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Injuries and violence prevention

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Prevent: March 2007 (Issue 9)

Welcome to the new format of *Prevent: the Newsletter for the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention*. The new version is completely electronic and delivered to your email through an automated distribution list.

3rd MILESTONES IN A GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION MEETING (17-19 July 2007)

This 3rd Milestones meeting will be held in Scotland in July 2007, and is generously hosted by the Violence Reduction Unit of the Scottish Executive. It will focus on scaling up violence prevention globally, including primary prevention efforts, service delivery, data and monitoring, and outcome evaluation. It will be an opportunity to highlight recent advances and ongoing work in violence prevention at the regional and country level. We expect to invite ministers of health and other sectors from every WHO region as keynote speakers and presenters. Participants will be policy-makers, high-level planners and others with decision-making and follow-up authority at local, regional and international level. The meeting takes place on 17-19 July at Tulliallan Castle Kincardine, Fife.

[More information](#)

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RECENT EVENTS

October 2006

Release of UN Secretary General's Study on Violence Against Women On 9 October, an in-depth study on violence against women was presented to the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly.

[More information](#)

Release of UN Secretary General's Study on Violence Against Children

On 11-12 October, the UN Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children was presented to the

Third Committee of the UN General Assembly. The *World Report on Violence against Children*, which describes the global burden of violence against children, was subsequently launched in Geneva on 20 November 2006.

[Download the reports](#)

For further information, please contact
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WHO scales up child maltreatment prevention activities

As its contribution to follow up on the UN Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children, and as part of the ongoing WHO Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, WHO is scaling up its child maltreatment prevention activities. To help meet these prevention challenges, WHO has collaborated with the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) in the development of *Preventing child maltreatment: a guide for taking action and generating evidence* to assist countries to design and deliver programmes for the prevention of child maltreatment by parents and caregivers. The guide is a practical tool that will help governments implement the recommendations of the United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children. Currently available in English, the guide has also been translated into Arabic, French (thanks to support from the Canadian Public Health Association) and Standard Mandarin - hard and electronic copies in these additional languages will be available in the coming months.

[Download a copy of the guide](#)

For further information, please contact
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Forum on Youth Violence

The *International Forum on Youth Violence: A pending dialogue* was hosted in San Salvador, El Salvador on 26 October. Delegates from 11 countries in the Americas participated. The Forum was organized by the Inter American Coalition for the Prevention of Violence, the Central American Coalition for the Prevention of Youth Violence, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Washington Office for Latin America. The Forum ended with a Declaration calling on participants to increase their commitment for youth violence prevention and on governments to reform judicial responses.

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November 2006

Forum on the World Conference on Prevention of Family Violence

On 1-2 November, The International Policy Forum on the World Conference on Prevention of Family Violence 2006 took place in Calgary, Canada. Nearly 100 experts gathered to discuss policy making and programming for the prevention of family violence. The forum was hosted by Heather Forsyth, Minister, Alberta Children's Services, and included representatives from the Government of Canada and experts from Jordan, New Zealand and the USA. Dr Alex Butchart, Coordinator, Prevention of Violence, represented WHO. Outcomes will include a family violence prevention policy document for Alberta, and a global meeting report with generic recommendations for the development of family violence prevention policies and programmes.

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EUROCARE Meeting on Alcohol-Related Violence

On 20-22 November, the Finnish Centre for Health Promotion hosted a European Alcohol Policy meeting entitled "Bridging the Gap". The meeting focused on alcohol-related harm and was organized by EUROCARE with over 300 participants. The importance of controlling alcohol use was emphasized as one

of the most important strategies in injury and violence control.

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[Download fact sheets on interpersonal violence and alcohol](#)

Health and Violence Seminar Hosted by the Scottish Violence Reduction Alliance

On 27 November, the Scottish Violence Reduction Alliance, an initiative of the Scottish Executive and a Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) participant, hosted a one-day seminar on health and violence. Opened by Mr Andy Kerr, Minister for Health and Community Care, the health seminar followed earlier seminars on violence and justice, and violence and education, and was attended by senior government representatives and technical experts from all three sectors. Dr Alex Butchart, Coordinator, Prevention of Violence, represented WHO. Together, the three-part seminar series has built a shared violence reduction agenda among partners from the justice, education and health sectors. Detective Superintendent John Carnochan, Head of the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit, closed the meeting by calling on the participants from around Scotland to take a number of clearly defined next action steps in the areas of injury surveillance, education and primary prevention.

For further information, please visit the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit at
<http://www.actiononviolence.co.uk>

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December 2006

Prevention of Injury and Promotion of Safety in the European Union

On 12 December, the European Parliament adopted a proposal by the European Commission for a "Council Recommendation" on the prevention of injury and the promotion of safety (23/06/2006) COM(2006)0329, as well as a "Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council" on Actions for a Safer Europe (23/06/2006) COM(2006)0328. Although non-binding, these policy documents include a list of recommendations addressed to Member States on the prevention of violence and injuries, and set out Commission tasks for supporting the prevention of violence and injuries and promoting safety. As such they mark an important milestone for the prevention of violence and injury in the European Union, and set the basis for actions from both Member States and the Commission in the years to come.

