

INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES INTO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE



7th International Public Health Conference, Albania 23 March 2021

“Integration of Public Health services into Primary Health Care”

The Primary Health Care mission implies focusing on the community health and not only on individual health. An important part of services delivered in Primary Health Care institutions should aim at preventing diseases and promoting health. On the other hand, a series of public health programs, for both communicable and chronic diseases control (vaccination, education, surveillance, screening for non communicable disease) reach out community members through PHC services.

Primary Health Care is considered central in Albanian Health System efforts to control diseases and protect the health of all citizens. The overwhelming majority of the population takes contact with the health system at the level of Health Centers and many health problems are solved by general practitioners or even nurses in primary health care settings. Some of the most important recent interventions in health such as check-up program, are focused at Primary Health Care and are aiming to strengthen the culture of prevention and assure universal access to essential services for all the population. Still, Primary Health Care services are requiring more support and adaptations to meet the needs related to demography, social changes and the health care seeking behavior of public.

It is the first time a national public health conference is dedicated to Primary health care in Albania. This conference will offer an excellent opportunity to discuss about challenges Primary Health Care is facing in Albania; the demographic and epidemiological changes, prevention of non communicable diseases, increased expectations from health care, along with high risks of widening inequalities.

In the conference can be shared a wide range of research, encompassing maternal and child health, non communicable disease comprehensive control, or older people health needs and care. Primary health care, provides a unique medium to integrate all these issues, which otherwise can be seen as different disciplines.

Conference would address another emerging issue primary health care is facing in Albania; the need for integration of health social services to adapt to the specific needs of vulnerable

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populations (isolated elderly, people with disabilities, Roma community, etc). Both services need to be more coordinated and integrated.

The efficiency of relations between new health care local units (ex. Directories of Public Health) and health centers would be given space for discussion while highlighting ways for better coordination in the field of disease prevention, and assessment of vulnerable and risked groups.

Conference will bring together professionals from various fields, including public health primary health care and social protection and allow them to share experiences and discuss research findings, covering innovative models of services to be developed, efficient systems of management and information for better and more evidence based policies and practices.

Lastly, in the conference will be shared information about the contribution of primary health care in the emergencies such as current Covid-19 pandemic, as well as ideas about PHC adaptation to the long term post Covid effects.

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

8.00 -09.00

Registration of Participants and Virtual Poster Presentation

Opening session of the 7th International Public Health Conference

09.00-09.45

Welcome address by the Director of the Institute of Public Health

Prof. Asc. Albana Fico

Welcome address by the Ministry of Health

Welcome address by UN Representative in Albania

Welcome address by University of Medicine, Tirana

Prof. Arben Gjata

PLENARY SESSION:

Moderator: Prof. Asc. Albana Fico

09.45 – 10.00

Challenges and achievements for primary health services in Albania. Towards more preventive care for all.

Prof. Asc. AlbanYlli, IPH

10.00 – 10.20

The PHC approach bringing together primary care and public health services towards improved population outcomes.

Dr. Anna Myrup, WHO European Centre for Primary Health Care, Almaty

10.20 – 10.45

Public health and individual-based approaches to hypertension control at the crossroads of primary health care

Prof. Pascal Bovet, TPH, Switzerland

10.45 – 11.00

Delivering Universal Access to SRH in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Focus on Primary Health Care

