



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

**HEPMP**

**Higher Education Pain Medicine Project**

**Erasmus+ KA2 project**

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

Project number: 585927-EPP-1-2017-1-RS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP (2017 – 3109 / 001 – 001)

### **Contacts:**

Internet portal: [www.hepmp.med.bg.ac.rs](http://www.hepmp.med.bg.ac.rs)

Forum: [www.hepmp.med.bg.ac.rs/forum/](http://www.hepmp.med.bg.ac.rs/forum/)

Email: [hepmperasmus.ka2@med.bg.ac.rs](mailto: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 health care 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 Stevanović – Project Coordinator**

*Faculty of Medicine University of Belgrade*

#### **Prof. Dr. Jasna Jevđić**

*Faculty of Medical Sciences University of Kragujevac*

#### **Prof. Dr. Radisav Šćepanović**

*University Clinical Hospital Centar Dr Dragiša Mišović-Dedinje*

#### **Prof. Dr. Danko Živković**

*Faculty of Medicine University of Montenegro*

#### **Prof. Dr. Jasmina Smajić**

*Faculty of Medicine University of Tuzla*

#### **Prof. Dr. Darko Golić**

*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. Željko Župan**

*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

