

EWAP EVENTS

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CROATIA

This year we have prepared the following programme:

1. Posters with a caption saying: "The Treatment of Pain is a Human Right", which we will distribute throughout Croatia to be set in locations available to patients.
 - a. Media advertising: radio, TV, newspapers.
 - b. The central event will take place on October 15, in Zagreb. The event is co-organized by Association for Human Rights in Medicine and Health Care, Centre for Patients' Rights, Women's Rights Association, and pharmaceutical companies.

Programme:

- "ORLANDO" Pain Clinic will be open all day as a patient counselling point
- on Zagreb's Cvjetni Trg (city centre) stands will be put up with promotion material, pain questionnaires, VAS scale, patient testing
- at 18:00 a press conference will be held for the media, at the Liječnički dom
- at 18:30 a lecture open for public

Topics:

- acute painful conditions in women in Croatia (results of a survey conducted in gynaecological wards and gynaecological clinics)
- pain in women from a physiatrist-rheumatologist's point of view
- psycho-somatic aspects of chronic pain in women

2. During EWAP, similar activities will be organized in other towns as well: Karlovac, Osijek, Sisak, Koprivnica, on which we will report to EFIC subsequently.

Report written by prim. Dr. Marijana Persoli-Gudelj
President of the Croatian Chapter of IASP

THE NETHERLANDS

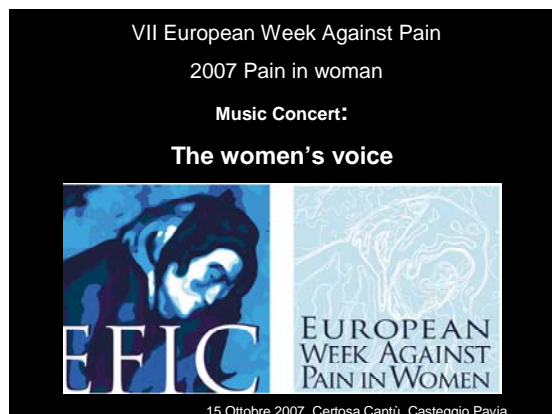
Nationale Pijndagen (National Pain Days), "Women and Pain", Congress Centre Orpheus in Apeldoorn, The Netherlands, October 10-12, 2007.

ITALY

The European Week against Pain in Women was fully supported by the Italian Association for the Study of Pain (AISD) with a broad series of actions directed towards doctors as well as media and population.

Information points at the major University Hospitals and Pain Centres were organized all over Italy. Conferences and talks on national as well as regional TV networks along with articles on newspapers were released.

Exhibitions were organised in which the importance of the problem of pain in women was highlighted through art performances (music concerts and art exhibitions). Scientific material on pain in women was prepared and distributed.



"La voce delle Donne" (Womens' voice): A musical event to promote awareness about the impact of chronic pain in women; Monday, October 15, 2007; Casteggio (PV), Certosa Cantù, 18 hrs; Organizer: Prof. Roberto Casale (Pavia)

UNITED KINGDOM

THE GENDER PAIN GAP - LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL YEAR AGAINST PAIN IN WOMEN

Women suffer more pain than men from the menarche to the menopause. Yet women are also less likely to receive appropriate treatment.

A seminar organised by the Patient Liaison Committee of the British Pain Society marked the start of the Global Year against Pain in Women, and examined the reasons for this disparity.

The seminar, which was attended by patients, representatives of a number of patient organisations and clinicians, heard about some of the mechanisms behind gender differences in the experience and treatment of pain.

There are some startling facts about pain in women:

- Several painful conditions, such as arthritis, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome and migraine are more prevalent in women
- Research into drugs and treatment guidelines for pain tend to ignore gender: indeed over 90% of animal research is performed on males; women of child bearing age cannot participate in drug trials.
- There is evidence that some drugs do not affect men and women equally;
- Hormones affect sensitivity to pain: it appears that higher levels of oestrogen increase sensitivity to pain while testosterone has a protective effect;
- Women and men experience pain differently: MR imaging of the brain shows differences in areas of activity when a painful stimulus is applied;
- Women and men communicate pain differently: and the amount of pain they report may vary according to the gender of the health professional treating them.

