





PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE

TO THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

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SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Social and Economic Crisis

- Unemployment
- Impoverishment
- Negative effects on self-esteem and social inclusion

Increase of the demand for social support networks and public health services

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Efficient and prompt responses to immediate risks on Public Health

 Taking advantage of the opportunities resulting from the crisis in order to improve the delivery of health services

GUIDANCE FROM WHO

- Maintaining current information systems
- Assessing the effects on Health determinants
- Taking priority actions for the most vulnerable populations

WHO - The Financial Crisis and Global Health

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- Regular monitoring of the impact of the economic crisis;
- Ensuring Health and Long Term Care

First Report on the Social Impact of crisis in Europe

OSLO MEETING

 Identification of Health risks resulting from the crisis, as well as responses to minimize its impact

GENERAL APPROACH

1st scenario

Population groups with low social-economic level (poverty and exclusion)

- Communities already identified
- Responses already in the field
- Reinforcement of social and health pre-existing support

2nd scenario

Population groups affected by "sudden impoverishment".

- Difficult to identify ("The hidden poor")
- Need for new social and health measures
- Implementation of new responses

FIRST LINE APPROACH

1. Food and Diet

- Basic needs
- Food quality and local culture: "Eat cheap and healthy"

2. Self-esteem

- Promotion: Feeling useful
- Protection: Depression, aggressiveness

3. Access to Health Care

- Access to general care (prevention, screening, treatment, rehabilitation)
- Access to medicines

OPERATIONAL PHASE

"Health intelligence "

(Diagnosis/ Monitoring)

Secondary Information

(pre-existing sources)

Health **Services** **Support** lines

Pharma cies

Social Security

Primary Information (new sources)

> **Public Health** Surveillance network

"Sentinel Net"

Action

General Recommendations

Good practices Technical guidance

Local Action

- Call Centre
- Sentinel nurses

Reinforcement of social structures: e.g. Schools

Research and Action (translational research)

- Impact of the crisis
- Response effectiveness
- Post-crisis scenarios

"Health Intelligence"

Monitoring

Health Indicators

(pre-existing sources; regularly collected indicators)

Data: ANF, INFARMED

Health

Diagnosis/ Monitoring



Call Centre
Monitoring of reported problems



Direct reporting from previously selected Hospitals Early warning signs

Media
News analysis

Demonstration Local Areas

Academic research ENSP



Workshops and exercises (citizens)

Sentinel Nurses Family follow-up

- Identification of early warning signs
- Characterization of family situation
- Advice/Counselling
- Referral (social or health services)
- Regular monitoring/evaluation

HEALTH INDICATORS

Early warning signs

- Significant reduction of family income
- Unemployment situation inside the family
- Increase of the number of people with self-esteem problems
- Early introduction of cow milk and/or inadequate diet in infants
- Shift of the usual consumption pattern of some drug groups anti-depressives, sedatives, anti-hypertensives, analgesics, statins
- Increase of the number of calls to "Saúde 24" related to nutrition, depression, access to care and medication issues

	Identification	Information	Action
Diet	People with basic food needs	Referral to Social and/or Health Services	 Dissemination of Menus, cheap and healthy recipes Helping people to live with reduced income Healthy Cooking Courses (addressees: cooks and families)
			 Information on the nutritional value of certain foods (e.g. eggs, frozen meat or fish) Promotion of maternal breast feeding
			- Articulation with the Ministry of Education to guarantee meals for children in case of need, including weekends and holidays

	Identification	Information	Action
Self- esteem	Low self-esteem	Referral to Social and/or Health Services	 Training of personnel in Public Services, particularly those who deal directly with the public, on how to promote self-esteem. Working with self-help groups and civil society organizations
			- Updating of guidance for Health Care Workers

	Identification	Information	Action		
Access to care	Identify people with difficulties in acceding to health services	Referral to Social and/or Health Services	- Current Primary Care reforms mean opportunities to deal with the crisis		
	and/or essential medicines		- Reinforcement of Mobile Units already operating		
			- Education and Training of Health professionals		
			-Implementation of the Prestige Prize for good practices		









Plan - 2009

IDENTIFICATION	● Task Force ● dia	gnostic phase									
IDENTIFICATION	Oslo Meeting										
	Definition of strategic measures										
	 Characterization of specific measures on food, self-esteem and access to care 										
	Profile of the situation										
INFORMATION	jan feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
ACTION	• articulat	ion with servic • Trai	oning of sen activities monito Plata	tinel nurses s for identific oring, evaluat form against ication of diff	ion and rese obesity	arch					