Experts gather to discuss implementation of the WRVH

Over 150 violence prevention experts from around the world gathered in San Francisco, USA, for two days in mid-October for the Second Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention meeting. The Second Milestones meeting hosted by WHO and The California Wellness Foundation (TCWF) marked the third anniversary of the global launch of the World report on violence and health (WRVH) in 2002. Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan provided an opening video address and the Honourable John Junor, Minister of Health for Jamaica, was the keynote speaker. Health officials representing Brazil, Latvia, Jamaica, Mongolia, the United Kingdom, and the USA gave 2005 progress reports outlining their accomplishments during the past two years. These were just a sample of the many countries in the process of implementing the WRVH’s recommendations. The afternoon session discussed the media’s role in violence prevention with presentations by the British Broadcasting Corporation’s World Service; the Soul City Institute for Health and Development Communications, South Africa; Globo TV, Brazil; and the Berkley Media Studies Group, USA.

TCWF’s invitees highlighted the successful efforts groups across the State of California have made in tackling interpersonal violence, and in particular, youth violence. Between 1991 and 2003, the percentage of youths killed by gun violence declined by 41%. California has used a variety of prevention programs to achieve this reduction. TCWF has played a substantial role in this process by providing a large number of grants to a variety of community-based violence prevention initiatives in the state.

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan is WHO Patron for Violence Prevention in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

In July 2005, Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan agreed to serve as WHO Patron for Violence Prevention in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region. As Queen of Jordan, Her Majesty has shown great commitment in advocating for the need for violence prevention and in leading an effort to have violence recognized as a public health problem in the Region. With her new role as the WHO Patron for Violence Prevention, she will be key in drawing attention to the problem of family and community violence, in promoting prevention efforts and advocating for better services for victims, notably in the Middle East but also around the world.

includes:
- First results of the WHO Study on Women’s Health & Domestic Violence against Women released
- African francophone Ministries of Health meet to discuss injuries and violence prevention
- Manaus, Brazil launches its campaign for violence prevention
- EURO focal points discuss injury and violence prevention
- Violence Begins at Home: a BBC production
- WHO EURO’s resolution on Injury and Violence Prevention
- Murray Mallee Community Health Service holds a Violence Prevention Alliance launch

P r e v e n t

I S S U E 7

M A R 2 0 0 6

NEWSLETTER FOR THE GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION

From left to right: Honourable John Junor, Minister of Health for Jamaica; Dr Ileana Arias, Director, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA; Dr Sambuu Lambaa, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Social Policy, Member of Parliament, Mongolia.

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GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION
CAMPAGNE MONDIALE POUR LA PREVENTION DE LA VIOLENCE
VIOLENCE PREVENTION ALLIANCE / ALLIANCE POUR LA PREVENTION DE LA VIOLENCE
In her video address to the attendees of the Second Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention meeting, Queen Rania stated: “My hope is that political, religious and community leaders in my region and beyond will join me in urging more action to prevent family and community violence. ... If we summon the will, if we work together, we can build a global commitment to violence prevention and create a peaceful, safe and healthy future.”

To view Her Majesty’s speech in its entirety, please visit: http://terrance.who.int/mediacentre/temp/Queen_of_Jordan.mpg

First results of the WHO Multi-country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence against Women are released

On 24 November 2005, the WHO Department of Gender, Women, and Health launched the first report of the WHO Multi-country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence against Women. Although violence against women is increasingly recognized as a major global public health problem, the limited data from resource poor settings about the magnitude and nature of the problem, as well as its underlying causes was identified as a major constraint for developing effective preventive strategies. Recognizing this obstacle, WHO developed and implemented the study which gathered information in ten different countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Japan, Peru, Namibia, Samoa, Serbia and Montenegro, Thailand, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Over 24,000 women were interviewed and the findings indicate that physical and sexual violence is extremely common in women’s lives. It highlights that women are at greatest risk of being victimized not by strangers or other perpetrators, but by their intimate partners. The study shows that intimate partner violence is prevalent everywhere, but that the level varies greatly among settings.

Another major finding of the study is how much intimate partner violence remains a hidden problem. At least 20% of the women who participated in the study reported that they had never talked about their experience of violence before. For more information on the study, please visit: www.who.int/gender/en/

African francophone Ministries of Health meet to discuss injuries and violence prevention

On 18 and 19 September 2005, the WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) hosted in Brazzaville, Congo a two-day injury and violence prevention meeting with senior health ministry representatives from 13 African francophone countries. Organized in collaboration with the Réseau Francophone pour la Prévention des Traumatismes, the purpose of the meeting was to update the health ministries in these countries about current violence and injury prevention activities and encourage them to take a more active role in prevention efforts. It was decided that focal points will be designated by each of these countries’ Ministries of Health and each country will conduct a situation assessment and begin to develop a national plan of action.

