

The following newsletter was published in '**Community Dental Health**' in March 1998

## **European Funding for Research**

The European Union has committed a total of 16.2 billion ECUs to funding research under the 5th Framework programme. It is likely that calls for proposals under this programme will not begin until early 1999. However, anybody interested in obtaining funding would be advised to have their research idea thought through and their work group assembled before then.

In order to get funding it is essential that the project has a European dimension. By this the Commission means that if the research activity can be conducted in one laboratory or test site in one country then it should usually be funded by national governments and not by the EU. The research idea therefore should be of local or national interest but also be relevant to other EU countries. An example of this in the area of dental public health would be the prevalence of enamel opacities in various countries and the implications for the EU.

Once the research idea has been formulated it is necessary to identify what countries or people should be included in the group. A group is usually made up of four to six partners but can be any number of two and over. Often participants will be chosen for their specialised skills and their geographical location. The Commission is particularly interested in having a partner from industry or from the services delivery sector on the team where appropriate, as this can help to demonstrate the applicability of the research to the end-user.

The congress in Santander presents an excellent opportunity for EADPH members to meet with potential participants and to gather a group together for the submission of a proposal. The posters and presentations are likely to provide the stimulus needed to come up with innovative, original research ideas.

The next edition of the newpage will present in detail the categories under which funding for the 5th Framework will be granted and the underlying principles on which the Framework programme will be based.

## **Second Congress - Santander September 25-26**

The second congress of the EADPH will be held in Santander on 25 - 26 September 1998. By now EADPH members should have received an information pack containing details on the submission of abstracts as well as registration and accommodation information. Santander, the guide book tells us, is a city of 200,000 people and its charm lies in its natural setting and cosmopolitan atmosphere. Nine white sandy beaches run along the Santander coastline and it is just a short journey to Bilbao home of the new Guggenheim museum.

## **Call for Abstracts**

The deadline for the submission of abstracts for the 2nd Annual Congress in Santander has been extended to the first week of April 1998. At the first Congress 71 posters were presented and it is hoped to do even better this year. Abstracts are welcome from both members and non-members and all abstracts accepted will be published in the journal Community Dental Health. Poster presentations are welcome on all aspects of dental public health and related community practice work. For details on the submission of abstracts e-mail Marimar Aguirre at [otaagsam@lg.ehu.es](mailto:otaagsam@lg.ehu.es) or fax her in Bilbao, Spain at +34 44 80 18 99.

## **Working Groups**

Professor Dorthe Holst has received an encouraging response to the request for membership

of the four suggested Working Groups. These are being collated at present and each member will be contacted by the Chairmen of the Working Groups to discuss the next steps. At the congress in Santander, one lecture session will be led by the Epidemiology Group and one by the Health Promotion Group.

### **EADPH Web Site**

The EADPH now has its own web site which details the aims and objectives of the group as well as outlining the need for an association of this kind. Hot text allows the visitor to review the Constitution, read previous news pages and obtain information on the next congress. Visitors can even apply for membership over the Internet and obtain information on the Working Groups. The site is also linked with The University of the Basque Country, who will be hosting the next Congress, and the University of Dundee where the web site is based.

### **Changes in German National Health Insurance System**

The German authorities have decided that patients born after 31/12/1979 will have to pay the total cost of any prosthetic work incurred as a result of caries and periodontal disease. Previously, patients paid 45 to 55 per cent of the costs to their dentists with the balance being paid directly to the dentist by the insurance system. These changes highlight the emphasis now being placed on communal preventive programmes for schoolchildren aged three to twelve years, as well individually focused preventive interventions by private dentists for 12 to 19 year olds.

### **Changes in Address**

If you change your address, please contact Dr. Montserrat Arola Barranquero, Executive Officer for Membership as she holds the membership database. This is the database sent to the publisher for distribution of the journal, Community Dental Health. Remember, inaugural members of EADPH had an introductory year.

### **EADPH Newpage**

What is happening in your country in dental public health? Use the facility of the newpage to share information, good practice and to contact colleagues working in your area of interest. Remember to send items for the newpage to [Ms Kathryn Neville](#), Oral Health Services Research Centre, University Dental School, Wilton, Cork, Ireland. Fax + 353 21 545391