Dear Colleagues:

Attached is the latest issue of Prevent: the Newsletter for the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention.

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listserv@who.int

HEADLINES

Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women
In September 2010, WHO, in partnership with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, will launch Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women: taking action and generating evidence. This manual - developed with input from a globally representative panel of experts - aims to provide information for policy-makers and planners to develop programmes for preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women. Pre-launch access to this manual in electronic format is now available. To order hard copies of the manual, free of charge, contact Claire Scheurer (scheurerc@who.int). Your order will be despatched following the September 2010 official launch of the manual in London, England, during the 10th World conference on injury prevention and safety promotion http://www.safety2010.org.uk/.

Download Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241564007_eng.pdf

Violence Prevention Alliance 2010 Annual Meeting
On 3-4 June in Rome, Italy, some 45 people from 35 Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) participating organizations attended this annual strategy meeting, which was hosted by the Italian Ministry of Health. Since its launch in 2004, the WHO-led VPA has grown five-fold to 50 participants, including large international organizations such as UNDP, UNICEF, UNODC, and the World Bank. Discussions focused on proposals for a new VPA structure better adapted to its increased size and importance. The proposals were adopted, VPA priorities for the next five years were decided upon, and new project groups were established on resource mobilization; shaping the violence prevention research agenda; training in violence prevention, and communications for violence prevention. Funding was also pledged to create an interactive database of VPA participant resources. For more information, please contact Dr Christopher Mikton (miktonc@who.int).

Oslo Conference on Armed Violence: achieving the Millennium Development Goals
On 12 May, the Oslo Conference on Armed Violence took place in Geneva. The Conference was initially planned for Oslo in April, but postponed due to eruption of the Icelandic volcano. Co-organized by the Government of Norway and the United Nations Development Programme, the Conference was chaired by Mr Jonas Gahr Store, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, who in his opening remarks reminded the audience that UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has identified armed violence as one of the key
obstacles to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Other speakers included Dr Margaret Chan, WHO Director-General; Mr Antonio Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees; Dr Jakob Kellenberger, President of the ICRC; and several ministers. The Conference concluded with adoption of the Oslo Commitments on Armed Violence and their endorsement by over 60 states. The Oslo Commitments call for the upcoming September 2010 MDG review summit to recognize the needs for better monitoring the incidence and impact of armed violence; integrating armed violence prevention in national plans and programmes; recognizing the rights of victims of armed violence to care and rehabilitation; and strengthening international cooperation. For further information, please contact Dr Etienne Krug (kruge@who.int) and visit the Conference website http://www.osloconferencearmedviolence.no/

Featured outcome evaluation:

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<th>Improving quality of mother-infant relationship and infant attachment in a socioeconomically deprived community in South Africa: randomised control trial</th>
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<td>OBJECTIVE: To assess the efficacy of an intervention to improve the mother-infant relationship and security of infant attachment in a South African peri-urban settlement with adverse socioeconomic circumstances. DESIGN: Randomised controlled trial. SETTING: Khayelitsha, a peri-urban settlement in South Africa. PARTICIPANTS: 449 pregnant women. INTERVENTIONS: The intervention was delivered from late pregnancy until six months postpartum. Women were visited in their homes by previously untrained lay community workers who provided support and guidance in parenting. The intervention aimed to promote sensitive and responsive parenting and secure infant attachment to the mother. Women in the control group received no therapeutic input from the research team. MAIN OUTCOME MEASURES: Primary outcomes: quality of mother-infant interactions at six and 12 months postpartum; infant attachment security at 18 months. Secondary outcome: maternal depression at six and 12 months. RESULTS: The intervention was associated with significant benefit to the mother-infant relationship. At both six and 12 months, compared with control mothers, mothers in the intervention group were significantly more sensitive, and less intrusive in their interactions with their infants. The intervention was also associated with a higher rate of secure infant attachments at 18 months. Although the prevalence of maternal depressive disorder was not significantly reduced, the intervention had a benefit in terms of maternal depressed mood at six months (on the Edinburgh postnatal depression scale). CONCLUSIONS: The intervention, delivered by local laywomen, had a significant positive impact on the quality of the mother-infant relationship and on security of infant attachment, factors known to predict favourable child development. If these effects persist, and if they are replicated, this intervention holds considerable promise for use in the developing world.</td>
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Regional