Manaus, Brazil launches its campaign for violence prevention

Inspired by the WHO’s Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, the Brazilian city of Manaus recently launched its own campaign for violence prevention. The Manaus City Council, with help and support from local nongovernmental organizations, unveiled the new campaign at the Câmara Municipal de Manaus, and at the Assembléia Legislativa do Estado do Amazonas in December 2005.
A key portion of the campaign involves a new violence prevention law that was recently passed in November 2005. Mr Jeferson Anjos, a city councilman for Câmara Municipal de Manaus and one of the chief supporters of the new campaign, was responsible for its creation. The law designates that one week each year will be known as the Prevention against Violence and Gender Discrimination Week. The new campaign will publicize best practices and concepts for equal rights and there will be a permanent forum on violence and discrimination prevention. In addition, the law allows for the creation and provision of a new series of courses on violence and gender discrimination. These classes will be offered to all teachers, professors, and city government staff to educate them about the problems women face in Manaus.

**EURO focal points discuss injury and violence prevention in the Netherlands**

On 17–18 November 2005, the WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO) and the Netherlands Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport co-hosted a meeting titled, ‘Building a shared vision for the prevention of violence and injury in Europe: first meeting of European national focal points for violence and injury prevention’, in Noordwijk, the Netherlands. Forty-eight focal points, representing 34 countries, attended the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to create a network of European national focal points for violence and injury prevention and increase collaboration between this network and WHO.

**World Conference on Family Violence 2005: Knowledge, Practice, Impact**

The World Conference on Family Violence held from 23-27 October 2005 in Banff, Canada included a variety of participants such as international political leaders, violence prevention policy and program experts from around the world, and researchers. The purpose of the conference was to share experiences in family violence prevention. Dr Alex Butchart, WHO Coordinator for Violence Prevention, delivered the keynote address at the opening ceremonies for the conference during which he discussed successful interventions in preventing family violence.

For more information on this conference, please visit the conference website: www.wcpf2005.ca/

**The International Day of Peace**

On 21 September 2005, Dr Alex Butchart presented a talk on youth violence at the United Nations headquarters in New York City, USA. The majority of the audience were children and youth and Dr Butchart discussed the impact of youth violence and what is effective in preventing this type of interpersonal violence. In addition to Mrs Nane Annan, United Nations Messengers of Peace Anna Cataldi, Jane Goodall, Michael Douglas, and Elie Wiesel participated in the day’s programme.
Violence Begins at Home: a BBC production

During November 2005, the British Broadcasting Corporation’s World Service held a month long season of radio programming about violence prevention. The season entitled Violence Begins at Home made extensive use of the findings and key messages of the WRVH. Programming for the season consisted of a series of radio programmes that discussed topics such as the impact violence has on the health sector, violence perspectives from both victims and perpetrators and measures to prevent violence. The season also involved a BBC website featuring an online survey on domestic violence, and a visitor comments section.

To view the BBC website and download the radio programmes, please visit: www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/violence/

TEACH-VIP is released for public use

The TEACH-VIP curriculum was released for general use in October 2005. TEACH-VIP is a modular course on violence and injury prevention and control developed by WHO and a network of global injury prevention experts.

Although originally developed for public health students, extensive pilot testing showed that a wide variety of training audiences rated the material very highly. Thus, medical and nursing students, injury prevention and response practitioners, health professionals, staff within government agencies and members of nongovernmental organizations are likely to find the materials extremely useful. Since lessons are modular, the training audience can select individual topics and use only those modules that they find most useful or relevant to their injury prevention needs. All classes are provided in electronic format to facilitate incorporation of local knowledge. Translations in Arabic, French, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish are in progress. For more information on TEACH-VIP and to sign up to receive the users’ manual and the CD-ROM, please visit: www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/en/.

The United Nations Secretary General’s Study on Violence Against Children

The United Nations Secretary General’s Study on Violence Against Children aims to gather knowledge to help understand, reduce and prevent violence against children. Particular emphasis has been placed on ensuring that children’s direct views and experiences are included in the study. The Secretary General’s final report on the study will be presented to the United Nations General Assembly in October 2006 and publication of the full report is expected for release late in 2006. WHO has been working with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and nongovernmental representatives on the report. In June 2005, WHO convened a two-day consultation on violence against children in the context of home and family to help inform the study. Experts from diverse disciplines, including public health, human rights and child protection, discussed developments in the field and potential recommendations the study should make.

