



NEWSLETTER

Informal meeting of the ER-WCPT

The European Region of the WCPT would like to remind the Member Organisations that an Informal Meeting for ER-WCPT Member Organisations will take place on 17 June 2011, in the afternoon, from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Novotel hotel in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

The agenda of the meeting has been set as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Possible collaboration with COTEC
3. CEN and European Physiotherapy Standards
4. ER-WCPT Foundation - Discussion of amendments and further developments
5. Projects under development in Collaboration with ENPHE
6. WCPT's Board candidates presentation
7. Close

A registration form has been sent to all the Member Organisations on 15 April 2011 to be returned to the secretariat not later than 13 May 2011.

Please note that Member Organisations who are in good financial standing may attend and may send no more than three delegates to the informal meeting and the dinner.

After the meeting, a welcome dinner offered by the Region to the delegates will take place in the Restaurant "De Portugees", Address: Zeedijk 39A, 1912 AR Amsterdam, at 20.00 hours. At this we will celebrate the contribution of former members of the ER-WCPT Executive Committee who left between the 2007 WCPT GM and the 2011 WCPT GM, namely: Antonio Lopes, Sigrún Knútsdóttir, Dagmar Pavlu and Eckhardt Boehle.

Member Organisations with less than 1500 members which are in good standing can get a grant of € 300 from the Reserve Fund to facilitate their presence at the meeting and the welcome-dinner. Please contact the treasurer (schlag@zvk.org) up to the 20 of May if your Member Organisation wants to claim for this grant.

Summary of the Executive Committee Meeting in La Coruna, Spain, on 12-13 March 2011

The last Executive Committee Meeting of the European Region focused primarily on the revision of the WG's action actions and time table to develop the approved activities for the period 2010 – 2012 at the 2010 General Meeting of the European Region in Berlin. Member Organisations received this information in March 2011.

The Executive Committee meeting also focused on the following issues:

- Joint meeting of the three ER-WCPT WGs to take place in Malta on 10 September 2011, to discuss:
 1. The "Keep Active, Keep healthy" document – PIWG
 2. The ER-WCPT Research Policy – Education WG
 3. The ER-WCPT Road Map – EU WG.
 The ER-WCPT Glossary of terms will be also discussed if there are topics that need a consensus.
- The informal meeting of the ER-WCPT in

Amsterdam

- The 3rd Education Congress in Wien in 2012
- The update of the ER-WCPT guidance to host congresses and conferences
- The collaboration with other organisations such as ENPHE and COTEC

The Executive Committee would also like to use this article to congratulate our colleague Philip Van der Wees on his selection for a Harkness Fellowship 2011-12. This fellowship is provided by the Commonwealth Fund for mid-career health service researchers to spend a year in the United States as a Harkness fellow in Health Care Policy and Practice. Fellows work with leading US experts to conduct a research study that addresses a critical issue on the health policy agenda in both the US and their home country. Worldwide 14 candidates are selected each year from eight countries: UK, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, Norway, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

ER-WCPT Foundation

The European Foundation for Physiotherapy and Physical Activity, part of the European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy, or abbreviated European Foundation for Physiotherapy and Physical Activity (E.F.P.A.) was set up in Brussels with the notary on 22 February 2011. The ER-WCPT Chairman, the 1st Vice Chairman and the General Secretary were present.

30 MOs are members of the ER-WCPT Foundations' Special Committee: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the U.K.



Further information about the Foundation will be presented at the informal meeting in Amsterdam on 17th June 2011.

Axxon, Physical Therapy in Belgium

Also on the 22nd February, the Belgian association "Axxon, Physical Therapy in Belgium" invited Sarah Bazin, chairman of the European Region, to visit the new offices of the merged association in Zaventem. The presentation focused on the delivery of Physiotherapy in the National Health Service in England, more specifically the extending scope of practice, the radical change of the NHS and the major challenges for the Physiotherapy Profession in the UK. The participants were very interested in how different the physiotherapy Profession can be in neighbouring countries, strongly related to the Health Care Framework and reimbursement systems.



International Disabled People's Day - XVII Edition - Poland

The Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman and General Secretary participated, with presentations, in the Scientific Symposium on the occasion of 17th edition of International Disabled People's Day, which took place on 24-27 March 2011 in Zgorzelec, Poland. They had also a meeting with Polish National Authorities and colleagues from the Polish Association to raise the profile of the Physiotherapy Profession and its education.



ENPHE meeting summary

A meeting between members of the ER-WCPT and ENPHE Executive Committees took place on 11 March 2011, in Coruna, Spain. The meeting was combined with the EC meeting at the same venue.

The main conclusion of the meeting was to continue a constructive collaboration between both organisations on the following projects:

- Database ENPHE - An overview and standing of education programmes in Europe and schools
- Database ER-WCPT – Physiotherapy education entry level
- Collaboration in the development and validation of CPD
- Relationships between ER WCPT Member Organisations contact persons on education and ENPHE Country Coordinators
- Collaboration for the 3rd ER-WCPT Congress on Physiotherapy Education, Austria 2012
- Migration Information for Students and recent graduates

The next meeting between both organisations will take place on 28 September 2011 in Estoril, Portugal. This new meeting would be in conjunction with the ENPHE Conference planned to take place at the same venue on 30 September and 1 October 2011.



Info Tool for Physiotherapy Associations

The EU Matters WG has created an Info Tool for the Physiotherapy Associations. The Info Tool provides a quick overview about the vision, policies, statements, congresses, and other relevant information of the ER-WCPT.

The Info Tool can be found on our website www.physio-europe.org under the button named Info Tool.