[More information](#)

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Training Course for Injury and Violence Prevention Focal Points

From 17-19 December a regional training course for Ministry of Health injury and violence prevention focal points in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region was held in Cairo. Outcomes from the meeting include: a decision from the focal points to have TEACH-VIP formally integrated into curricula of schools of public health and other relevant academic curricula; agreement from the focal points to serve as dissemination conduits for information about MENTOR-VIP; the need for a training of trainers approach in the region to optimize use of resources available; and strong support for regular meetings of focal points in order to strengthen the network as a forum for exchange and advocacy.

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January 2007

European Seminar on Monitoring Systems on Child Abuse

On 18 January, the European Seminar on Monitoring Systems on Child Abuse was organized by ChildONEurope, the European Network of National Observatories on Childhood at the Innocenti Centre in Florence, Italy. WHO Regional Office for Europe made a presentation on 'The public health approach to child maltreatment prevention'. The meeting discussed the current state of monitoring child abuse in Europe and its future development. It was proposed that *Preventing child maltreatment: a guide to taking action and generating evidence* could be used as an important resource.

[Download a copy of the guide](#)

For further information, please contact
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Executive Board Draft Resolution on Emergency Care Systems

On 26 January, the WHO Executive Board adopted a draft Resolution on Emergency Care Systems. This Resolution, initially proposed by Romania and Thailand, welcomes existing WHO guidelines on emergency care, draws the attention of governments to the need to strengthen pre-hospital and emergency trauma care systems (including mass casualty management efforts), and describes a number of steps governments could take. The draft Resolution will be discussed further during the World Health Assembly in May.

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[Download a copy of Prehospital trauma care systems](#)

[Download a copy of Guidelines for essential trauma care](#)

Consultative Review on Phase I of the Armed Violence Prevention Programme

From 30-31 January, a consultative review on Phase 1 of the Armed Violence Prevention Programme (AVPP) was held in Panama City, Panama. The consultation brought together approximately 50 participants from six UN agencies; the United Kingdom's Department for International Development; a range of NGO's and academics working on armed violence issues, and the AVPP country teams and government representatives from Brazil and El Salvador. There was strong support provided during the meeting for the approach taken by AVPP both globally and within Brazil and El Salvador, and the meeting concluded with consensus on the value of the AVPP approach and a series of recommendations to increase inter-agency collaboration on the prevention of armed violence.

[Further information on the Armed Violence Prevention Programme](#)

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February 2007

TEACH-VIP Training

On 20-22 February, about 20 health professionals from Benin, Burundi, Cameroun, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda participated in a training of trainers in Kigali, Rwanda. The training was intended to provide participants with the background to integrate TEACH-VIP into training practices in schools of public health, medicine, and nursing.

[Download a copy of the TEACH-VIP Users' Manual](#)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Regional Launch of UN Secretary-General's Report on Violence Against Children

In April (to be confirmed), the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean plans to launch the Arabic version of the UN Secretary-General's Report on Violence Against Children. In addition, an Arabic version of *Preventing child maltreatment: a guide to taking action and generating evidence* will be launched in conjunction with an interactive conference that will involve the identification of key strategic action areas for implementation based on the recommendations of UN study.

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World Health Assembly

On 14-25 May, the Sixtieth World Health Assembly convenes in Geneva. During the WHA, Member States will discuss a draft Resolution on Emergency Care Systems, and review a progress report on the *World report on violence and health: implementation of recommendations*.

[Download a copy of the draft resolution](#)

Training in Economic Costing of Violence

On 5-6 June, a training workshop on the economic costing of injuries due to interpersonal and self-directed violence will take place in [to be announced: Nairobi, Kenya; Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania; Kampala, Uganda] with representatives from Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

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US Institutes of Medicine / National Academy of Sciences Workshop

On 26-27 June, a US Institutes of Medicine / National Academy of Sciences workshop on Preventing Violence In Low- and Middle-income Countries: Finding a Place on the Global Health Agenda will be held in Washington, DC.

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PUBLICATIONS

Preventing injuries and violence: a guide for ministries of health

WHO will formally release in May 2007 the document *Preventing injuries and violence: a guide for ministries of health* which clearly sets out the role of ministries of health in the prevention and management of injuries and violence and the development of effective injury and violence prevention programmes.

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National Reports on Violence and Health

In keeping with the World Health Assembly Resolution 56.24, a national report on violence and health was completed for Malaysia (August 2006), Mongolia (October 2006), and most recently for Mexico

(January 2007).

To download a copy of the national report on violence and health for Mexico, *Informe Nacional sobre Violencia y Salud*, visit

<http://sinais.salud.gob.mx/violenciaysalud/>

National responses to preventing violence and unintentional injuries: WHO European survey (2006)

The WHO Regional Office for Europe released the document *National responses to preventing violence and unintentional injuries: WHO European survey*. The document describes results of efforts to identify country-specific areas for improvement with regards to the prevention of violence and unintentional injuries in Europe and provides a useful baseline for planning future activities.

[Download a copy of the document](#)

Interpersonal violence and alcohol in the Russian Federation - A policy briefing (2006)

This report documents increases in violent crime and alcohol consumption in the Russian Federation since the late 1980s with harmful health and social consequences for individuals, their families, friends and communities. It highlights the multifaceted nature of alcohol-related violence and the need for a public health partnership involving health, social, education and criminal justice agencies. The Russian Federation is working closely with WHO to develop a public health approach to preventing violence.

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