WHO EURO’s resolution on injury and violence prevention

The WHO Regional Committee for Europe adopted for the first time in its history a resolution on injury and violence prevention (September 2005). The new resolution encourages member states of the WHO European Region to prioritize violence and injury prevention, to develop better injury surveillance, to strengthen the response of health care providers such as hospitals, to promote the use of evidence based interventions for prevention activities, and to promote better exchange of information between country-level focal points regarding injury activities. A booklet titled Injuries and Violence in Europe: Why they matter and what can be done was released to coincide with this resolution.

To view the resolution, please visit: www.euro.who.int/phe/main/WHO/AboutWHO/Governance/resolutions/2005/20050922_1

Update: WHO Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence

In 2004 WHO released the Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence, a comprehensive resource for improving the knowledge and skills of health workers who interact with victims of sexual violence. Since February 2004 demand for the guidelines has been steady; nearly 2,000 hard copies have been disseminated and many more downloaded from the Internet.
Currently, WHO’s partners at the University of the Philippines, Manila-Philippine General Hospital and the National Institute of Forensic Medicine, Jordan, are running a trial implementation of the guidelines in their facilities. The wider pilot testing process, including both content reviews and trial implementations, will be completed in mid-2006. Late in 2006 WHO will begin the process of revising the guidelines according to the results of formal pilot testing and other feedback from diverse users. WHO invites anyone who has experience with the guidelines to contact the Department of Injuries and Violence Prevention with your feedback. The guidelines can be found at www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention. Printed copies can also be requested from violenceprevention@who.int.

**Violence Prevention Alliance updates**

The Violence Prevention Alliance welcomes twelve new participants:

- International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, USA
- International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, USA
- Murray Mallee Community Health Service, Australia
- National Public Health Service for Wales, UK
- Partners Against Violence/Partners for Healthier Community, USA
- Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT), Denmark
- Thai Ministry of Public Health’s Department of Health Service Support, Thailand
- Violent Crime Task Group, Cardiff Community Safety Partnership, Wales, UK
- Violence and Injury Unit of the Health Ministry of Malaysia
- The Violence Reduction Unit of Scotland
- The Waitt Institute for Violence Prevention, USA
- Youth Consultation Service Center for the Prevention of Violence, USA

**WHO’s newest violence prevention poster series**

WHO’s newest violence prevention posters, the *Album* series, depict how lives can be scarred forever due to violence. What for most people are snapshots of cherished memories are often for survivors of violence a painful remembrance. These images underscore the fact that the psychological and physical consequences of violence can last years and sometimes even a lifetime.

WHO encourages use of these posters to support national violence prevention campaigns. The posters can be ordered in hard copy in limited quantities at the following address: www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/violence/en/. The electronic files of the posters can also be made available for local adaptation, translation and printing by contacting violenceprevention@who.int.
Murray Mallee Community Health Service holds a Violence Prevention Alliance launch

On 13 October 2005, the Murray Mallee Community Health Service located in Murray Bridge, South Australia held an official launch of its new Violence Prevention Initiative which is in accord with the Violence Prevention Alliance’s mission statement. The Health Service chose mental health week (9-15 October 2005) for the launch to emphasize the connection between mental health and violence.

Brazil’s national report on violence and health

Brazil’s Ministry of Health has recently published the country’s national report on violence and health. The report, structured similarly to the World report on violence and health, provides a comprehensive look at violence in Brazil. National reports on violence and health are also being developed by Jordan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Looking ahead

Safety 2006: Data to Action

The 8th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion – Safety 2006 – will be held in Durban, South Africa from 2-5 April 2006. The conference theme highlights the need to make injury surveillance data and research findings readily available and to transform this information into effective injury prevention programs. For more information about the conference, please visit: www.safety2000.info

Publications

Milestones of a global campaign for violence prevention 2005: changing the face of violence prevention

This document provides an update on developments in the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention since the first Milestones meeting in January 2004. The report is divided into three chapters: the first details global violence prevention activities, the second provides updates from WHO’s six regional offices, and the third discusses the Violence Prevention Alliance. The report was unveiled at the Second Milestones Meeting in October 2005.


Multi-country study on women’s health and domestic violence against women

This report presents the results of interviews with 24,000 women in 10 different countries about their experiences with domestic violence. (See article on page 2).

www.who.int/gender/violence/who_multicountry_study/en/

Prehospital trauma care systems

This manual provides guidance to those interested in developing prehospital trauma care systems, particularly those that require minimal training and relatively little in the way of equipment or supplies.

Download this at http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2005/924159294X.pdf

TEACH VIP users’ manual

TEACH-VIP is a modular training course on violence and injury prevention and control, developed by a global network of injury experts, and applicable for a wide variety of training audiences. (See article on page 4).

Download this at http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2005/9241593547.pdf

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