



EUNESE News

European Network for Safety among Elderly

January-February, 2008

Center for Research and Prevention of Injuries

Editorial

Dear Members of the EUNESE,

With this newsletter we are happy to provide you with the latest news on the EUNESE progress and activities. We consider this effort as an effective way for disseminating and communicating information among network members-researchers, practitioners, and policy makers.

We kindly invite you to share with us and the members of EUNESE any abstracts you have submitted to national and international conferences and any related news on elderly safety activities, to be disseminated to our members.

We welcome your comments and suggestions which would lead to additional improvements of the newsletter.

CEREPRI 

GUIDE FOR IMPLEMENTERS

LEARN FROM THE EUNESE PILOT PROJECTS EXPERIENCE

A 7-Step Guide to implement a successful intervention for injury prevention among elderly people (65+)

WG3 -Pilot Projects

In the context of the EUNESE project, WG3 planned and implemented specific operational pilot projects that created measurable injury prevention efforts targeting two main sub-segments of elderly population: those self supported and those living in supportive communities.

As a result three Pilot Projects were designed and evaluated in three different countries of the EU, Greece, Hungary and Poland, in order to test the applicability and enforceability of specific injury prevention measures, to evaluate their effectiveness and to disseminate the projects' results. Each project resulted in noteworthy conclusions.

WG3-Implementer's Guide

Based on the pilot projects reports, a final paper that included Model methodologies on how to design, develop, implement, and evaluate projects for injury prevention among the elderly was designed by WG3 Coordinator in a format of an "Guide for Implementers".

EUNESE's working groups consider the 7-Step Guide as most valuable outcome of the project. Therefore, it has been bound and formatted as a manual, in order to reach professionals in the area of injury prevention and implementation projects, to whom this guide is primarily addressing.

- ◆ Greece: a. Sufficient and appropriate information facilitates the adoption of injury prevention measures. b. There was a high increase of the professional's awareness on issues of injury prevention c. Professionals expressed a strong need for formal trainings in practical issues related to home safety modifications.
- ◆ Hungary: a. it was the first Hungarian project aiming to promote injury prevention among elderly and to inform people on risk factors for fall-injuries among the elderly. b. to start the development of a national plan for fall prevention.
- ◆ Poland: a. The falls registration chart developed within the pilot project EUNESE is a useful tool as it provides a detailed description of the causes and the course of falls. b. The falls registration chart plays an educational role, since it helped nursing home staff to learn to recognize the risk factors of falls among the elderly. c. It highlighted the urge for Poland to start a falls registration system.

PUBLICATION

"The Evolution of Unintentional Injury Mortality among Elderly in Europe"

By

Petridou E.Th, Dikalioti SK, Dessypris N, Skalkidis I, Barbone F, Fitzpatrick P, Heloma A, Segui-Gomez M, Sethi D.

In

Journal of Aging and Health 2008; 20:159-182



EUNESE MODEL PROJECTS

LEARN FROM THE EUNESE PILOT PROJECTS EXPERIENCE
A 7-STEP GUIDE TO IMPLEMENT SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTIONS FOR INJURY PREVENTIONS AMONG ELDERLY PEOPLE (65+)



GUIDE FOR IMPLEMENTERS

Athens, 2007

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National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Medical School



Center for Research and Prevention of Injuries CEREPRI



Contact us at:

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EUNESE

members presentation

2 Dr Lena Levin, PhD– Sweden



Since 2006 Dr Lena Levin is working as a researcher and project Manager at VTI Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute, which is an independent and internationally prominent research institute within the transport sector. The institute has a broad competence profile, with its key capabilities in the areas of safety, economy, environment, traffic- and transport analysis, public transport, behaviour and man-machine transport system interaction, and in road design operation and maintenance. Dr Levin is also a member of the research group MAP mobility, Actors, Planning Processes with core competence in the social, behavioural and humanistic sciences.

Dr Levin is the coordinator for the multidisciplinary workgroup that works with interdisciplinary research on elderly and transportation at VTI. Elderly research is carried out on topics as Elderly women's and men's narratives about their daily mobility, Ageing and motorism, Ageing and public transport, Mobility and safety among the elderly.

Dr Levin is also a member of TWG Mobility ECTRI. The European Conference of Transport Research Institutes. <http://www.ectri.org/>

Former positions of Dr Levin involve: Researcher at NISAL National Institute for the Study of Ageing and Later Life, Linköping University, <http://www.isv.liu.se/nisal> (2005-2006); research coordinator at NISAL and lecturer at the Department of Communication Studies (Tema K) teaching M.A. courses in Communication Studies and Technology-Design-Communication, Linköping University (2003-2005); doctoral student and lecturer in media and communication studies at the interdisciplinary Tema Institute, Linköping University (1998-2003); journalist at Swedish newspapers and also teaching in journalism (1982-1998).

Recent Publication: Levin, L., et.al. (Ed). (2007). The Elderly in the Transport System: Mobility, Design and Training Problems. VTI report 593 [online] www.vti.se (121 pages) in Swedish with an extensive summary in English.

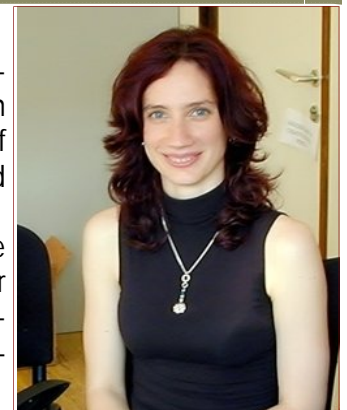
Dr Francesca Valent, MD, MSPH– Italy

Dr. Francesca Valent is a Medical Doctor and a specialist in Hygiene and Preventive Medicine from the University of Udine, Italy. She also has a Master of Science in Public Health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (USA). She currently works at the Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology of the University Hospital of Udine, Italy, as a Medical Officer, and an untenured professor in the Faculty of Medicine, where she teaches epidemiology.

