



## EUPHA Newsletter 7/8, 2007

Published: July/August 2007

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### 1. OUP Book Club

New editions added to the EUPHA bookclub pages:

The Development of Modern Epidemiology

Fitness for Work 4/e

Screening: Evidence and practice

Oxford Handbook of Occupational Health

<http://www.oup.co.uk/promotions/medicine/eupha/>

### 2. Interesting news

#### WHO Collaborating Centres

Over 900 institutions in over 100 countries supporting WHO programmes.

The World Health Organization requires expert advice for overall scientific and technical guidance, as well as for direct support of global, interregional and regional technical cooperation programmes for national health development. The designation of an institution as a WHO Collaborating Centre can be explored when there has been successful collaboration in implementing jointly planned activities in support of WHO programmes and, at the same time, there is a concrete perspective of the continuation of such collaboration. <http://whocc.who.int/>

#### Health-EU portal

The Health-EU portal will start in September to issue twice a month a multilingual newsletter, which aims to better inform European citizens on what is going on in the field of health at European and international level.

The newsletter will be published in 20 European languages and will host links to interactive features on public health. It will keep citizens updated on health-related events and publications, conferences and campaigns, while in each edition a topic would be dedicated to a European or international day of action in the field of health.

Citizens and stakeholders wishing to receive the newsletter can register to its mailing list now and view its "zero edition" at <http://health.europa.eu>. The Health-EU Portal was created a year ago to provide high-quality, user-friendly information on 47 health topics.

For more information please contact:  
[Sanco-web-health-eu@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Sanco-web-health-eu@ec.europa.eu)

### **Johns Hopkins Fall Institute**

The Hopkins Fall Institute is organised within the European campus of the Bloomberg School of Public Health and takes place in Barcelona. This year is the fourth edition and will offer a broad range of courses within the areas of health policy and management that are taught by scholars with worldwide reputation.

<[http://www.jhsph.edu/dept/hpm/continuing\\_ed/fall\\_institute/](http://www.jhsph.edu/dept/hpm/continuing_ed/fall_institute/)>

### **Safety and Health at Work - Keep up to date**

OSHmail, a free electronic newsletter, is published monthly in 22 official EU languages and sent to more than 32,000 subscribers. **OSHmail** delivers news of the latest developments in occupational safety and health (OSH) from around the world including:

- the latest safety and health news;
- updates on campaigns and activities organised by the Agency;
- forthcoming events;
- the latest Agency publications;
- updates on EU legislation;
- and much more...

Read the <[latest issue of OSHmail](#)>

### **AdRisk project**

The AdRisk project has now its own webpage. Do not hesitate to come and visit it, and feel free to send any feedback, comment or suggestion you deem useful for improving and helping to achieve the goals of making adolescents' life a bit safer.

<[www.adrisk.eu.com](http://www.adrisk.eu.com)>

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Ursula Loewe (KfV) - [Ursula.Loewe@kfv.at](mailto:Ursula.Loewe@kfv.at) , [adrisk@kfv.at](mailto:adrisk@kfv.at) (Project leader and coordinator)

Maidier Ensunza (Ulss 20 Verona) - [mensunza@ulss20.verona.it](mailto:mensunza@ulss20.verona.it) (Dissemination work package coord.)

### **Health Promotion Union of Estonia**

HEALTH PROMOTION UNION of ESTONIA has got a new mailing address:

Health Promotion Union of Estonia

Str Tallinna mnt 14 - 119

79513 Rapla, Estonia

### **EuroSafe Alert**

The July issue of the EuroSafe Alert (Volume 2, issue 2) is now available on-line. This issue focuses on alcohol and interpersonal violence.

[http://www.eurosafe.eu.com/csi/eurosafe2006.nsf/wwwNewsletterCurrent/1A12932D44C65CE8C12571770035F47C/\\$file/Alert.pdf](http://www.eurosafe.eu.com/csi/eurosafe2006.nsf/wwwNewsletterCurrent/1A12932D44C65CE8C12571770035F47C/$file/Alert.pdf)

## **3. Call for collaboration**

### **ECDC working group on the development of competencies for field epidemiologists**

Dear EUPHA colleagues,

I have been a member of an ECDC working group on the development of competencies for field epidemiologists. ECDC recently launched a survey in their website, where the 85 proposed competencies can be scored with a Likert scale [http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/online\\_survey.html](http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/online_survey.html) and general comments can be also given. The deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> August. An introduction to the process and an invitation to participate in this survey is published in Eurosurveillance

<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070802.asp#2>

Kind regards

Ruth Gelletlie  
EUPHA representative on EDCD Advisory Forum

#### **World Cancer Research Fund International**

WCRFI is recruiting for a Projects Manager to work on projects across our global network of charities including the US, UK, Hong Kong, France and the Netherlands. In light of this, we would like to attract applications from Europe.

[http://www.wcrf.org/hr/current\\_vacancies.lasso](http://www.wcrf.org/hr/current_vacancies.lasso)

#### **Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR)**

The European Commission, in consultation with the SCENIHR, is now inviting external parties and stakeholders to comment on the scientific opinion on "Health Effects of Smokeless Tobacco Products" <[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_risk/committees/04\\_scenihr/scenihr\\_cons\\_06\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/scenihr_cons_06_en.htm)>

The consultation will run until **28 September 2007**.

#### **ECDC Call for tender for training modules in vaccinology**

The ECDC has recently published a call for tender in order to receive proposals on "**One-week training modules to strengthen capacity for detection and response to infectious diseases in the EU**". It is a series of training modules, among which two are about vaccinology:

Lot 1: "Immunization programme management";

Lot 2: "Epidemiological aspects of vaccination";

It will be possible to apply to both lots as well as to a single lot.

[http://ecdc.europa.eu/Competitions/2007\\_008\\_PROC/index.html](http://ecdc.europa.eu/Competitions/2007_008_PROC/index.html)

#### **Health ClusterNET**

In January 2008 Health ClusterNET will become an independent interregional European Network. This builds upon the first three years as an Interreg IIC funded operation and a growing reputation as a knowledge resource to inform the contribution of health sector investment and assets to regional economic and social development. In this next stage, the Network will continue as an open network for existing and new members.

