th December 2015 in *Environmental Health Perspectives* and is available at <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/15-10185>

For more information follow us on Twitter at @EADPHEV



or visit our website

www.eadph.org



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