Her main scientific interests are injury, environmental, and pediatric epidemiology. In those fields, she has participated in numerous studies, such as cohort studies, case-crossover studies, prevalence surveys. She also collaborates with investigators of several Italian hospitals on the conduction of clinical studies. Dr. Valent has also conducted a study of the environmental burden of disease in Europe, in collaboration with the WHO Rome Office.

In addition to the EUNESE, Dr.Valent participated recently in another European project, the Child safety action plans Project (CSAP), and is currently participating in the PHIME Project (Public health impact of long-term, low-level mixed element exposure in susceptible population strata).

Dr.Valent has published more than 30 papers on peer-reviewed journals and is among the authors of 4 epidemiology-related books.





EUNESE deliverables evaluation

The main aim of WG5 was to conduct a feasibility study in order to assess among others the added value of EUNESE project's deliverables. For this aim to be achieved a certain methodology, which included examination of EUNESE documentation and deliverables was followed.

Network Website	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Network Conference	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Pilot Projects Materials	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Pilot Projects Final Report	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Best Practice Policy Manual	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Information Leaflets	★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A series of checklists with criteria for evaluation of the deliverables for each of the 4 working groups of the EUNESE project was developed and were used in the evaluation of all deliverables. Each deliverable was given an overall score on five stars. All deliverables were highly scored as shown in the table. Comments made by WG5 on the quality of deliverables are also briefly presented.

IN BRIEF:

- ◆ Network Website: The EUNESE website is already at a good development stage.
- ◆ Network Conference:: It was well organized; it met the expectations of the participants who were overall satisfied.
- ◆ Pilot Projects Material: The materials produced in the Pilot Projects are complete and accurate documents that met the Project's objectives.
- ◆ Pilot Projects Final Report:: Reports are very exhaustive and well written and give a good idea of which actions have been taken, for what purposes, and the degree of success that they reached
- ◆ Best Practice Policy Manual and Information leaflets: Both the Policy Manual and the Leaflets are complete and accurate documents that met the Project's objectives



Conclusions *stemming from WG5 evaluation process*

"The EUNESE project was successful in achieving its goals in spite of many challenges.WG5 concluded in that deliverables were successful at achieving their objectives. EUNESE products were clear, concise and well written and merited high scores in the evaluations.

It is clear from these results that the EUNESE network has been successful at generating new knowledge and/or repackaging it for presentation in a new and innovative manner. It will be important to maintain these products in time and to continually look for new ways to promote knowledge and package products to maintain the interest of network members."





EUNESE

European Network for Safety among Elderly

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Members news, announcements, requests

Dear EUNESE Members & Friends,

Please feel free to share with us and the rest members of the EUNESE any abstracts you have submitted in national and international conferences and any related news on elderly safety activities. We will be happy to further disseminate this information to our members.

4th National Conference " Falls Prevention in Older People", London, 12 March 2008

The fourth national falls conference provides an important update on raising awareness of falls and helping older people to lead active healthy lifestyles, with a focus on developing and improving falls prevention, services and practices locally and identifying those at risk of falling and understanding the contributory factors in practice. The conference closes with a joint session focusing on moving forward and the proactive steps taken to prevent falls in older people. You will have the opportunity to take part in an interactive panel session which will enable you to promote ideas and experiences towards future falls prevention, and share ideas with the panel of speakers from the day.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.healthcare-events.co.uk/conf/booking.php?action=home&id=96>



Survey on Elderly Abuse and Neglect

The European Commission has been concerned with the issue of Elder abuse and wishes to explore what is happening in relation to such abuse in different European countries. A survey is being conducted by the Centre for Health and Social Care Studies & Service Development, University of Sheffield in order to inform a review on issues of abuse and neglect amongst the elderly. It will include the extent of awareness about elder abuse, what is known about the nature and extent of abuse in EU countries, causes and risk factors, as well as interventions and responses to elder abuse. The survey's goal is to provide as many and useful information for the review as possible. Dr Bridget Penhale, Reader of Gerontology at the University of Sheffield has been assigned by the European Commission to undertake this survey. If you wish to take part in the survey, to provide information on elderly abuse about your own country and/or need more details on the project, you may contact Dr Penhale at: B.Penhale@sheffield.ac.uk



EUNESE fact sheet series for the five leading causes of unintentional injuries among EU senior citizens are now available in Spanish

The Spanish Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs have translated EUNESE facts sheets into Spanish.

Thanks to the new additional translations the EUNESE facts sheets up today can be addressed to at least 77% of population in EU-27.

For your information please visit:

www.euroipn.org/eunese/factsheets.htm



This Newsletter was developed in the context of the European Network for Safety among Elderly (EUNESE) project aiming to address injury prevention and safety promotion among senior citizens through an EU Network. The project run under the auspices of DG SANCO (Directorate C-Public Health and Risk Assessment, Health & Consumer Safety) and coordinated by CEREPRI.

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Membership: In order to become a member of EUNESE, please visit: www.euroipn.org/eunese/membership.htm or www.eunese.org (members area), fill in the application form and return it by e-mail to: eunese@med.uoa.gr