



EUROPEAN UNION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

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Croatian National Report 2003

The Croatian Medical Chamber has had an election for the new leadership in spring 2003 and we welcome the set up of the new presidency.

The most important event, which marked 2003:

- Restarting with specific training

With great effort of Croatian Medical Chamber, Department of Family Medicine, Medical School University of Zagreb, and especially thanks to the Minister of Health, we have started with the specific training again after the gap of 10 years. Only one third of all of all GPs now, are a specialist of general/family medicine. In last ten years the number of specialist have naturally decreased. According to capacity of Department of Family Medicine in Zagreb, Osijek, Rijeka and Split, it would be very satisfactory if the education of GPs who already work in general practice would be finished with 2016. The program of specific training would be provided in two ways. One for young doctors who have just finished Medical University, and the other modified program for GPs who have worked in practice for a year. Specific training program has been already sent in Specific Training Questionnaire.

- Medical Informatics in primary health care - Pilot projects Ministry of Health.

With great effort to introduce medical information technology in the primary health care, Ministry of Health starts with pilot project in 60 GP's office in June. They all have got complete computer equipment and in the period of two months they worked using the program made especially for general medicine. There were six different programs so 10 GPs tested one program. Pilot program has been finished and after its evaluation in 2004, Ministry of Health will start with the installations of the computer system in the primary health care.

- Continuation of privatisation

In Croatia, 80% of GPs work as private doctors. This is not totally private relationship because they are under contract with Croatian Health Insurance Company and are paid by

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capitation. So in such private medical offices nothing could be charged to patients. At the same time slight difference exist between GPs who work in rental medical offices in Health Centre and GPs who work in totally private medical office.
This year Croatia continues with privatisation in primary health care. In the meantime work in group practice isn't stimulating enough.

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