



2nd World Congress on

Public Health & Nutrition

March 22-23, 2017 | Rome, Italy

Keynote Forum Day 1

Public Health 2017

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Sandra Sikic

Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health, Croatia

SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY CONTROL (SEEN-FSQC)

A balanced diet and safe foods are one of the key elements of health. High energy intake and lack of physical activity result in an increase of overweight and obesity, which cause a number of health problems. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the leading causes of death in the European Region. Cardiovascular diseases are the leading causes of death in Croatia with the rate of 47% and 45, 5 % in the City of Zagreb in 2015. NCDs are becoming a major health, economic and social issue. On the other hand, food production is one of the most important industries in the world. Advantages of globalization are obvious, but there is a need for risk management and standardization to provide safe and quality food products. With the aim of strengthening the role of public health institutions and importance of food safety in different South-Eastern European regions, Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health, Zagreb, Croatia initiated the foundation of South-East European Network for Food Safety and Quality Control (SEEN-FSQC). The countries in South-East Europe were politically and economically connected in the past and food safety was regulated by the same directives. Nowadays, these countries are politically independent and they belong to different political and economic associations (EU, CEFTA). Applied Food Safety Directives might be different in each country; therefore SEEN-FSQC is initiating a standardization of public health activities and food control in South-East region of Europe. SEEN-FSQC ensures formation of an expert group for the purpose of sharing knowledge, training and providing help to decision-makers, as well as education and international co-operation. Network members are the most appreciated institutions and scientific laboratories, including public health institutions, faculties that work in food production process in any way and leading private laboratories from South-East Europe.

Biography

Sandra Sikic has her expertise in environmental health. Currently she works as a Deputy Director in the Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health, Zagreb. She graduated in chemistry from the Faculty of Science in Zagreb and has a Ph.D. in natural sciences, biology. She completed one-year specialist training at the Business Academy Experta in Zagreb and gained the title Health Manager. She is a lecturer in the field of public health and environmental health at the University of Applied Health Sciences. She attended a number of training and professional education courses both in Croatia and European Union. She's the author of numerous professional and scientific papers. Further professional interest is in toxicology, water and food safety as well as other environmental factors.

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Luigi Montano

ASL Salerno, Italy

HUMAN SEMEN AS AN EARLY AND RELIABLE TOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ON HUMAN HEALTH: ECOFOODFERTILITY PROJECT

Statement of the Problem: Several studies have shown a dramatic reduction of male fertility in many industrialized countries and infertility is becoming a top priority for the public health. A pilot biomonitoring study of EcoFoodFertility Project a multicenter, multidisciplinary research connecting human life-style and dietary habits to the environmental consequences of exposure to pollutants, was conducted in Campania region (Italy) on a cohort of clinically healthy male residents in “Land of Fires” (high environmental impact- HEI) compared with a similar cohort living in the rural area of the same Region, Alto-MedioSele (low environmental impact–LEI).

Methodology and Theoretical Orientation: 110 healthy males were recruited from HEI and LEI areas (age 28±5years). Enrollment criteria were no smoking, no habitual alcohol drinking and no occupational exposure. In both semen and blood we analyzed 22 trace elements by optical emission spectrometry and total antioxidant capacity (TAC) by spectrophotometry. In a randomly subset of 20 subjects from each group, we analyzed sperm DNA fragmentation index (DFI) by Sperm Chromatin Dispersion test and antioxidant enzyme activities in the semen (Glutathione reductase, Glutathione peroxidase) by spectrophotometry.

Findings: HEI subjects showed significantly higher values ($p < 0.05$) for Al, Mn, Cr, Mg, Li, Co, Ca in blood, as well as for Cr, Cu and Zn in the semen, while Fe was lower in the semen of HEI-group ($p < 0.05$). Immotile sperms and the DFI were both higher ($p < 0.026$ and $p < 0.01$, respectively) in HEI-group. TAC in blood showed no differences, while TAC, GSR and GpX in the seminal plasma were significantly lower in the HEI-group ($p < 0.05$). The percentage of immotile sperms showed significant ($p < 0.005$) inverse correlations with both TAC and GSH in semen.