For further details: [www.healthcluternet.org](http://www.healthcluternet.org)

## **4. Upcoming Courses and conferences**

**Title** **Vacunar contra el virus del papiloma humano: implicaciones de una decisión**

**Date** 29-31 August 2007

**Place** Santander, Spain

**Organiser** Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo - UIMP

**Deadline abstracts** -

**More information** <http://www.uimp.es/>

[http://www.uimp.es/alumnos\\_matriculacion\\_santander.asp](http://www.uimp.es/alumnos_matriculacion_santander.asp)

**Title** **XVIII ESCUELA DE VERANO DE SALUD PÚBLICA**

**Date** 17-22 September 2007

**Place** Menorca, Spain

**Organiser**

**Deadline abstracts** -

**More information** [www.evsp.cime.es](http://www.evsp.cime.es)

**Title** **"Recent Advances in Clinical Medicine, Public Health and Health Policy"**

**Date** 20-22 September 2007

**Place** Athens, Greece

**Organiser** Royal College of Physicians of London and London School of Economics

**Deadline abstracts** -

**More information** [www.internationalhealth2007.com](http://www.internationalhealth2007.com)

- Title** "Big Food Debate"  
**Date** 18 October 2007  
**Place** Liverpool, UK  
**Organiser** -  
**Deadline abstracts** -  
**More information** [www.heartofmersey.org.uk](http://www.heartofmersey.org.uk)
- Title** **The Second Expert Report Launch Conference**  
**Date** 1-2 November 2007  
**Place** London, UK  
**Organiser** WCRF/AICR  
**Deadline abstracts** -  
**More information** [www.wcrf.org/launchconference](http://www.wcrf.org/launchconference)
- Title** **3<sup>rd</sup> Nordic Social Pharmacy and Health Services Research Conference**  
**Date** 1-2 November 2007  
**Place** Copenhagen, Denmark  
**Organiser** The University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Section for Social Pharmacy  
**Deadline abstracts** -  
**More information** [www.farma.ku.dk/Nordic2007](http://www.farma.ku.dk/Nordic2007)
- Title** **Epidemiology: an introduction to concepts, theories, principles and methods**  
**Date** 10-14 December 2007  
**Place** Edinburgh, UK  
**Organiser** Office of Lifelong Learning - CPD Unit  
**Deadline abstracts** -  
**More information** <http://www.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/cpd/courses/medicine?Course=K1265>
- Title** **fifth international conference on housing and health**  
**Date** 17-19 March 2008  
**Place** Warwick, UK  
**Organiser** The Safe and Healthy Housing Unit at Warwick Law School  
**Deadline abstracts** -  
**More information** <http://go.warwick.ac.uk/healthyhousing>
- Title** **2nd Conference of Migrant Health in Europe**  
**Date** 22-24 May, 2008  
**Place** Malmö, Sweden  
**Organiser** EUPHA section on Migrant Health  
**Deadline abstracts** -  
**More information** [www.migranthealth.se](http://www.migranthealth.se)
- Title** **Strengthening Health Systems and the Global Health Workforce**  
**Date** 25-28 May 2008  
**Place** Geneva, Switzerland  
**Organiser** Geneva Health Forum  
**Deadline abstracts** 15 January 2008  
**More information** <http://www.genevahealthforum.org/>

## 5. Interesting publications

### Provision of primary care in different countries

*Priorities of patients should not be overpowered by economic and political incentives*

John L Campbell

BMJ 2007;334:1230-1231 (16 June 2007), doi:10.1136/bmj.39237.534560.80

<http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/334/7606/1230>

**Ethical and Legal Considerations in Mitigating Pandemic Disease: Workshop Summary**

Stanley M. Lemon, Margaret A. Hamburg, P. Frederick Sparling, Eileen R. Choffnes, and Alison Mack, Rapporteurs, Forum on Microbial Threats

Board on Global Health – Institute of Medicine - US National Academies Press, 2007

Available online at: <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11917.html>

**Climate change will create world's worst migration crisis**

Pamela Readhead - The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) UK

Available online at

[http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/about/CI/CP/Our\\_Society\\_Today/News\\_Articles\\_2007/migration\\_crisis.aspx?ComponentId=19843&SourcePageId=5433](http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/about/CI/CP/Our_Society_Today/News_Articles_2007/migration_crisis.aspx?ComponentId=19843&SourcePageId=5433)

**National strategy to reduce social inequalities in health**

**Report No. 20 (2006–2007) to the Storting**

Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services - May 2007

Available online as PDF file [100p.] at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_determinants/socio\\_economics/documents/norway\\_rd01\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_determinants/socio_economics/documents/norway_rd01_en.pdf)

**Hospital-Based Integrative Medicine**

**A Case Study of the Barriers and Factors Facilitating the Creation of a Center**

Ian D. Coulter, Marcia A. Ellison, Lara Hilton, Hilary J. Rhodes, Gery Ryan

RAND Health, Santa Monica CA USA 2007

PDF file online [193p.] at: [http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2007/RAND\\_MG591.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2007/RAND_MG591.pdf)

**Analysis for policy: evidence-based policy in practice**

Siobhan Campbell, Siobhan Benita, Elizabeth Coates, Phil Davies, Gemma Penn

**Government Social Research Unit - HM Treasury – London UK 2007**

Available online as PDF file [40p.] at: [http://www.gsr.gov.uk/downloads/resources/pu256\\_160407.pdf](http://www.gsr.gov.uk/downloads/resources/pu256_160407.pdf)

**Advancing Canada's next generation of healthcare vision 2015 •**

Canada Health Infoway, 2007

Available online as PDF file [36p.] at:

[http://www.infoway-](http://www.infoway-inforoute.ca/en/pdf/Vision_2015_Advancing_Canadas_next_generation_of_healthcare.pdf)

[inforoute.ca/en/pdf/Vision\\_2015\\_Advancing\\_Canadas\\_next\\_generation\\_of\\_healthcare.pdf](http://www.infoway-inforoute.ca/en/pdf/Vision_2015_Advancing_Canadas_next_generation_of_healthcare.pdf)

