

EHRM final report, Appendix 3:

2nd EHRM Steering Committee Meeting

Helsinki 4-5 May 2001

Minutes

draft 28.6.2001

Present:

Kari Kuulasmaa (SC member) (Chair)
Alun Evans (SC member)
Aushra Shatchkute (SC member)
Ulrich Keil (SC member)
Simona Giampaoli (SC member)
Aulikki Nissinen (observer)
Hanna Tolonen (observer)
Hermann Wolf (observer)
Tiina Laatikainen (observer)
Zygimantas Cepaitis (observer)
Pekka Jousilahti (observer)
Tuula Virman-Ojanen (observer)

Apologies:

Henriette Chamouillet (SC member, EU)
Philippe Amouyel (SC member)

Opening of the meeting

The agenda was approved, later updated for Saturday. KK welcomed the new member (SG) of the SC and introduced the participants of the meeting. Erkki Vartiainen has left to Scotland, will return at the beginning of November 2001. Pekka Puska has moved to Geneva, AN has come to his place. AN briefly introduced herself and ETEO to the meeting.

Overview

KK gave an overview of the project. More details about EU's Health Monitoring Programme (HMP) is available at http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/index_en.html. Continuation of the programme is still open. Aushra mentioned about an agreement of co-operation between WHO and EU, and promised to send a copy of it to KK. SG told about the EUROCISS project.

Progress of the project

Review of the minutes of the First Meeting of National Principal Investigators

UK told that the German National Survey should be added under title "Surveys to chosen".

Status of Product 1

KK gave a short status report of the Product 1. It was reviewed in the PI meeting. Since then HW has reviewed and drafted parts of it, and contacted some of the other studies. KK/Erkki Vartiainen will contact the rest of them.

Status of Product 2

KK: indicator part updated. The parts on organizing local studies and international collaboration have been drafted.

The need to include alcohol to Product 2 was discussed. AS told that CINDI has studied alcohol questionnaires and availability of data in different countries. Recommendations could be made based on CINDI's results. AN agreed. KK thought that it should only be mentioned that alcohol is covered by other projects. UK gave as a reference the name of the book "Alcohol and Cardiovascular Disease".

Status of Product 3

Product 3 is at a preliminary state, but it will be the big task for summer.

Status of Product 4

KK introduced four alternative suggestions of the type of the next big EHRM meeting:

1. PI meeting to finalize Product 1-3
2. PI meeting focusing on Product 3 and on advocating surveys locally
3. Meeting advocating risk factor surveys. It would involve
 - PIs
 - nationally influential people proposed by PIs
4. Same as 3, but jointly with other survey projects of the HMP:
 - HIS/HES
 - EFCOSUM

Discussion will continue on Saturday.

Product 1

HW described the progress so far, emphasizing the changes that have been made since February.

Product 2

Parts I and IV were reviewed and corrections made.

Agenda

The agenda was updated for the rest of the meeting as follows:

- Conferences
- Product 4
- International collaboration
- Organizing local surveys
- Organizing body
- Smoking questionnaire
- Product 3
- Next SC meeting

Conferences

HT has submitted an abstract on EHRM Project titled "Proposal to standardize chronic disease risk factor surveys in Europe", to "the Monitoring Health Behaviors - Towards Global Surveillance" -meeting, which will take place in Finland on 1-3 October 2001. It was agreed that the format of the authorship standard "HT for the European Health Risk Monitoring Project" was appropriate.

KK and HT will submit an abstract on EHRM Project for the Annual Meeting of the European Health Association (EUPHA), which will take place in Brussels on 6-8 December 2001. The theme of the meeting is "Health information systems throughout Europe and their interaction with public health policy development and actions.

Product 4

The contents and format of the next PI meeting were discussed, starting from the 4 alternatives specified in the item "status of Product 4" above.

AE: We need to concentrate on Product 3. The products must be ready before selling them. This supports option 1.

AS: An outsider should review and comment on the products, which should then be advocated to others than project's own PIs.

AN: It is important that the Products lead to action in practise. Quality control of the Products is important.

UK: We could invite other groups of the HMP, close to us, to the meeting. SG: Important to invite other groups too, but not too many. Otherwise the meeting will become too big. KK: mainly HIS/HES and EFCOSUM would be relevant.

AS: We could consider two bigger meetings and drop the next SC meeting; one to finalize the products, one to promote. KK: EU should be involved in the promotion.

The the quality control of the products was discussed. KK: Our NPIs are experts? AS: They should be people outside EHRM or MONICA. UK: Products could be reviewed by two outside reviewers, no need to do it in a meeting

AS: Outside experts + chair persons from relevant groups of the HMP should meet, instead of SC meeting. UK suggested Martin Bobak, Darwin Labarthe and Russel Luepker for possible reviewers. SG added Alfredo Morabia to the list.

KK concluded the discussion: Products will be sent for review for outsiders if there is enough time. KK will discuss with HIS/HES and EFCOSUM about arranging a joint meeting. Maybe a SC telephone conference will be needed to agree about details of the big meeting. If we do not get agreement with the two other projects, then will arrange something between alternatives 1 and 2.

Proposed time for the meeting is between 1st and 10th of November 2001.

AN: DeBacker will be important when promoting the programme as Belgium will held the next presidency of the EU. The president often arranges "advocating meetings".

Product 2

Parts "International collaboration" and "Organizing local surveys" were reviewed.

Product 3

HT introduced the progress so far. The form at in which the indicators should be presented (figures, tables etc) were discussed. HIEMS was mentioned as an example. KK will contact the people preparing HIEMS and suggest co-operation on MONICA data.

Next meeting

It was decided not to agree on next meeting. Telephone conferences will be held when needed.

Action items:

- List of indicators will be done before summer holidays
- KK will contact the leaders of HIS/HES and EFCOSUM projects on possible collaboration in Product 4 and advocating surveys.
- Product 2 will be edited according to the meeting
- Product 1 and 2 will be reviewed by outsiders if there will be time

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