Africa

Dr Martin Ekeke Monono has recently taken up the post of WHO Regional Office for Africa Adviser on Violence and Injury Prevention. Dr Monono was previously a Director in the Ministry of Public Health in The Republic of Cameroon, and has been active in regional and sub-regional violence and injury prevention activities for several years. For more information please contact Dr Martin Ekeke Monono (ekekem@afro.who.int)

Europe

Consultation on youth violence report

Second European Regional Safe Communities Conference

The Second European Regional Safe Communities Conference took place in Reykjavik, Iceland from 19-20 May. There were about 140 participants from 15 European countries. The conference was organized by the Public Health Institute of Iceland and the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion at the Karolinska Institute, Sweden, and co-hosted by the Ministry of Health of Iceland. Keynote presentations focused on the role of health systems in violence and injury prevention, and
evidence-based programmes being implemented by Safe Communities in Europe. Formation of the European Safe Communities Network (ESCON) was agreed upon, and the Public Health Institute of Iceland was designated as an affiliate Safe Community support centre. The next World Safe Communities Conference is being planned for September 2011 in Falun, Sweden. For further information, please contact Dr Dinesh Sethi DIN@ecr.euro.who.int

European Parliament hosts debate on injury prevention
A lunchtime debate was hosted at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium on 17 March which focused on the report Preventing injuries in Europe: from international collaboration to local implementation (see Publications section below). The 50 participants included Members of the European Parliament (MEP), staff from WHO and the European Commission, country representatives, focal persons and NGOs. The meeting was hosted by MEPs Mr Miroslav Mikolášik and Ms Frieda Brepoels. Dr Nedret Emiroglu presented the report documenting progress in implementing the resolution EUR/R55/R9 and the European Council Recommendation on the prevention of violence and injuries. Mr Michael Hübel presented the work of the Directorate-General of Health and Consumers of the European Commission describing the synergy between the WHO and European Commission approaches to violence and injury prevention. The meeting agreed that injury and violence prevention is a priority concern across Europe and acknowledged that collaboration between WHO and the European Commission has been of benefit to all Member States in Europe. For further information, please contact Dr Dinesh Sethi (DIN@ecr.euro.who.int).

European conference on interpersonal violence and the role of the health sector
The conference took place on 6 May at the University of Applied Sciences of Fulda in Germany. It convened over 100 participants from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The focus was on health sector responses to intimate partner and sexual violence against women and how to create a sustainable role for the health sector in this area. The conference was held in the framework of the 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. For more information, please see: http://www.hs-fulda.de/index.php?id=8849&L=1&type=1

Asia

Economic costing of child maltreatment, Bangkok, Thailand
On 15-16 April, in Bangkok, Thailand, UNICEF’s East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO) convened a “think tank” on how to produce reliable estimates of the overall economic costs of child maltreatment to societies in the UNICEF EAPRO region. Participants included experts on the prevention and costing of child maltreatment from Australia, China, the USA, UNICEF and WHO. It was agreed that because the effects of child maltreatment are spread across the life course and borne by many different sectors (e.g. health, education, justice), they are best estimated by methods which take into account the relationships between maltreatment and long-term consequences such as alcohol and illicit drug use, unsafe sexual behaviour, self-directed violence, increased risk of involvement in interpersonal violence and crime, and under-performance at school and work. For further information, please contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int).