**Training Physicians for Public Health Careers**

*Shortage of Public Health Physicians a Concern*

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice (BPH) - Institute of Medicine (IOM),

US National Academy of Sciences - June 2007

Available online at: [http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=11915](http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11915)

Summary online PDF [23p.] at: [http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=11915](http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11915)

**A Risky Business: Saving Money and Improving Global Health Through Better Demand Forecasts**

Neelam Sekhri, Ruth Levine, Jessica Pickett

Center for Global Development, June 2007

Available online PDF [144p.] at: <http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/13784/>

**Working Time Around the World**

**Trends in working hours, laws and policies in a global comparative perspective**

Sangheon Lee, Deirdre McCann and Jon C. Messenger are Research and Senior Officers for the Conditions of Work and Employment Programme ILO

International Labour Office- Geneva- ILO June 7, 2007

PDF online [240p.] at: [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms\\_082837.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_082837.pdf)

### **Transparent Development of the WHO Rapid Advice Guidelines**

Holger J. Schünemann, Suzanne R. Hill, Meetali Kakad, Gunn E. Vist, Richard Bellamy, Lauren Stockman, Torbjørn Fosen Wisløff, Chris Del Mar, Frederick Hayden, Timothy M. Uyeki, Jeremy Farrar, Yazdan Yazdanpanah, Howard Zucker, John Beigel, Tawee Chotpitayasunondh, Tran Tinh Hien, Bülent Özbay, Norio Sugaya, Andrew D. Oxman

*PLoS Medicine* Vol. 4, No. 5, May 2007 e119 doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.0040119

Available online at: <http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371/journal.pmed.0040119>

### **Public Expenditure in Latin America: Trends and Key Policy Issues**

Benedict Clements, Christopher Faircloth, and Marijn Verhoeven

International Monetary Fund - IMF's Fiscal Affairs and Western Hemisphere Departments, 2007

Available online as PDF file [36p.] at: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2007/wp0721.pdf>

### **Financing the response to AIDS in low- and middleincome countries: International assistance from the G8, European Commission and other donor Governments, 2006**

News release:

[http://www.unaids.org/en/MediaCentre/PressMaterials/FeatureStory/20070605\\_report\\_donor\\_AIDS\\_financing.asp](http://www.unaids.org/en/MediaCentre/PressMaterials/FeatureStory/20070605_report_donor_AIDS_financing.asp)

Report: [http://data.unaids.org/pub/Presentation/2007/20070605\\_unaids\\_kff\\_ppoint\\_en.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/Presentation/2007/20070605_unaids_kff_ppoint_en.pdf)

### **Political Priority for Public Health Causes in Developing Countries: Implications From a Study on Maternal Mortality**

Jeremy Shiffman

Center for Global Development. June 2007

Available online as PDF at: [http://www.cddev.org/files/13281\\_file\\_Maternal\\_Mortality.pdf](http://www.cddev.org/files/13281_file_Maternal_Mortality.pdf)

### **Third Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Report 2007**

Governments make progress in interpersonal violence prevention

Available online as PDF file[32p.] at:

[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2007/9789241595476\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2007/9789241595476_eng.pdf)

### **Social determinants and Indigenous health: The International experience and its policy implications**

*Report on specially prepared documents, presentations and discussion at the International Symposium on the Social Determinants of Indigenous Health Adelaide, 29-30 April 2007 for the Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH)*

Available online as PDF file [41p.] at:

[http://www.who.int/social\\_determinants/resources/indigenous\\_health\\_adelaide\\_report\\_07.pdf](http://www.who.int/social_determinants/resources/indigenous_health_adelaide_report_07.pdf)

### **Early childhood development: A Powerful Equalizer**

Lori G. Irwin, Arjumand Siddiqi, Clyde Hertzman

Available online as PDF [41p.] at:

[http://www.who.int/social\\_determinants/resources/ecd\\_kn\\_report\\_07\\_2007.pdf](http://www.who.int/social_determinants/resources/ecd_kn_report_07_2007.pdf)

### **Towards health-equitable globalization: rights, regulation and redistribution - Globalisation Knowledge Network**

Ronald Labonté (Chair) Ted Schrecker (Hub Coordinator)

Available online PDF [197p.] at:

[http://www.who.int/social\\_determinants/resources/gkn\\_report\\_06\\_2007.pdf](http://www.who.int/social_determinants/resources/gkn_report_06_2007.pdf)

### **Following the Money: Toward Better Tracking of Global Health Resources**

Global Health Resource Tracking Working Group, which was co-chaired by CGD's Ruth Levine, Brian Hammond of the OECD/DAC, and Gustavo Nigenda of the Mexican Institute of Public Health, May 2007

Available online PDF [92p.] at: [http://www.cgdev.org/files/13711\\_file\\_Resource\\_Tracking.pdf](http://www.cgdev.org/files/13711_file_Resource_Tracking.pdf)

### **Global Burden of Disease 2005: call for collaborators**

Christopher JL Murray a, Alan D Lopez b, Robert Black c, Colin D Mathers d, Kenji Shibuya d, Majid Ezzati e, Joshua A Salomon e, Catherine M Michaud e, Neff Walker c and Theo Vos b

The Lancet, Volume 370, Number 9582, 14 July 2007

Available online at: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673607610642/fulltext>

**Defining a minimum income for healthy living (MIHL): older age, England**

JN Morris, Paul Wilkinson, Alan D Dangour, Christopher Deeming and Astrid Fletcher

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London

International Journal of Epidemiology, July 12, 2007

PDF of full paper <http://tinyurl.com/29f62o>

**Engaging Science: Thoughts, deeds, analysis and action**

UK - The Wellcome Trust, 2007

Available online PDF [92p.] at: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/assets/wtx033010.pdf>

**Out-of-Pocket Healthcare Spending By the Poor and Chronically Ill in the Republic of Korea**

Jennifer Prah Ruger - HAKJU KIM -

American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 97, No. 5, pp. 804-811, May 2007

Available online at: [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=983507](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=983507)

