

Improving Patient Safety in Europe

WP1 Logbook – European training for infection control nurses and doctors in connection with ESCMID

Date : December, 2006

During 2006, the questionnaire on training and professional profiles of infection control staff in European countries was issued to the IPSE National Contact Points for completion. At the time of writing, of the 33 questionnaires issued (25 Member States (one each for UK England, UK Northern Ireland, UK Scotland, UK Wales), Norway, Switzerland, 3 Candidate countries – Bulgaria, Croatia, Turkey), completed questionnaires had been received from 31. The questionnaire on infection control in European countries (Professional Organisations) was also sent to leading professional organisations implicated in infection control activities in each European country. To date, only 20 completed questionnaires have been received of the approximately 100 expected. A recall for completion of the questionnaires will be carried out in the period after the plenary meeting.

A preliminary analysis of the data collected from the survey was presented at the IPSE Annual Plenary meeting in Vienna in November, 2006, and the results can be viewed by IPSE national representatives on the project management platform <http://www.meres.org> (Documents, Documents Centre IPSE, WP1, Prelim Results Nov 2006). As indicated on the presentation, these are preliminary, unvalidated results, not yet for public distribution. Meeting attendees also participated in an exercise to review and validate infection control tasks. The outcome of this exercise will be used to reformulate and reclassify tasks into training objectives for the core curriculum, in consultation with the pedagogic committee.

“Who are the infection control practitioners? Prospects for a European common core curriculum” will be presented at the 17th ECCMID & 25th ICC in Munich on Saturday 31st March, 2007, in the Educational Workshop EW06 “Healthcare-associated infection (HAI) and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) – a challenge for organisation and management” between 08.30 hrs and 10.30 hrs.

Following preparation and validation of criteria for the indexing of courses, the register of European courses in infection control is planned for completion at the time of the congress.

Date : 31st January, 2006

Due to the delays in signing the grant agreement, this work package effectively started during the meeting of the WP1 work group during the 1st IPSE Annual Plenary Meeting held in Vienna in November, 2006. During this meeting, the background to the work package was reviewed, as well as its aims and deliverables. A review of the work plan and tasks was also made in view of the slippage in commencement of the work. The result of this review was a re-scheduling of the planned completion dates of the deliverables;

Replan

D1.1	Register of European Courses in Infection Control and Professional Status	01/01/2007	01/06/2007
D1.2	Core curriculum for European training (master level).	01/06/2007	01/12/2007

A re-formulation of the work group arrangements and meetings was also made;

- Pedagogic Committee
 - 2 meetings
 - meeting # 1 – April 4th & 5th, 2006, in Nice following the 16th ECCMID.
 - meeting # 2 – provisionally - April 3rd & 4th, 2007, in Munich following the 17th ECCMID & 25th ICC.
 - 9 persons (6 ESCMID, 1 HPA – Expert , 2 UCBL – Expert, Research Assistant).
- Work group
 - 1 consensus meeting
 - one day, held during the IPSE annual plenary meeting in Vienna, November, 2006.
 - 34 persons (6 ESCMID, 1 HPA – Expert, 2 UCBL – Expert, Research Assistant, 25 National Representatives).

At the time of writing, arrangements were being made for the first meeting of the pedagogic committee in Nice in April, 2006, including formation of the committee itself.

Two questionnaires are foreseen to collect the necessary information. A first, “IC Staffing Policy”, will aim to describe each national situation, which is also expected to solicit information relevant to WP2. The second, “Training courses”, will seek to describe relevant local training in the field of infection control. The data collection will be organised through the national contact points, who will in turn take contact with relevant local experts in the field. The general content of these questionnaires was approved during the meeting in Vienna.

The planning for the forthcoming period foresees the preparation the tools and methodology for the inventory and analysis of existing training courses and the professional status of infection control staff, in readiness for the meeting of the pedagogic committee in Nice. A methodology for the definition of a core curriculum for infection control will also be prepared. Following validation by the committee and by the national contact points (by email), data collection will then proceed. Consideration will be given to combining the data collection exercise with that of WP2 and WP7, who will be engaged in a similar and related exercise.

The conclusions arising from the meeting in Vienna emphasised important aspects which will be critical to the success of this work package;

- The focus should be healthcare associated infections, arising from any healthcare setting.
- The feasibility of the work package will depend on all partners and countries contributing in due time.
- Meetings will need to be well prepared in advance.
- Data collection will be through the national contact points, even if this activity needs the input of other experts in the countries concerned.