Conclusion & Significance: These results suggest sperm motility, DFI, antioxidant capacity, chemical element pattern are influenced by high environmental pressure and human semen could be used as an early and reliable tool of environmental impact assessment on human health, useful for innovative prevention programs and health surveillance in risk areas.

Biography

Luigi Montano, UroAndrologist, has his expertise in Environmental Pathology and his interest is focused on the reproductive health in high environmental risk areas. In fact, he is the creator and Coordinator of EcoFoodFertility project a multicenter, multidisciplinary research connecting human life-style and dietary habits to the environmental consequences of exposure to pollutants with the aim of: 1. Developing a better understanding of the environmental impact of pollutants on healthy humans in areas with different environmental impacts; 2. Use human semen as an early and sensitive biomarker of environmental exposure to pollutants; 3. Identify dietary approaches and/or detoxifying therapy in order to improve the human semen quality in healthy men who living in polluted areas. The project is starting up in several environmental risk areas of Italy and draw up a new model of research for Environmental Impact Assessment and for Primary Prevention of Risk Areas.

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John-Jules Ch Meyer

Utrecht University, Netherlands

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH CARE

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming more and more ubiquitous, also witness the ‘hype’ of the self-driving car the call for a ban on the use of smart killer robots in warfare, and the fear of AI by well-known persons, including some excellent scientists like Stephen Hawking, "The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race". But AI also invades health care and related fields ever more. And I believe this is a good thing. Primarily inspired by work we have done at the Alan Turing Institute Almere (ATIA), in this invited talk I'll review a number of applications of AI in health care and medicine. I'll talk about advanced diagnostic techniques based on machine learning, modeling techniques and also artificial companions to assist with the care of patients in a hospital or home setting. These companions are able to monitor the behavior of patients, help them remind of taking medication, but also can have conversations with them giving them the feeling that they are cared for. This is important in times where health care is economized upon like we face in The Netherlands. Moreover, so-called serious games can be used to train health care professionals. In Utrecht we have worked on the personalization of this type of games involving automatic adaptation to knowledge and skills of the user/trainee.

Biography

John-Jules Ch. Meyer studied Mathematics with Computer Science and Digital Signal Processing at Leyden University. He obtained his Ph.D. from the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam on a subject in theoretical computer science. Since 1993 he has been a full professor of computer science, and artificial intelligence in particular, at Utrecht University. At the moment he is heading the Artificial Intelligence Division within the Department of Information and Computing Sciences and is programme leader of the AI Master of the UU. Currently he is also the CSO of the Alan Turing Institute Almere, which specializes in multi-disciplinary research for the health sciences, and the CEO of Companion Diagnostics Ltd. as a part of Emotional Brain Ltd. He has over 500 peer-reviewed publications in international journals and conference proceedings. In 2005 he was appointed as a Fellow of the European Coordinating Committee for Artificial Intelligence.

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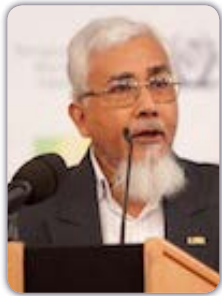
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Mohammad Shahjahan

Bangladesh Center for Communication Programs (BCCP), Bangladesh

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES OF INTEGRATING NUTRITION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Though the Government of Bangladesh health infrastructure and NGO supported health services have improved over the years mainstreaming nutrition services is not yet implemented at scale. There is low awareness among people in the rural areas about nutrition and availability of services. In order to address the nutritional needs of the community especially for the children, adolescent and pregnant women, appropriate knowledge and use of nutrition, hygiene, and sanitation practices by the community is required. Bangladesh Center for Communication Programs (BCCP), a leading non-government strategic communication organization in Bangladesh for the social development sector, implemented Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) program for public health where nutrition issue was given priority. BCCP worked with the government's Institute of Public Health & Nutrition (IPHN) to strengthen the essential SBCC services through government infrastructure. BCCP advocated for, and created, a SBCC team within IPHN to give emphasis to high-quality SBCC for nutrition. Conducted a series of trainings with the team, and facilitated to integrate nutrition with other population and health services. Through IPHN, BCCP also introduced appropriate information and communication technology for SBCC and Knowledge Management, where nutrition was an important component. BCCP partnered with the NGO Health Service Delivery Project and the urban primary health care service delivery project to promote positive health and nutrition practices at community level. These projects focused on improvements in knowledge and practice, and integration of nutrition into current health delivery service through a community based approach, so that a significant proportion of households are reached with appropriate nutritional practices messages. This improved access to and use of services and contributed in reducing under-nutrition and improving the overall nutrition situation in the intervention areas. Building upon the learning from these projects, it is important to scale up these strategic communication approaches especially through government services.