**Alzheimer's Disease to Quadruple Worldwide by 2050, Study Finds**

Tim Parsons, School of Public Health

JHU The Gazette - June 25, 2007 - Vol. 36 No. 3

Available at: <http://www.jhu.edu/~gazette/2007/25jun07/25alzheim.html>

**Forecasting the Global Burden of Alzheimer's Disease**

Ron Brookmeyer, Elizabeth Johnson, Kathryn Ziegler-Graham, and H. Michael Arrighi

Johns Hopkins University, Dept. of Biostatistics Working Papers. Working Paper 130. 2007

Available online at: <http://www.bepress.com/jhubiostat/paper130>

or PDF [25p.] at: <http://www.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1130&context=jhubiostat>

**10 best resources for ... health research capacity strengthening**

Yvo Nuyens, University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

Health Policy and Planning 2007 22(4):274-276; doi:10.1093/heapol/czm019

Published by Oxford University Press in association with The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Available online at: <http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/22/4/274>

**Using Census and Survey Data to Estimate Poverty and Inequality for Small Areas**

Alessandro Tarozzi, Duke University, Angus Deaton, Princeton University

Available online as PDF file [37p.] at:

[http://www.princeton.edu/~rpds/downloads/tarozzi\\_deaton\\_small\\_areas\\_final.pdf](http://www.princeton.edu/~rpds/downloads/tarozzi_deaton_small_areas_final.pdf)

**Global Development and Human Security**

Robert Picciotto- Funmi Olonisakin - Michael Clarke

<http://www.eurospanonline.com/eurospan/display.asp?K=51000001500982&aub=Robert%20Picciotto&m=1&dc=1>

ISBN: 0-7658-0374-7 13 Digit ISBN: 9780765803740 Publication Date: 15 Jul 2007, U.S.

**Millennium Development Goals Report 2007: Assessing progress at midpoint to 2015**

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, DESA - June 2007

Full report PDF available at: <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/mdg2007.pdf>

Progress Chart: <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/mdg2007-progress.pdf>

MDG Indicators: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mdg/default.aspx>

**Health: a vital investment for economic development in eastern Europe and central Asia**

Marc Suhrcke, WHO Regional Office for Europe in Venice, Italy, in charge of the Health and Economic Development workstream.

Lorenzo Rocco- Martin McKee

the School's European Centre on Health of Societies in Transition. He is also a research director at the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. 2007, xxviii + 249 pages -ISBN 978 92 890 7282 3

### **The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies**

Available online as PDF file [280p.] at: <http://www.euro.who.int/document/e90569.pdf>

### **Reducing social inequalities in health: public health, community health or health promotion?**

V. Ridde

International Health Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Montreal. Montreal, QC, Canada,

([valery.ridde@umontreal.ca](mailto:valery.ridde@umontreal.ca)) Promotion & Education - Volume XIV Number 2 - 2007

Page 7 of PDF available at: [http://www.iuhpe.org/upload/File/PE\\_2\\_07a.pdf](http://www.iuhpe.org/upload/File/PE_2_07a.pdf)

### **Social inequalities in health from Ottawa to Vancouver: action for fair equality of opportunity Valéry Ridde, Anne Guichard and David Houéto**

Promotion & Education, 2007, Supplement (2): pp 12-16

Page 12-16 of PDF available at: [http://www.iuhpe.org/upload/File/PE\\_Ottawa\\_07a.pdf](http://www.iuhpe.org/upload/File/PE_Ottawa_07a.pdf)

### **Constructive Conversations About Health policy and values**

Edited by Marshall Marinker

Radcliffe Oxford Paperback ISBN-10 1 84619 033 9 ISBN-13 9781846190339 2006

Chapter 15 **Justice and the allocation of health care** PDF [8p.] at:

<http://www.radcliffe-oxford.com/books/samplechapter/0339/15-marinker-1099e2a0rdz.pdf>

### **Methods for health surveys in difficult settings: charting progress, moving forward**

Kristof Bostoen , Oleg O Bilukha , Bridget Fenn , Oliver W Morgan, Clarence C Tam5, Annemarie ter Veen and Francesco Checchi

Emerging Themes in Epidemiology June 2007, 4:13

Available online at: <http://www.ete-online.com/content/4/1/13>

### **Avian and Human Pandemic Influenza:**

*Addressing the Need for Integration between Health and Agriculture in the Preparedness Plans in Latin America*

Cristina Schneider, Anne Roca, César Falconi, Albino Belotto, Andre Medici

The Rural Development Unit of the Interamerican Development Bank's Sustainable Development

Department coordinated with the Pan American Health Organization's Veterinary Public Health Units  
*Washington, DC May 2007 – No. RUR-07-02*

Available online as PDF [64p.] at:

<http://www.iadb.org/sds/doc/rur-avianandhumanpandemicinfluenza.pdf>

### **Public Health Analysis in Latvia 2005**

Health Statistics and Medical Technologies State Agency

Full English text available at:

[http://www.vsmmtva.gov.lv/v/en/departamenti/statistikas/public\\_health\\_LV/Public\\_Health\\_in\\_Latvia\\_2005/index.aspx](http://www.vsmmtva.gov.lv/v/en/departamenti/statistikas/public_health_LV/Public_Health_in_Latvia_2005/index.aspx)

### **Youth and Road Safety in Europe**

WHO Europe publication launched on the occasion of the UN Road Safety Week as a complement to the global WHO report "Youth and Road safety"

Full text available in English and Russian: <http://www.euro.who.int/Document/E90142.pdf>

### **The Future of health Care Reforms in England**

Sarah Harvey, Alasdair Liddell, Laurie McMahon

Windmill 2007 - UK King's Fund - June 2007

Available online as PDF [82p.] at: <http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/document.rm?id=7030>

### **Public policy & the challenge of chronic noncommunicable diseases**

Olusoji Adeyi, Owen Smith, Sylvia Robles

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank, June 2007

Available online as Pdf file [218p.] at:

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPH/Resources/PublicPolicyandNCDsWorldBank2007FullReport>

