



EUROPEAN UNION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

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UEMO 2003/182

REPORT OF MEETING OF UEMO PREVENTIVE ACTIVITIES WORKING GROUP

3 October 2003

Cavtat, Croatia

Chairman: Dr Eirik Boe Larson (Norway)
Rapporteur: Dr Iona Heath (UK)

Attendance: Norway, UK, Iceland, Ireland, Finland, Austria, Malta, Hungary

1. The agenda for the meeting was approved.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting held in Stockholm in May 2003 were approved.
3. A draft statement on preventive activities for adolescents was discussed in detail. Dr Eugene O'Connor had prepared and circulated a very useful paper on societal violence affecting the 15-25 age group. The subsequent discussion was extremely constructive and many suggestions for amendments were made. Issues raised included the erosion of family structure and protection; the importance of peer pressure; state-sponsored violence; and the influence of role models especially in sport. It was agreed that the Chairman and Rapporteur would revise the statement and recirculate it to the members of the working group with a view to bringing a definitive paper back to the next meeting of the Working Group prior to submission for adoption by the next General Assembly. It was agreed that the statement should be appropriately supported by academic references. The Chairman has secured the support of a Norwegian colleague who has undertaken to help with this.
4. Discussions on the best ways to demonstrate the central role of GPs in preventive health care were continued. The Hungarian delegation informed the Working Group of a conference on prevention in primary care to be held in Budapest on 2 December 2003, and invited participation. The idea of a pan-European "preventive day" was thought to be problematic because it would depend on the willingness of all the national organisations to prioritise this issue which will be very difficult to achieve. The importance of liaising with Europrev was emphasised so as to avoid wasteful duplication of effort. The Chairman agreed to make contact with Europrev and to liaise with the Presidency about the possibility of arranging a European conference on preventive activities, perhaps with a particular focus on the needs of adolescents.

UEMO – PRESIDENCY

c/o Swedish Medical Association, P.O. Box 5610, Villagatan 5, SE-114 86 Stockholm
Tel: +46 8 790 34 52, Fax 46 8 20 57 18, E-mail: info@uemo.org