Claire Rayner, one-time agony aunt, nurse and President of the Patients' Association opened the seminar with an account of her experiences. She said "I have been in pain all this century! Constant pain is primarily wearisome and boring. I don't want people to feel sorry for me. I want to be able to get on with things that I enjoy and which give me satisfaction."

Dr Beverly Collett, Consultant in Pain Medicine, University Hospitals of Leicester, Ms Judy Birch, Chief Executive of the Pelvic Pain Support Network, Dr Ed Keogh, senior lecturer in Psychology at the University of Bath and Dr Anna Mandeville, Consultant Psychologist at UCL also spoke at the seminar. Workshops in the afternoon looked at how this learning could be turned in action to improve the management of pain in women.

On October 15th, 2007, the Centre for Pain Research at Leeds Metropolitan University, UK, launched a Pain Awareness Festival Fortnight to coincide with EFIC's "European Week Against Pain in Women". We aimed to raise awareness about pain by bringing together health care professionals of various disciplines and backgrounds who have interest in pain research and management.

For more information please contact: G.Tabasam@Leedsmet.ac.uk
Website: <http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/health/painresearch/index.htm>

BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA

The Association of Pain Therapy in Bosnia Herzegovina will issue a press release to generate media coverage of the campaign against pain in women:

1. On October 15th, 2007 at 08:00 AM, at the start of the Global Year Against Pain in Women, the President of the Bosnian Pain Association launched a campaign on BiH National TV in direct broadcast.
2. For Oct 17th, 2007, a radio broadcast is scheduled on the Bosnia Herzegovinan National Channel on the topic of «Cancer pain on women» and discrepancies with actual health law regarding prescription and availability opiates for physicians involved in pain therapy. Guests will be: the President of the Association, Head of Institute for Oncology and representative from Ministry for Pharmacy-Canton Sarajevo.
3. On Sunday 21st, a TV broadcast is scheduled from 04:00PM to 06:00PM, open programme «Pain and headache in women», guests will be the Deputy of the Head of Neurology Clinic, and President of the Association.

The below described Event is planned for September 2008. It has been accepted by the Cantonal Ministry of Health-Sarajevo and it will be financed partially with a grant. Themes: Pain in Women as a global problem, Migraine, Fibromyalgia, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteoarthritis, Pain during fertility age, Legislation regarding female patients. Presentations: N. 7, with lecturers from Sarajevo's clinics (Associations representatives, Neurologists, Rheumatologists, Gynaecologists). Participants: 150 physicians from Primary Health Care and other professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment of Pain in Women. The Annual National Assembly of the Association of Pain Therapy in Bosnia is scheduled at the same time

SERBIA

SAPRT participated in the Global Day against Pain in Women and the European Week Against Pain in Women with the following activities and is planning activities during the Global Year Against Pain in Women:

1. Informed people via short newspaper articles and TV interviews
2. Produced poster Global Day/Year Against Pain in Women and distributed to hospitals and pain centres
3. Fact sheet and poster Global Day/Year Against Pain in Women are available on the SAPRT web site (www.uitbs.org.yu)
4. Sent a promotional letter to the SAPRT members, Pain centres, City of Novi Sad Head Health Office, Institute of Public Health-Vojvodina, Ministry of Health
5. Line for women in pain (on-line contact with the experts available through the SAPRT web site)

Symposium on Pain in Women - diagnosis and treatment, Novi Sad, April, 2008.



SLOVENIA

EWAP activities involved a press conference on October 15, 2007 in Ljubljana. The members of SZZB prepared information on:

- ❖ The incidence of chronic pain in Slovenia (Jelka Pirc)
- ❖ The incidence of pain in women in Slovenia (Nevenka Krceviski Skvarc)
- ❖ The current status of epidural analgesia for delivery in Slovenia (Zoran Zabavnik)
- ❖ The headache as a very common form of pain in women (Lidija Stare)
- ❖ The incidence of pain connected with breast cancer in Slovenia (Slavica Lahajnar Cavlovic)
- ❖ Representation of SZZB activities with special point on Pain Courses programmes (Marija Cesar Komar).