### **State of world population 2007 - Unleashing the Potential of Urban Growth**

United Nations Population Fund - UNFPA, June 2007



## 6. European Commission: update

Public Health



- **Health information: Network of Working Party Leaders**  
Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Network of Working Party Leaders, Luxembourg, 30 January 2007
- **Overview of health strategy: Pharmaceutical Forum**  
Minutes of the Steering Committee meetings updated
- **Overview of health strategy: Pharmaceutical Forum**  
Minutes of the working group on information to patients Updated
- **Health determinants: 2002 funded projects**  
EELDA - Evidence-based Electronic Library on Drug Addiction Final report
- **Risk assessment: Inter-Committee Coordination Group**  
Minutes of the 14th meeting of the Inter-Committee Coordination Group (31 January 2007)
- **International cooperation: WHO**  
Health in All Policies Seminar Brussels, 25-26 June 2007
- **Health determinants: HELP - For a life without tobacco campaign**  
Youth Manifesto 2007 press conferences Cyprus
- **Threats to health: 2004 funded projects**  
VENICE - Vaccine European New Integrated Collaboration Effort Updated
- **Threats to health: 2004 funded projects**  
EXTENDED EPIET - European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training - A capacity Building Project for Alert And Response In Europe Updated
- **Threats to health: Rare diseases**  
Events Page updated
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks opinion on CEN's response to the opinion of the CSTEE on the assessment of CEN report on the risk assessment of organic chemicals in toys Adopted by the SCHER during the 17th plenary of 29 May 2007
- **Threats to health: Rare diseases**  
EU Task Force on Rare Diseases, Luxembourg, 20 June 2007 Draft agenda
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) by date of onset and country from January 2006 up to date data as of 15 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) since 2003 data as of 15 June 2007

- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 15 June 2007  
 (flash map)
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 15 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Distribution H5N1 cases by age group up to date data as of 15 June 2007
- **Programme 2003-2008: Call for tenders**  
L-Luxembourg: framework contract for the scripting, planning, conduct and evaluation of exercises related to public health matters Rectification
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Draft Agenda for the 12th plenary meeting of the Scientific Committee on Consumers Products (SCCP), Brussels, 19 June 2007
- **Overview of health strategy: Pharmaceutical Forum**  
Results of the Public consultation on Health-related information to patients Updated
- **Overview of health strategy**  
Contributions of the Health Strategy Public Consultation National Organisations updated
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
 Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) by date of onset and country from January 2006 up to date data as of 12 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) since 2003 data as of 12 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Distribution H5N1 cases by age group up to date data as of 12 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 12 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 12 June 2007  
 (flash map)
- **Health determinants: Socio-economic determinants of health - health inequalities**  
Key documents Norway updated
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Opinion on risk assessment on indoor air quality Adopted by the SCHER during the 17th plenary of 29th May 2007 after public consultation
- **Health information: Network of Competent Authorities**  
Draft minutes of the 8th meeting of the Network of Competent Authorities for health information and knowledge
- **International cooperation: WHO**  
WHO Director General Margaret Chan makes first visit to Commission to discuss enhanced collaboration on health Press release in en, de, el, fr
- **Health determinants: Environment**  
Eurobarometer on Electromagnetic Fields
- **Health determinants: HELP - For a life without tobacco campaign**  
2007 Help campaign action calendar updated

- **Newsletter: Health & Consumer Voice Newsletter on Food Safety, Health and Consumer Policy from Health and Consumer Protection DG**  
Edition: May 2007
- **Threats to health: Surveillance**  
ECDC launched the first European communicable disease epidemiological report
- **Health determinants: Socio-economic determinants of health - health inequalities**  
Tackling Health Inequalities - A Case Study from Ireland Key document
- **Risk assessment: Inter-Committee Coordination Group**  
Draft Agenda for the 16th meeting of the Inter-Committee Coordination Group (20 June 2007)
- **Health determinants: Alcohol**  
Commissioner Markos Kyprianou and representatives of the businesses and NGO's signed in Brussels the Charter establishing the European Alcohol and Health Forum
- **Health determinants: Alcohol**  
European Commission, businesses and NGO's create Forum to battle alcohol-related harm  
Press release available in en, de, el, fr
- **health determinants: Alcohol**  
Reducing alcohol-related harm across the EU Factsheet
- **Threats to health: Call for tender**  
L-Luxembourg: framework contract for the scripting, planning, conduct and evaluation of exercises related to public health matters
- **Threats to health**  
Rare diseases What's new section updated
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) by date of onset and country from January 2006 up to date data as of 06 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 06 June 2007  
(flash map)
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) since 2003 data as of 06 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 06 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Distribution H5N1 cases by age group up to date data as of 06 June 2007
- **Overview of health strategy: Pharmaceutical Forum**  
Responses of the Public consultation on Health-related information to patients Updated
- **Health information: Extreme weather conditions**  
The 2003 European heat wave Reports from the European Union Canicule Project
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks**  
Minutes of the 18th Plenary Meeting, Brussels, 10 May 2007
- **Health determinants: Alcohol**  
Charter establishing the European Alcohol and Health Forum Page updated

- **Health information: Publication**  
New brochure "Healthier Together in the EU"
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Public consultation on the SCCP preliminary report on Safety of Nanomaterials in Cosmetic Products Deadline for the submission of comments: 6 September 2007
- **Risk assessment: Press release**  
Consultation launched on Nanomaterials in cosmetic products E-news
- **Rare diseases: Newsletter**  
OrphaNews Newsletter of the Rare diseases Task Force Edition: June 2007
- **Threats to health: funded projects 2003**  
EpiNorth – A framework for communicable disease surveillance, communication and training in Northern Europe, 2004-2006 Final report
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Public consultation on the SCCP preliminary report on Safety of Nanomaterials in Cosmetic Products Deadline for the submission of comments: 6 September 2007
- **Risk assessment: Press release**  
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- **Rare diseases: Newsletter**  
OrphaNews Newsletter of the Rare diseases Task Force Edition: June 2007
- **Threats to health: funded projects 2003**  
EpiNorth – A framework for communicable disease surveillance, communication and training in Northern Europe, 2004-2006 Final report
- **Health information: Working Parties**  
Third Newsletter of the Working Party Morbidity and Mortality - Scientific Assistant Office of the MMWP Edition: June 2007 - Issue 3
- **Health determinants: Mental health**  
European Mental Health Conference - Joining Forces Across Europe For Prevention And Promotion Of Mental Health E-News
- **Threats to health: Influenza**  
Projects Updated
- **Threats to health: 2003 funded projects**  
MODELREL - EU co-ordination and dissemination of strategic modelling capabilities to help in public health contingency planning / preparedness / policy for, and mitigation of, the deliberate release of biological agents Outcome
- **Threats to health: 2003 funded projects**  
JACIE Final report
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Opinion on Non surfactant Organic Ingredients and Zeolite-based Detergents (RPA report J480b/detergents – 30 June 2006) Adopted by the SCHER during the 17th plenary of 29 May 2007
- **Nutrition: Diet, Physical Activity and Health Platform**  
Agenda of the meeting, Brussels, 4 July 2007
- **Health information: Developing European Union health indicators**  
Health Care Quality Indicators Page updated

