Overview

As the largest group of health care professionals, with an estimated 19 million nurses worldwide, nurses are in an ideal position to play an important role in tobacco control. Eastern Europe has experienced particular difficulty in engaging healthcare providers in tobacco control – a role that nurses could easily fulfil.

The engagement of nurses in tobacco control requires capacity building for treatment of tobacco dependence. Building on previous partnership with the at the General University Hospital & Centre for Treatment of Tobacco Dependence of the 3rd Medical Department, this project will develop the Eastern Europe Nurses’ Centre of Excellence for Tobacco Control in Prague, Czech Republic. The Centre will use a combination of evidence-based strategies in order to:

1. Increase capacity and improve tobacco control skills for cancer nurses in Eastern Europe
2. Engage cancer nurses in Eastern Europe in tobacco control initiatives
3. Improve and increase the levels of education and awareness of tobacco control in the community

The Eastern Europe Nurses’ Centre of Excellence for Tobacco Control is located within the Centre for Treatment of Tobacco Dependence of the 3rd Medical Department at the General University Hospital. The Centre will aim to reach the target population of nurses in the Czech Republic, and further reach out to nurses in Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia.

The major goals of the Eastern Europe Nurses’ Centre of Excellence for Tobacco Control are:

1. To address the epidemic of tobacco use and the resulting cancers in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia
2. To act as the regional reference for engaging nurses in the fight against tobacco and to promote cancer prevention,
3. To act as the regional reference for building capacity among nurses to work on smoking cessation and thereby cancer prevention initiatives.

In order to achieve its goals, the Centre’s advisory group, lead by Dr. Eva Kralikova, works with Nurse Leaders in the Czech Republic and the target countries including Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia. Dr. Stella Bialous, president of ISNCC and ISNCC Project Leader, and Prof. Linda Sarna, consultant and nursing professor from UCLA are also involved with development of this project.

The creation of the Centre was made possible through a grant from the Bristol-Meyer Squibb Foundation to the International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC).

Nurse Leaders and Advisory Board in Target Countries

HUNGARY

Nurse Leader: Erzsebet Vecsernyes, National Koranyi Institute for Tb and Pulmonology, Budapest
Local Member of Advisory Board: Dr. Marta Fenyes, Methodological Center SC, Budapest

ROMANIA

Nurse Leader: Ecaterina Gulie, Romanian Nursing Association, Bucharest
Local Member of Advisory Board: Dr. Teodora Ciolompea, National School of Public Health, Bucharest
SLOVENIA
Nurse Leader: Katarina Lokar, Institute of Oncology, Ljubljana
Local Member of Advisory Board: Dr. Tomaz Caks, National Institute of Public Health, Ljubljana

SLOVAKIA
Nurse Leaders from East Slovakia Oncology Institute have resigned due to language barriers.

Nurse Leader: Gabriel Balint, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, Bratislava
Local Member of Advisory Board: Dr. Dusan Selko, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, Bratislava

Lectures and Presentations

1. November 5, 2014, Prague, Czech Republic, Tobacco and Health (Tabak a zdravi): International Activities of Nurses in Tobacco Dependence Treatment Centre of Excellence (Mezinarodni aktivity sester v lecbe zavislosti na tabaku Centrum excelence) Katerina Mala, Iveta Nohavova, Eva Roubickova.


CZECH REPUBLIC
Nurse Leaders: Vladislava Felbrova and Stanislava Kulovana, Centre for Tabacco Dependence Treatment at General University Hospital, Prague; Katerina Mala, Central Military Hospital, Prague; Eva Roubickova, Faculty Hospital, Prague; Kralovske Vinohrady and Iveta Nohavova, Society for Treatment of Tobacco Dependence, Prague
Associate Project Leader: Dr. Alexandra Kmetova, Centre Tobacco Dependence Treatment at General University Hospital, Prague

April 14-15, 2014 – First meeting of nurses from ISNCC, Prague Centre of Excellence and Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary and Romania

March 16, 2014 – Centre of Excellence was established at the Centre for Tobacco-Dependent at the 3rd Medical Department, 1st Faculty of medicine and the General University Hospital
ISNCC dedicated webpage with resources from this project:
http://www.isncc.org/?page=EEHSQ_Czech

Project announcements via various websites:
Medicina.cz
Czech Nurses Association’s website (www.cnna.cz)

Czech Ministry of Health website with support from Chief Nursing Officer

Source: Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. Projekt „Sestry pomáhají přestat kouřit (SPPK)“ Hlavní sestra ČR podporuje preventivní programy a aktivity, které mohou ovlivnit zdraví obyvatel a pacientů. Zdravotní sestry jsou velkou...
Information about the project published via zdravi-info.cz on June 2, 2014
http://www.zdravi-info.cz/2014/06/nektere-sestry-pomahaji-prestat-kourit/

The University Military Hospital’ initiative “the Healthy hospital” ran the story on its Facebook page
The Daily “Echo24.cz” ran the story:

The magazine “Křížovatka” of the General University Hospital and the 1st Faculty of Medicine Charles University published the article “Nurses helping patients quit”:
http://www.lf1.cuni.cz/krizovatka--novy-casopis-1-lf-a-vfn
Sestry pomáhají přestat kouřit

Již více než 400 českých sester využilo e-learningového programu „Bridging Cancer Care“, který námiž dotklouc sestram i pacientům, kteří kouří, a navazuje spolupráci s nejbližším Centrem pro závislost na tabáku. A právě v Centru pro závislost na tabáku III. interní kliniky LF UK a VFN v Praze bylo ustanoveno Centrum excellence východní Evropy v kontrôle tabáku pro sestry. Sestry tedy pracovní sestry pomáhají přestat kouřit, díky tomu může být pacient přijat na tabáku.

The server Zdravotnictvi a medicina.cz published on September 24, 2014:
Further, the server pc-politika.cz ran the story: http://pc-politika.cz/News-5690-Sestry-pomahaji-prestat-kouřit-mezinarodni-projekt-a-ocezeni-ceskych-sester.html

The Centre of Excellence project was presented at a large oncology conference www.pragueonco.cz.

The Head Nurse from Oncology Clinic of the 1st Faculty of Medicine and General University Hospital  Ždenka Dlouha chaired the session at the conference.