Dr. Tamar Khomasuridze, UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

11.00 – 11.15

Slovenian Public Health and Primary Health Care

Dr. Tanja Mate, MoH, Slovenia

11.15-11.30

Break

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11.30-13.15	PARALLEL SESSION 1 Topic: Successful PHC strategies: effective integration of PH functions into PHC	<i>Moderators:</i> Dr.Tanja Mate Dr.Gazmend Bejtja
11.30-11.45	The advantages and drawbacks of treatable mortality as an indicator of health system performance in Europe	Dr.Rok Hrzic, Netherland
11.45-12.00	Primary health care system in Kosovo	Dr. Albana Morina, Kosovo
12.00-12.15	Disease Prevention and Health promotion- the past and the future	Prof.Vesna Bjegovic-Mikanovic, Serbia
12.15-12.30	Primary Health Care in Montenegro	Dr.Pavle Marniković, Montenegro
12.30-12.45	SEEHN (Western Balkans and beyond) potential to advocate for better integration of primary health care and public health in face of COVID-19 pandemic	Dr. Mira Jovanovski-Dasic, North Macedonia
12.45-13.00	Integration of Tuberculosis services with Primary health Care Operational Plan	Dr.Donika Bardhi, IPH
13.00-13.15	Discussion	
11.30-13.15	PARALLEL SESSION 2 Topic: The vulnerable groups and their access to PHC services	<i>Moderators:</i> Prof. Gentiana Qirjako Prof. Merita Berisha
11.30-11.45	The continuity of mental health care and the role of PHC system	Dr.Goran Čerkez, Bosnia & Herzegovina
11.45-12.00	Implementing an online intervention (iCBT) for depression in Kosova: involving family doctors as partners	Prof. Asc.Naim Fanaj, Kosovo
12.00-12.15	The changing role of family health nurses in response to Covid-19.	Prof. Asc. Jolanda Hyska, IPH
12.15-12.30	Breastfeeding for the neonates admitted to NICU during COVID-19 pandemic. Results from UHOG "KoçoGlozheni" in Tirana	Prof. Asc. Alketa Hoxha, UMCT
12.30-12.45	Focus on Primary Health Care and UNICEF's work in Albania	Dr. Mariana Bukli, UNICEF
12.45-13.00	HIV- SARS COV-2 coinfection during Covid-19 epidemic in Albania	Dr.Marjeta Dervishi, IPH
13.00-13.15	Discussion	

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11.30-13.15	PARALLEL SESSION 3 Topic: Programs - from screening to surveillance	<i>Moderators:</i> Prof. Asc. Alban Ylli Prof. Ulrich Laaser
11.30-11.45	Thinking forward: Effective management of equality, diversity and inclusion challenges for sustainable healthcare organizations.	Dr.Valia Kalaitzi, Greece
11.45-12.00	Trend of Hypertension and Diabetes in the Elderly in Kosovo Primary Health Care 2011-2018	Prof. Asc. Valbona Zhjeqi, Kosovo
12.00-12.15	National Diabetes Register: Trends in incidence and prevalence of diabetes in Albania, during the period 2014-2018	Dr.Dorina Toçi, IPH
12.15-12.30	Abortion indicators in Albania for the year 2018	MA. Alba Merdani, IPH
12.30-12.45	Health Behaviours characteristics in school-children in Albania	Prof. .Genc Burazeri, “Schools for Health” project
12.45-13.00	Syndromic and Sentinel Surveillance in Primary Care and how COVID -19 pandemic affected it.	Dr.Artan Simaku, IPH
13.00-13.15	Discussion	
11.30-13.15	PARALLEL SESSION 4 Topic: Public Health and Primary Health Care response and preparedness in emergency situations in context of COVID-19	<i>Moderators:</i> Prof. Asc. Silva Bino Dr. Dorina Toçaj
11.30-11.45	COVID-19and Public Health interventions	Prof. Asc. Silvia Bino, IPH
11.45-12.00	The GETPrepaRed Project – an Albanian-German partnership in the field of emergency preparedness	Dr. Nadine Zeitlmann, Germany
12.00-12.15	Assessment and management of mental health problems in emergency situations and during COVID -19 pandemic in Albania	PhD. Jonida Haxhiu, IPH
12.15-12.30	The outbreak investigation and contact tracing during SARS -CoV-2 infections in different settings and implications for primary care	Dr.Elona Kureta, IPH

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12.30-12.45	The importance to prioritize readiness to implement the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) of SRH at the onset of crises	Dr. Emmanuel Roussier, Humanitarian Response Specialist, UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia UNFPA
12.45-13.00	COVID -19 vaccination and its challenges for primary health care	PhD. .Erida Nelaj, IPH
13.00-13.15	Discussion	
13.15-13.30	Break	
PLENARY SESSION		
13.30-14.00	Feedback from parallel sessions	
14.00-14.45	Evidence-based policy making	Panel composed of representatives from the IPH, MoHSP, UN, TPH, and other international experts
14.45-15.15	General discussion and conclusions	Panel composed of representatives from the IPH, MoHSP, UN, TPH, and other international experts