- **Threats to health: Influenza**  
Avian influenza H5N1 confirmed in wild swans in Germany: authorities applying precautionary measures
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Risk Assessment Reports on 2,2-bis(chloromethyl)trimethylenebis[bis(2-chloroethyl)phosphate] (V6) under Regulation 793/93
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Request for a scientific opinion on Risk Assessment Reports on 2,3-epoxypropyltrimethylammonium chloride (EPTAC) under Regulation 793/93
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Request for a scientific opinion: Risk Assessment Reports on 3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyl)trimethylammonium chloride (CHPTAC) under Regulation 793/93
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Request for a scientific opinion on Risk Assessment Reports on 2,4-dinitrotoluene under Regulation 793/93
- **Health-EU launches e-newsletter**  
The new Health Portal newsletter will present a selection of the latest news and activities in the field of public health at European and international level. Give your advice and subscribe to the Health-EU mailing list!
- **Health information: Health indicators in the EU**  
ECHI Update: regular smokers
- **Health information: Health indicators in the EU**  
ECHI Update: Hospital beds
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks**  
Request for a scientific opinion on Risk Assessment Reports on tris(2-chloro-1-methylethyl)phosphate (TCPP) under Regulation 793/93
- **Health information: Implementing Structures**  
Working Parties Page updated, now available in en, es, fr
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks**  
Public consultation SCENIHR preliminary report on Health Effects of Smokeless Tobacco Products Deadline: 28 September 2007
- **Health information: Diseases and conditions information sheets**  
Autistic Spectrum Disorders Page updated, available in en, es, fr
- **Health information: Network of Working Parties Leaders**  
Sixth meeting of the Network of Working Party Leaders, Luxembourg, 30 January 2007  
Contributions
- **Health information: Network of Competent Authorities**  
Heighth meeting of the Network of Competent Authorities for health information and knowledge, Luxembourg, 30-31 January 2007 Minutes available in en, de, es, fr, it
- **International cooperation: WHO**  
'Health in All Policies' Seminar presentations Health-EU launches e-newsletter  
The new Health Portal newsletter will present a selection of the latest news and activities in the field of public health at European and international level. Give your advice and subscribe to the Health-EU mailing list!

- **Health determinants: HELP - For a life without tobacco campaign**  
Youth Manifesto 2007 press conferences (activity reports) Update: Greece and United Kingdom
- **Health determinants: Nutrition**  
White Paper on Nutrition - A Strategy for Europe on Nutrition, Overweight and Obesity related health issues Now available in 22 languages
- **Health determinants: 2004 funded projects**  
European Cancer Network Final report
- **Health information: 2003 funded projects**  
ISS DATA - Maintenance, Development and Promotion of the ISS Hospital Survey in the current and enlarged EU Final report
- **Programme 2003-2008: Call for tenders**  
Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008): C(2007)3090 - Financing decision for procurement contracts for the implementation of the programme (SANCO/1518)
- **Health determinants: Tobacco**  
Minutes of 6th Meeting of the regulatory committee established under Article 10 of the Tobacco Products Directive 2001/37/EC, Brussels, 20 April 2007
- **Health information**  
2nd meeting of the Health-EU Portal Editorial Board, 28 June 2007 Contributions
- **Health information: Extreme weather conditions**  
The 2006 European heat wave
- **Health determinants: 2003 funded projects**  
Children, obesity and associated avoidable chronic diseases Final report
- **Health information: 2003 funded projects**  
HEALTHACCESS - Mapping Health Services Access: National and Cross-border Issues Final report
- **Health information: Extreme weather conditions**  
EU Projects to improve Public Health knowledge on extreme weather/heat waves: risks and responses Page updated
- **Health information: Extreme weather conditions**  
Preparedness national plans for future heat waves Page updated
- **Health-EU launches e-newsletter**  
The new Health Portal newsletter will present a selection of the latest news and activities in the field of public health at European and international level. Give us your advice and subscribe to the Health-EU mailing list
- **Threats to health: Influenza**  
Avian Influenza confirmed in wild birds in another region in Germany and suspected in France and Austria Press release
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Public consultation on the SCCP preliminary report on Sensitivity to hair dyes-Consumer self testing Deadline for the submission of comments: 6 September 2007
- **Newsletter: Health & Consumer Voice Newsletter on Food Safety, Health and Consumer Policy from Health and Consumer Protection DG**  
Edition: June 2007 Influenza: Influenza fact sheet  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) by date of onset and country from January 2006 up to date data as of 29 June 2007

- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A/(H5N1) since 2003 data as of 29 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 29 June 2007
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Confirmed human cases of avian influenza since 1997 sorted by subtypes data as of 29 June 2007  
(flash map)
- **Influenza: Influenza fact sheet**  
Distribution H5N1 cases by age group up to date data as of 29 June 2007
- **Overview of health strategy**  
Pharmaceutical Forum Page updated
- **Overview of health strategy**  
The Health Policy Forum Page updated
- **Overview of health strategy: Health Policy Forum**  
Health Policy Forum meeting, Brussels, 22 November 2006 Minutes
- **Overview of health strategy: Health Policy Forum**  
Health Policy Forum meeting, Brussels, 01 June 2007 Working documents and contributions added
- **Health determinants: Socio-economic determinants of health - health inequalities**  
Key documents Belgium added
- **Health determinants: 2004 funded projects**  
CORRELATION - European Network on Health and Social Inclusion Inerim report
- **Threats to health: 2004 funded projects**  
EURO TB - Surveillance of tuberculosis in Europe Page updated
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Request for a scientific opinion: An updated scientific opinion on the 1st Update of the Inventory of Ingredients employed in Cosmetic Products, Section II: Perfume and Aromatic Raw Materials
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Request for a scientific opinion: Mandate to the SCCP ? Evaluation of Additional studies concerning the safety of 4-Methylbenzylidene camphor
- **Risk assessment: Scientific Committee on Consumer Products**  
Request for a scientific opinion on Tea Tree Oil from the genus Melaleuca

## 7. European Centre for Diseases Control: Eurosurveillance

Thursday 7 June 2007

Eurosurveillance weekly release has just been updated. This week's contents:

[Ostreopsis ovata and human health: epidemiological and clinical features of respiratory syndrome outbreaks from a two-year syndromic surveillance, 2005-06, in north-west Italy](#)  
[ECDC to launch first report on communicable diseases epidemiology in the European Union](#)  
[Increase of reported HIV infections in Sweden](#)  
[New International Health Regulations come into force](#)

Read these reports at: <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070607.asp>

#### Thursday 14 June 2007

Eurosurveillance weekly release has just been updated. This week's contents:

- [Outbreak of measles among Irish Travellers in England, March to May 2007](#)
- [Outbreak of measles among Irish Travellers in Norway: an update](#)
- [International outbreak of \*Salmonella\* Senftenberg in 2007](#)
- [Prevalence of the new genetic variant of \*Chlamydia trachomatis\* in Södra Älvsborg County, Västra Götaland Region, Sweden](#)
- [Infant Staphylococcal Scalded Skin Syndrome, Ireland, 2007 – preliminary outbreak report](#)
- [Measuring the impact of PCV7 in the European Union: why it is a priority](#)

Read these reports at :<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070614.asp>

#### Thursday 21 June 2007

Eurosurveillance weekly release has just been updated. This week's contents:

- [Dengue worldwide: an overview of the current situation and the implications for Europe](#)
- [A case of tetanus in a child whose parents refused immunisation – Piedmont Region, Italy, 2006](#)

Read these reports at :<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070621.asp>

#### Thursday 28 June 2007

Eurosurveillance weekly release has just been updated. This week's contents:

- [Outbreak of tuberculosis in a junior school in south-eastern England](#)
- [First cases of infections caused by Panton-Valentine leukocidin positive community-acquired methicillin-resistant \*Staphylococcus aureus\* in Bulgaria](#)
- [Genetic evidence of Puumala and Tula Hantaviruses in rodents in the Jura region, France – preliminary results](#)
- [Letter to the Editor - Influenza antiviral susceptibility monitoring activities in relation to national antiviral stockpiles in Europe during the winter 2006/2007 season](#)
- [Author's reply - Influenza antiviral susceptibility monitoring activities in relation to national antiviral stockpiles in Europe during the winter 2006/2007 season](#)

Read these reports at : <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070628.asp>

#### June 2007

Eurosurveillance monthly release has just been updated. This month's contents:

Clostridium difficile-associated disease due to PCR ribotype 027 in Europe  
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/em/v12n06/1206-221.asp>

oscana virus meningitis in Portugal, 2002-2005  
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/em/v12n06/1206-222.asp>


curriculum for training healthcare workers in the management of highly infectious diseases  
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/em/v12n06/1206-223.asp>

seroprevalence of antibodies to poliovirus in individuals living in Portugal, 2002  
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/em/v12n06/1206-224.asp>

Cluster of Salmonella Enteritidis in Sweden 2005-2006 suspected source: almonds  
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/em/v12n06/1206-225.asp>



Salmonella enterica serovar 4,2007-04-25 15:01:58,12:i:- in Luxembourg, 2006  
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/em/v12n06/1206-226.asp>

 Download the latest Eurosurveillance quarterly compilation

### Thursday 5 July 2007

Eurosurveillance weekly release has just been updated. This week's contents:

- [Outbreak of acute gastroenteritis in Greece during a school excursion, April 2007](#)
- [Highly pathogenic avian influenza A/H5N1 in birds within the EU - Implications for Public Health](#)
- [Drug-resistant tuberculosis: World Health Organization launches Global Response Plan 2007-2008](#)
- [Authors correction for: Euro Surveill 2007;12\(5\)](#)
- [Erratum for: Euro Surveill 2007;12\(6\)](#)

Read these reports at : <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070705.asp>

### Thursday 12 July 2007

Eurosurveillance weekly release has just been updated. This week's contents:

- [Outbreak of trichinellosis in north-western Poland, June 2007](#)
- [Erratum for: Euro Surveill 2007;12\(6\)](#)

Read these reports at : <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ew/2007/070712.asp>

## 8. European Agency for Safety and Health at Work: Press releases

23 April 2007

### Good practices will 'Lighten the load'

*The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work invites nominations for the eighth European Good Practice Awards in occupational health and safety.*

The 2007 award scheme will recognise companies or organisations that have made outstanding and innovative contributions to promote an integrated management approach to tackle musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) embracing prevention of MSDs, and the retention, rehabilitation and reintegration of workers who already suffer from MSDs.

'Musculoskeletal disorders are the most common work-related health problem in Europe; across the EU, 25% of workers suffer from backache and 23% have muscular pains', explains Jukka Takala, Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work. 'Many problems can be prevented or greatly reduced through employers complying with existing safety and health law and following good practice. Through our Lighten the load campaign and the Good Practice Awards competition we will demonstrate that there are specific actions that can be taken if MSDs are to be tackled effectively.'

The awards aim to demonstrate, by example, the benefits of following good safety and health practices to all European employers and workers, and to intermediaries including the social partners, OSH professionals and practitioners, and others providing assistance and information at workplace level.

Good practice examples are implemented solutions to promote the effective management of occupational safety and health risks in the workplace, and prevention measures to reduce the incidence of MSDs, and to support those who have suffered MSDs.

