

## Newsletter 2018-03-01 from the section on Sexual and Gender Minority Health, EUPHA

In this newsletter:

- Call for steering committee members of the EUPHA section on Sexual and gender minority health
- Call for abstracts and presentations at the 11<sup>th</sup> European Public Health Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia, from November 28<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- New training kit for health professionals on HBTQ health presented at the final conference of the Health4LGBTI initiative

### ***Call for steering committee members***

The Sexual and Gender Minority Health section would like to invite members to join the section's steering committee. The work of the steering committee will focus on setting the direction and agenda for the section with the aim to strengthen sexual and gender minority health research in Europe. The steering committee will also work with the planning of activities, in particular, during the yearly European Public Health Conference. We hope to create a diverse steering group with wide representation across Europe. During last years 'Join the section' meeting at the annual conference, several individuals expressed interest in joining the steering committee but we would like to extend the invitation to all other members interested in contributing to the strengthening sexual and gender minority health in Europe. For more information, please send an email to: [richard.branstrom@ki.se](mailto:richard.branstrom@ki.se) or [arjan.van.der.star@ki.se](mailto:arjan.van.der.star@ki.se).

### ***Call for abstracts, workshops and initiatives***

For the upcoming European Public Health Conference, in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from November 28<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>, we are planning to organize workshops focusing on sexual and gender minority health. If you are working with research in this field and would like to participate in or organize a workshop you are welcome to send us an abstract with your suggested contributions.

We are interested in hearing from members and potential members who are interested in presenting results from studies regarding sexual and gender minority health, as well as work related to sexual and gender minority affirmative practices and policy work.

More information about abstract submissions can be found on the EUPHA conference site:

<https://ephconference.eu/ljubljana-2018-abstract-submission-78>

A number of proposals for workshops at this year's conferences have been suggested, such as:

- The health situation among sexual and gender minorities in Eastern Europe
- Improving health care provider's LGBT health knowledge and competence across Europe
- Bullying and peer-victimization in LGBT youth (in collaboration with [Child and adolescent public health section](#))
- Health of sexual and gender minorities in migrant populations (in collaboration with [Migrant and ethnic minority health section](#))
- Monitoring of the health situation of sexual and gender minorities using cross-European surveys (in collaboration with [Public health monitoring and reporting section](#))
- Sexual health and MSM; emphasis on current outbreaks HAV, HPV, LGV (with [Infectious diseases control section](#))

We would like to encourage you to send in abstracts related to one of these topics. However, all other abstracts related to sexual and gender minority health are welcome. For submission and more information, please send an email to: [richard.branstrom@ki.se](mailto:richard.branstrom@ki.se) or [arjan.van.der.star@ki.se](mailto:arjan.van.der.star@ki.se).

### ***EUPHA at the Health4LGBTI conference***

On February 1st and 2nd, the Health4LGBTI ([Health4LGBTI initiative](#)) final conference took place in Brussels. During this conference, the EUPHA section on Sexual & Gender Minority Health was represented as well. The conference was the final part of an EU-funded project on reducing health inequalities experienced by LGBTI individuals in Europe. The project focused mainly on healthcare and aimed to raise awareness, increase understanding and provide healthcare professionals with helpful tools. Besides a literature review and focus group interviews, the project resulted in a training course for healthcare professionals in order to raise the awareness of LGBTI health inequalities and reduce barriers for LGBTI individuals in accessing healthcare. During the conference, attendees - representing various NGOs, academia, and civil society – familiarized themselves with the outcomes of the project and the training material. The delegates participated in the training sessions and provided extensive feedback on the project's material. Furthermore, the last sessions of the conference focused on discussing the next steps of the project and its implementations across Europe. Moreover, the importance of the continuation of the project's work was stressed. Future efforts should focus on better understanding the root causes of LGBTI health inequalities, the barriers as experienced in other sectors, and also take a health prevention and promotion perspective into account.

#### The Health4LGBTI initiative

A training package for **Health Professionals on how to reduce health Inequalities for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI)** people has been launched by the [Health4LGBTI initiative](#). It is based on new research into the types and causes of health inequalities experienced by LGBTI people, as well as the barriers faced by health professionals and LGBTI people when providing and accessing services. The results of the research, which included a state-of-the-art review study and 12 focus groups in six EU Member States, are detailed in two reports available on the Health4LGBTI webpage.

Materials will available in Bulgarian, Dutch, English, Italian, Lithuanian, and Polish.