Nineteenth International Conference on Safe Communities, Suwon, Republic of Korea
The Nineteenth International Conference on Safe Communities was held in Suwon on 23-26 March. The conference theme was Sustainability of Safe Communities. About 500 attendees from over 40 countries participated. The programme covered global efforts for strengthening and sustaining Safe Communities; the need for outcome evaluation studies and monitoring the effectiveness of interventions within Safe Communities, and national and municipal achievements in establishing sustainable Safe Communities. Content areas included violence and injury surveillance; safety at school, in the home and on the road; interpersonal and self-directed violence; and methods for evaluating community-based programmes. For more information, please contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int).

Americas

Seminar on preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women
On June 28 and 29, 2010, the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization held a two-day workshop in Mexico City with 23 participants from 5 countries from the region to discuss the
evidence base for primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence in different settings. Participants included representatives from PAHO specializing in gender and violence, Ministries of Health and Women’s Ministries, research and academic institutions and civil society. The new document, Preventing Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence against Women: Taking Action and Generating Evidence (see headline above) by the World Health Organization and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, served as the basis of discussion during the two day session. The objectives of the workshop were to (1) obtain feedback and comments on the content of the new document; and (2) motivate participants and their colleagues to use the document as a guide to carry out evidence-based interventions to prevent intimate partner and sexual violence and to evaluate such efforts. For further information, please contact: Alessandra Guedes – guedesal@paho.org – PAHO’s Regional Advisor, Intra-Family Violence

To download Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence against women: http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241564007_eng.pdf

PUBLICATIONS

Child maltreatment prevention training course

WHO, the Education Development Center, and the Violence Prevention Alliance have developed a three-day classroom-based course on child maltreatment prevention which seeks to promote better understanding of the field of child maltreatment prevention. This course describes the public health approach to child maltreatment and provides an overview of the scale of the problem, its consequences and costs, risk and protective factors for child maltreatment, and child maltreatment prevention strategies. It is designed to provide participants with a basic understanding of definitions and types of child maltreatment; the magnitude and distribution of child maltreatment; consequences of child maltreatment; risk and protective factors for child maltreatment, prevention strategies and their effectiveness; assessing child maltreatment prevention readiness and capacity; scaling-up effective prevention programmes; and evaluating the costs and cost-benefits of child maltreatment prevention programmes. The three-day course will be posted on the VPA web-site by the end of August 2010 (http://www.who.int/violenceprevention/en/index.html).

For more information, please contact Dr Christopher Mikton (miktonc@who.int).

Strengthening care for the injured: Success stories and lessons learned from around the world

For every person dying due to a violence-related injury, hundreds more sustain non-fatal injuries and other health consequences. Although the ultimate goal must be to prevent violence and injuries from occurring in the first place, much can be done to minimize the disability and ill health arising from injuries that do occur despite the best prevention efforts. Providing quality support and care services to victims is therefore an essential component of any response to violence and unintentional injuries. Appropriate services for victims can prevent future fatalities, reduce the amount of short-term and long-term disability, and help those affected to cope with the impact of the injury event on their lives. This new volume provides case studies from 11 developing and developed countries that illustrate success in improving the effectiveness of pre-hospital care, hospital-based care, rehabilitation, and system-wide improvements. http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241563963_eng.pdf

Preventing injuries in Europe: from international collaboration to local implementation

This is the final report of a three-year project between WHO and the European Commission on the progress made in preventing injury and promoting safety. It resulted in the development of a database of 47 country profiles compiled through a questionnaire survey and an inventory of national policies on preventing injuries and violence. The report assesses the implementation of 99 evidence-based programmes, which include not only five causes of unintentional injury and six types of violence, but also measures that alleviate socioeconomic inequalities in injuries and violence and tackle alcohol as a risk
factor. Progress is analysed in a regional overview, and in a subgroup of European Union countries, and shows that WHO European Regional Committee resolution EUR/RC55/R9 on the prevention of injuries and European Council Recommendation on the prevention of injury and promotion of safety have catalysed change in 75% of the countries responding. To order a copy of the report, please visit http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/disease-prevention/violence-and-injuries/publications/2010/preventing-injuries-in-europe-from-international-collaboration-to-local-implementation