Such examples might include identification and implementation of an action programme which takes a holistic approach to the risks causing MSDs, modification of tasks to eliminate or reduce prolonged periods of standing or sitting, rehabilitation and sickness schemes, and procurement plans to provide, in consultation with workers, 'user friendly' machines and equipment.

Good practice examples are invited from all EU Member States. They can be submitted by individual enterprises or by intermediary organisations such as chambers of commerce, trade and professional organisations, trade unions, and by others providing assistance, support and information at workplace level.

The Agency will announce the winners at the campaign's closing event in March 2008 in Bilbao. The awards will provide the winners with European recognition for their role in improving working conditions in Europe, and the awarded examples will be presented in an Agency booklet to be distributed across Europe.

Further information about the awards and national contact details are available online at <http://ew2007.osha.europa.eu/>.

**04 June 2007**

### **Lighten the load - tackling musculoskeletal disorders**

*Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are the most common work-related health problem in Europe, affecting millions of workers. Across the EU27, 25% of workers complain of backache and 23% report muscular pains.*

MSDs are caused mainly by manual handling, frequent bending and twisting, heavy physical work and whole-body vibration. The risk of MSDs can increase with the pace of work, low job satisfaction, high job demands and job stress. There is also a strong interrelation between nervous and muscular systems: MSDs affect other aspects of workers' health, and other health conditions can trigger MSDs. MSDs are the biggest cause of absence from work in practically all Member States. In some states, 40% of the costs of workers' compensation are caused by MSDs, and up to 1.6% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the country itself. They reduce company profitability and add to the social costs of the government.

Many problems can be prevented or greatly reduced through employers complying with existing safety and health law and following good practice. However, there are specific actions that have to be taken if MSDs are to be tackled effectively.

Lighten the load, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work's 2007 campaign to tackle MSDs in the workplace, supports an integrated management approach with three key elements. First, employers, employees and government need to work together to tackle MSDs. Secondly, any actions should address the 'whole load on the body', which covers all the stresses and strains being placed on the body, environmental factors such as cold working conditions, and the load being carried. Thirdly, employers need to manage the retention, rehabilitation and return to work of employees with MSDs. Announcing the launch of Lighten the load in Brussels **EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Vladimír Špidla** said: 'Tackling MSDs is a priority for the EU if we are to create more and better jobs in Europe. Given the demographic change, people will probably have to work longer and this makes it even more imperative that we tackle this problem now. It is essential if European workers are to enjoy not only better quality jobs but a better quality of life and a higher standard of living. We can increase productivity and therefore prosperity in the EU if we manage to improve the situation of days lost to MSDs'.

The price of MSDs to workers, employers and governments is huge. For the employee, they cause personal suffering and loss of income; for the employer, they reduce business efficiency; and for the government, they increase social security costs.

'There is a strong correlation between workers' health, wellbeing and quality of work on the one hand, and economic prosperity,' says **Jukka Takala, Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work**. 'Although weekly working hours are decreasing, the pace of work is increasing.

Painful or tiring positions, working at very high speeds and to tight deadlines and the increasing use of machinery and computers result in high levels of work-related MSDs and stress. For these reasons, there is a need to implement prevention strategies and programmes to combat staff health problems. These strategies must place the worker at the centre of organisational changes and redesign of the workplace.

Lighten the load culminates with the European Week for Safety and Health at Work from 22 to 26 October 2007, with a range of activities and events across Europe.

The campaign also features the Good Practice Awards which recognise organisations that have made outstanding and innovative contributions to tackle MSDs. The Agency will announce the winners at the campaign's closing event in March 2008.

For more information, see the campaign website at <http://ew2007.osha.europa.eu/>

16 July 2007

### **EU report marks ten years of progress in safety and health at work**

*The central role of the 'European Agency for Safety and Health at Work' in promoting healthier, safer and more productive workplaces was underlined today in its 2006 annual report. It shines a spotlight on last year's impact on young workers and small businesses and shows how the Agency continues to improve the quality of working life in an expanding European Union.*

Ten years after its creation, the Agency consolidates its role in providing workers and employers with first-hand information and examples of good practice in the field of occupational safety and health. It promotes a culture of risk prevention and continues to strengthen cooperation with accession and candidate countries and organisations throughout the world.

Agency Director Jukka Takala says that *"occupational safety and health issues across national borders can only be tackled successfully through close cooperation between Member States. The Agency has set up a unique network in all EU countries and beyond to promote safer jobs, healthier people and stronger businesses."*

European policymakers need to recognise the importance of good occupational safety and health to productivity and to people's quality of life - a concern in the line with the Lisbon strategy.

### **Key achievements in 2006**

The **'Safe Start campaign'** was dedicated to improving the health and safety of the EU's 75 million young workers. As well as making employers and young people more aware of risk, the campaign involved teachers and emphasised the importance of preparing young people for the work while they are still at college.

Eight organisations from across Europe were recognised by prestigious Good Practice Awards and the video competition boasted an excellent participation of young people who produced short documentaries of impressive quality.

The **'Healthy Workplace Initiative'** for small businesses was launched in the newest EU Member States and candidate countries\*. Under the motto 'Good safety and health is good for business', the Agency organised 36 seminars addressing its key target group: small businesses. 3,000 company representatives welcomed the opportunity to assess risks, involve workers in prevention plans and share good practice.

**Protection of workers from new threats like avian flu** is at the heart of the work of the 'European Risk Observatory'. The Agency responded quickly to this new biological risk by releasing up to date information on the web portal. Good practice solutions and advice were made available to front-line workers such as flight attendants, nurses or veterinarians.

The Agency also started work on developing material for specific sectors such as hotels, restaurants and catering.

\* Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia

#### **Further reading:**

Annual report 2006: [http://osha.europa.eu/publications/annual\\_report/2007](http://osha.europa.eu/publications/annual_report/2007)

Safe Start campaign: <http://ew2006.osha.europa.eu/>

Healthy Workplace Initiative: <http://hwi.osha.europa.eu/>

European Risk Observatory: <http://riskobservatory.osha.europa.eu/>