Biography

Shahjahan is the founder Director and CEO of Bangladesh Center for Communication Programs (BCCP) established in 1996 as the successor to the Bangladesh country office of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Communication Programs (JHU.CCP). He has more than 26 years of experience in the field of strategic communication including developing communication strategy; planning, designing and implementation of large scale campaigns; community mobilization intervention; management and monitoring of programs; evaluation, etc. He also has extensive experience in developing training curriculum, communication materials and capacity building workshops. Previously, Shahjahan acted as the Deputy Country Representative of JHU.CCP Bangladesh Program. Shahjahan has a Masters degree in Economics and a Bachelor degree in Law.

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Neha Agrawal

Aligarh Muslim University, India

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN NUTRITIONAL STATUS AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF ELDERLY SUBJECTS

Statement of the Problem: Malnutrition in the elderly has an evident impact on their general health and quality of life. Analysis of data of the Geriatric Oral Health Assessment Index (GOHAI) and their association with the Mini Nutritional Assessment (MNA) results improves our understanding of the complex relationship between oral health and malnutrition.

Methodology: A cross-sectional study was conducted on 503 Indian elderly attending OPD of Dental College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. Data on socio demographics and oral health status were gathered by interview and examination. Oral health-related quality of life was evaluated using the Geriatric Oral Health Assessment Index (GOHAI), and malnutrition risk using the Mini Nutritional Assessment (MNA).

Results: The mean GOHAI score was 48.63 ± 7.9 for men and 45.96 ± 7.2 for women. Higher number of subjects {365 (72.5%)}, had low perception (GOHAI < 57) of oral health. Higher mean MNA score was found in women as compared to the men ($p < 0.05$). Pearson's correlation coefficient showed a strong association between total GOHAI and MNA scores.

Conclusion: Oral health-related quality of life was strongly associated with nutritional deficit. It requires a greater integration between dentistry and nutrition in the health promotion of older adults.

Biography

Neha Agrawal has done her MDS in department of Public Health Dentistry. Currently she is working as Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontics and Community Dentistry, Dr. Z A Dental College, AMU, Aligarh. She has published more than 30 papers in International and National journals of repute. She has been invited as guest speaker in Indian Dental Association. She has presented several papers in state, national and international conferences.

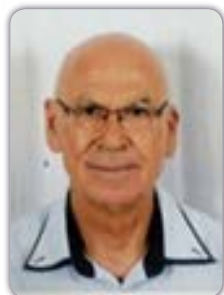
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Subhi Badarni

Sakhnin College, Israel

SCHOOL HEALTHY LIFESTYLE OF NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES PROMOTION PROJECT AMONG ALMOTANABI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN SAKHNIN CITY, ISRAEL 2015

The nutrition condition among school pupils in the world has gotten worse to an epidemic situation. The obesity rate is 25% in the developed countries while among Arab pupils in Israel, it has risen by 34%. Only 23% of the pupils perform physical activities weekly. The objectives of this article are raising awareness and changing behavior among pupils and their parents about healthy nutrition and the importance of physical activity; reducing 40% of obesity among pupils; increasing the physical activities by 60% on a weekly basis among school pupils. Achieving these objectives requires conducting Body Mass Index (B.M.I) survey by skilled nurses for all school pupils before and after the health promotion invention program at school; conducting a needs assessment study; a questionnaire. School should continue using the program for the next 5 years in such a way that would make other schools use it. In addition, more community volunteers and sponsors as well as the school community should be recruited as part of the program.

Biography

Subhi Badarni has been graduated from Hadassa School, the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, majoring in social and community medicine, Israel. He started working at the Health Ministry in Akko as head of health education and promotion. Currently he works as a lecturer of health promotion at Sakhnin College.

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