HEIDI

Heidi - Health in Europe: Information and Data Interface - is a comprehensive search tool for European health information and data. It contains information about health status, determinants, diseases, health systems, trends, institutional and policy aspects - and much more. Heidi wiki can be browsed by everyone with internet access.

The European Commission, DG Health and Consumers, has set up and maintains Heidi, but the information is updated by European health experts.

Heidi is still work in progress – the technical system is ready but the content still needs to be refined and made more user-friendly.

For further information:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/heidi/index.php/Main_Page

2011 DG SANCO management plan

DG SANCO (European Commission Directorate for Health) has released its 2011 Management Plan. The plan highlights the role of public health as a key driver for competitiveness and growth in an ageing Europe, and as a cornerstone for economic success. It argues that a healthy population means more productivity, more time at work, more employed people, more older people at work and less demand on healthcare. It also highlights the supportive role of EU health policy in the economic recovery and in helping Member States address current challenges.

One of the strategic priorities of the DG is to demonstrate the EU value from sufficient future funding for programmes under the multiannual financial framework for 2014 and beyond. The plan states that the DG will use the currently available financial resources efficiently and effectively. Special attention will be given to avoid national budgetary pressures undermining enforcement at national and local level, and thus the potential benefits. The Commission's actions under the strategy are mainly financed by the second programme for Union Action in the field of Health, 2008 – 2013. They address all three objectives of the strategy.

First objective: To foster good health in an ageing Europe: A key proponent to prosperity and wellbeing is keeping people healthy for longer.

Second objective: To protect citizens from health threats.

Third objective: To support dynamic health systems and new technologies. The management plan highlights the financial pressure and challenges facing health systems in Europe. The Commission works with Member States in facilitating information exchange and indicators that can provide them with the expertise to make the right choices on how to plan and deliver quality healthcare services. Cross-border healthcare is one of the areas taken into account in the Europe 2020 strategy. New health technologies will also be a part of making cross-border healthcare a success.

For further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/synthesis/amp/doc/sanco_mp.pdf

European Council Conclusions on preparatory work for the pilot European Innovation Partnership "Active and Healthy Ageing »

The first Europe 2020 'Innovation Union' pilot partnership aims to add two years to the average European's number of healthy life years.

The Council welcomed the on-going work in preparation of the pilot European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Active and Healthy Ageing (AHA), and the main goal to increase on average, by 2020, the healthy lives of Europeans by two years.

The Council highlighted the work of the Commission in setting up a high level Steering Group (SG) with a broad and balanced membership including relevant stake-holders across the sectors concerned. The Steering Group will be responsible for drawing up recommendations for a Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP), in summer 2011.

In the development of the pilot EIP, the Council stressed the role relevant existing initiatives in the areas of research, development and innovation (including relevant research infrastructures) as well as the sectors of health and information society. Synergies should be reinforced amongst them to create a more simplified and transparent research and innovation environment.

The Conclusions also stated that the Member States should be involved in the SG by a group of representatives of Member States at Ministerial level. The Member States that will have representatives will be Belgium, Spain, Hungary and Poland

For further information:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/intm/119694.pdf

WHO Publication

Global recommendations on physical activity for health

The recommendation focuses on prevention of non-communicable diseases through physical activity.

For further information:

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599979_eng.pdf

EU Health programme: 2011 Work plan and calls published

The 2011 work plan for the European Union's Health Programme was adopted on 22 February 2011. The work plan presents the funding priorities under the Health Programme for 2011.

For further information

http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index_en.htm

4th International Conference of Physiotherapy in Psychiatry and Mental Health

The Conference will take place in Edinburgh, on 8 – 10 February 2012. The conference is for physiotherapists and professionals who work in psychosomatic medicine, psychiatry and mental health. This is the ideal opportunity for physiotherapists who would like to learn more or who want to present the latest developments of physiotherapy in this field.

The purpose of the conference is to stimulate discussion and exchange of experiences and ideas with colleagues, to further a global network of evidence- and experience- based practice and to develop an inventory of the possibilities for physiotherapy in psychiatry and mental health.

Deadline for abstracts, posters, workshops submissions is 15th of October 2011.

For further information:

www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/icppmh2012

2011 WCPT Congress - New guides show you how to plan your congress days

Physical therapists intending to attend the WCPT Congress in Amsterdam in June are offered a new tool to help them to plan their schedule.

A new set of programme guides is being published on the WCPT website to allow those who have a special interest to spot at a glance which sessions are especially relevant to them. Given that there are around 140 sessions at the congress, this will make it far easier for delegates and potential delegates to get a perspective on the programme that tallies with their own interests, according to Tracy Bury, WCPT's Professional Policy Consultant.

"We're aware that, with so much going on at Congress, and a lot of different types of sessions, it can be a bit intimidating looking through a programme trying to pick out all the bits that are most relevant to you. Through our new guides, we're providing some suggestions, but we're certainly not being prescriptive."

"One of the great values, and joys, of WCPT

Congresses, is that those who attend can go to sessions about broad professional issues, and learn about areas beyond their specialty or immediate work situation. This is one of the benefits of attending for all three days. We hope people will try and make the most of opportunities for learning, sharing and networking not just about clinical interests but the wider aspects of their professional life as part of a large global community.”

The new planning guides cover the following topic areas:

- Cardiothoracic/pulmonary
- Disability and rehabilitation
- Education
- Evidence based practice
- Gender health
- Global health
- Musculoskeletal

- Neurology
- Older people
- Paediatrics
- Physical activity and health promotion
- Professional issues
- Sport injuries

The one-page topic guides show each day of the congress, and list the focused symposia, discussion panels, networking sessions, platform presentations, poster discussions and poster sessions, along with the satellite programme education sessions and clinical visits.

You can see the new guides on the congress section of the WCPT website at www.wcpt.org/node/39115.