After the presentations there was a very vivid discussion on the issue, which was reflected in newspapers reports in the subsequent week. The importance and aim of EWAP was presented through interviews on radio programmes (Marija Cesar Komar, Nevenka Krceviski Skvarc) as well. During the week, special care and activities were performed in all pain units in Slovenian hospitals.

Every year the Czech Pain Society organises regional activities in several regions of the Czech Republic. They organise lectures in University Hospitals in 11 regions - in each place the organizer is the councillor of the board of the Czech Pain Society. During the EWAP some presentations were held in public media (4 presentations on public TV, 9 articles in journals, 2 interviews on radio).

1. Brno – Prof. P. Sevcik - Presentation of EWAP in postgraduate education in University hospital - Interview for journal "Zena a zivot"
2. Brno - Prof. L. Hakl - Article in journal "Brno magazin" (Pain in women- title) - Radio Petrof, interview on EWAP - Moravian internet TV - flash, concerning Pain in women
3. Brno - M. Hakl (junior) PhD - Presentation of EWAP on www.pain.cz
4. Ceske Budejovice - E. Lengalova MD - Czech Radio in the programme "Zdravicko" - EWAP- Local newspaper - interview on EWAP
5. Prague – Prof. R. Rokyta - Presentation of EWAP in the journal of Czech Pain Society "Bolest" - 2 interviews in Radio Prague - 1 TV, main theme: Pathophysiology of women pain - Presentation of EWAP to medical students of the 3rd Faculty of Medicine
6. Prague - D. Vondrackova MD - Presentation of EWAP - lectures in courses of postgraduate education in Institute for Postgraduate Education
7. Prague - J. Kozak MD - Interviews on TV - in the morning news / EWAP, in journals (newspapers) "Mlada Fronta" and "Lidove noviny" - Article in "Zdravotnické noviny", Pain in women as a part of lecture on Chronic Pain in postgraduate education programme for anaesthesiologists in University Hospital Motol and in Institute for Postgraduate Education.

SLOVAKIA

The 9th Czecho-Slovak Dialogues on Pain, held an evening before the start of the EWAP, where we informed professionals of the pain community about the topic "Pain in Women".

Both medical and laic communities were informed about the topic via the most accessible and widespread medical publication "Lekarske Listy", an attachment of "Zdravotnicke Noviny". The text of the articles informing about EWAP with the thesis of Pain in Women was advertised on our website www.pain.sk. Apart from these articles, others regarding pain treatment in Slovakia,

cancer pain in gynaecology and pain-free labours can be found there as well. They are published in Slovak language.

The next annual congress of our society – 16th Slovak Dialogues on Pain, is going to take place in Zilina on 13-14 June 2008. The main topic is Pain in Women. Detailed information, also in English, can be found in the official website of our society www.pain.sk .

GERMANY

The European Week against Pain in Women was supported by DGSS with several actions. Our contact-person, Prof. Esther Pogatzki-Zahn, prepared material on several fields of the topic. The higher incidence of pain in women, the importance of hormones and genetic factors and gender differences were topics.

TURKEY

The European Week Campaign Against Pain, devoted to “Pain in Women”, was launched in October 2007. A contest of “Short stories and poems” was organized, whose winners will be announced during the 10th Annual Pain Meeting to be held in June 2008.

FRANCE

Concerning the EWAP started on October 2007 with the theme "Pain in Women", we inform EFIC that on 15th October 2007, the French chapter has organized the second national day for pain prevention. On this same day, pain clinics were opened to the public in each region of France (80 towns). Each region organized a specific event for this particular event and during the EWAP, the SFETD hired an internationally well known communication company and sent 6,000 posters to public and private hospitals with a national coverage by media. Please find attached the media coverage and the activities presented by the French Chapter on EWAP 2007.



EWAP 2007 -
SFETD.pdf

PORTUGAL

The National Day against Pain will be commemorated in Madeira Island.

The Portuguese Association for the Study of Pain will promote a special session to commemorate the 10th National Day Against Pain on June 14th, in Funchal, Madeira.
