Erasmus+ KA2 project

Strengthening Capacities for Higher Education of Pain Medicine in Western Balkan countries – HEPMP


Contacts:
Internet portal: www.hepmp.med.bg.ac.rs
Forum: www.hepmp.med.bg.ac.rs/forum/
Email: hepmperasmus.ka2@med.bg.ac.rs
Telephone: +381 11 3636396

Disclaimer:
This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.
Why HEPMP project?

- Pain is probably one of the oldest and most universal forms of stress and one of the earliest sufferings of humankind.
- Pain is the follower of many diseases and conditions: Rheumatoid arthritis, postherpetic neuralgia, degenerative spine conditions, osteoarthritis, AIDS, migraine, diabetic neuropathy, and phantom pain are examples of chronic pain as well as cancer.
- In the economic sphere, it is estimated that the cost to treat patients with chronic pains exceeds the total cost to treat patients with heart disease, cancer, and AIDS.
- Prolonged pain is among the major causes of absence from work, sick leaves, disability retirement, severance pay, and low productivity. It is a problem of public health for its prevalence, high cost, and negative impact on the quality of life of patients and their families.
- Despite the efforts and the fact that it is as old as humanity itself, pain neither has been completely understood nor can be totally controlled.
- Low awareness of the importance of treating pain lies amongst the public and healthcare professionals.
- Number of doctors trained for pain medicine is insufficient.
- We need to improve knowledge about pain and raise awareness, both professionals – healthcare workers, and society, about the significance of this problem.

HEPMP aims

- Strengthening Capacities for Higher Education of Pain Medicine in Western Balkan Countries
- Development of Pain medicine service provision in the country by providing qualified trained staff.
- Support will be granted to operationalize the recently established educational program in the form of pain medicine specialization and the possibility of the development of undergraduate education programs.
- Establish an academic network and improve professional cooperation through opportunities provided by new technologies (Internet, telemedicine, etc.)
Tasks of the project

Tasks of the Universities of European Union countries

- Assist in the analysis of the current situation in this area in Western Balkan Countries.
- Defining the possible changes that would improve or introducing curriculum of pain medicine in the undergraduate and postgraduate education.
- Training of trainers from Western Balkan Countries in the European Union countries.

Tasks of Universities of Partner countries

- To modernize the existing curriculum of pain medicine specialization. Coordinate the existing postgraduate education curriculum in the field of pain medicine with European Pain Federation (EFIC) curriculum.
- To develop a module lectures for undergraduate studies of pain medicine.
- To develop a web platform for mutual learning and communication for health care professionals who deal with pain medicine.
- To organize courses of pain medicine for doctors in primary health care.
- Develop written material for Life Long Learning -LLL (books, brochures, scripts, leaflets, digital material etc).
- Establish an academic network of health care professionals and universities in the field of pain medicine.

Project Coordinator

Predrag Stevanovic, MD, PhD
Professor of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy
Head of Pain Medicine Department
Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade
Clinical Hospital Center “Dr D. Misovic - DEDINJE”, Belgrade, Serbia

Management Board Members

Prof. Dr. Predrag Stevanovic – Project Coordinator
Faculty of Medicine University of Belgrade

Prof. Dr. Jasna Jevdici
Faculty of Medical Sciences University of Kragujevac

Prof. Dr. Radisav Scepanovic
University Clinical Hospital Centar Dr Dragisa Mihovic-Dedinje

Prof. Dr. Danko Zivkovic
Faculty of Medicine University of Montenegro

Prof. Dr. Jasmina Smajic
Faculty of Medicine University of Tuzla

Prof. Dr. Darko Golici
Faculty of Medicine University of Banja Luka

Prof. Dr. Angelo Raffaele De Gaudio
Faculty of Medicine University of Florence

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maja Sostaric
Faculty of Medicine University of Ljubljana

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zeljko Zupan
Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka
Partner Universities

University of Belgrade
University of Kragujevac
University of Banja Luka
University of Montenegro
University of Tuzla
UCHC Dr. Dragisa Misovic – Dedinje, Belgrade

EU Partner Universities

University of Florence
University of Ljubljana
University of Rijeka

Project Consortium