



EURO-URHIS 2 NEWSLETTER

PARTNERS

UK

- * University of Manchester
- * University of Liverpool
- * North West Regional Health Brussels Office

The Netherlands

- * Municipal Health Service, Utrecht
- * National Institute for Public Health & The Environment
- * Municipal Health Service, Amsterdam

Romania

- * The Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine & Pharmacy, Epidemiology Department

Norway

- * The Norwegian Institute of Public Health

Lithuania

- * Kaunas University of Medicine

Slovenia

- * Regional Public Health & Health Promotion Centre

Germany

- * Institute for Public Health, North Rhine, Westphalia

Slovakia

- * Slovak Public Health Association

Turkey

- * Hacettepe University, Department of Public Health

Vietnam

- * Pham Ngoc Thach University of Medicine

Latvia

- * Latvian Public Health Agency

Macedonia

- * South East European University

France

- * National Federation of Regional Health Observatories

LIVERPOOL WORKSHOP

The Liverpool Training Workshop held in September proved a resounding success.

With 29 delegates the 4 day workshop gave all the partners attending the opportunity to review the tools for URHIS-2, to provide feedback on the content and raise specific questions regarding their countries requirements and was led by the University of Liverpool.

Arpana Verma introduced the meeting and set the tone for the workshop. The day was spent introducing and discussing the methodological issues surrounding the existing data collection.

Day 2 was dedicated to the Adult survey starting off with a review of the adult survey by Chris Birt followed by all delegates completing the survey and providing feedback on the methodological issues.

In the afternoon the workshop split into breakaway groups to discuss the problems and limitations of the adult survey relevant to each city and then provided feedback to the whole workshop on their findings.

Day 3 was dedicated to the Youth survey starting with a review of the tools by Dan Pope.

The delegates agreed that the best method for conducting the survey was through schools.

The delegates went on to complete the questionnaire and provide feedback on the methodological issues.

In the afternoon, again, the workshop split into breakaway groups to discuss the problems and limitations of the youth survey relevant to each city and then provided feedback to the whole workshop on their findings.

The final day was devoted to discussing ethics issues, the timelines for the surveys (more on this later) and general management issues.

The Liverpool and Manchester teams were thanked for their hard work in organising the meeting and it was acknowledged by all the delegates that the workshop had been useful and informative and that all the delegates had the opportunity to discuss their specific requirements and left the workshop with a greater understanding of the project.

Following the meeting the wealth of feedback generated from the workshop was reviewed in depth and the database, data collection, protocols and surveys have been revised based on the outcomes from the workshop.

The next stage is Phase II of the piloting of the adult survey in Liverpool and Manchester.

Urban Area Data Collection from **30** cities in **12** European countries and Vietnam

Objectives

What do we hope to achieve through EURO-URHIS 2?

- * To collect data at urban area level
- * To provide tools for evidence based policy
- * To develop methods for cross-sectional and longitudinal assessment for urban population health, including all relevant determinants of health
- * To validate these tools and methods by using existing population-based registries and databases
- * To apply the tools in the field and ensure they are easy and intuitive to use by policy makers

Acknowledgements

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WHERE ARE WE UP TO AND WHAT IS THE MAIN FOCUS NOW?

During EURO-URHIS's workshop in Liverpool in September, Dr Nigel Bruce led a session entitled EURO-URHIS 2: Next Steps. Dr Bruce's focus was the key stages and timetables which will lead to the finalising of the data collection tools, and the protocols for the use of the survey instruments.

Since the first steering meeting in Dusseldorf, when indicators developed in EURO-URHIS 1 were reviewed, and 4 data collection streams were agreed, (adult surveys; youth surveys; existing data; policy) considerable work has been done to develop the data collection tools. In Oslo the tools were reviewed and developed into a working draft which was submitted to the EC in July. During the workshop, the first phase of piloting took place and practical questions about feasibility and cost were discussed.

The next stage of development will take place according to the following schedule:

Between now and the January steering meeting, drafts of the collection tools for existing data will be circulated. These will be ratified in the steering meeting and the data collection will begin in February.

The draft adult survey will be circulated in December, and the translation process will take place between December and February with data collection starting in May (or April if possible to ensure that the data collection is complete before holidays begin in July)

The process for the draft youth survey will be the same as above, but the data collection will take place between September and October (or October and November to avoid the busy start of term).

All data entry will start a month after data collection begins.

Key to the successful collection of data will be the protocol for the use of the survey instruments, which will ensure that standardised methods are used and that surveys are completed within available resources. A protocol development process and tool will be available in October. In October and November, Steering Group members will use the tool to work out how to conduct data collection in their own city. Feedback on this will be discussed in November and December and a revised protocol brought to the next Steering Group meeting in January for ratification.

Workshop 2 will happen directly after the Steering Group Meeting, and will prepare participants to train their own teams in the use of the Data Collection tools and the Data Entry system.

MEET THE TEAM



WP4 LEADER:
CHRIS BIRT

- **Chris Birt is a public health physician, employed by the University of Liverpool (Division of Public Health) and by Sefton Primary Care Trust (PCT) and honorary fellow of the university of Manchester**
- **He has set up the North West Health Brussels Office (NWHBO) and also Heart of Mersey, an influential and respected cardiovascular diseases prevention project**
- **His research interests include cardiovascular epidemiology and epidemiology and public health management within a European context**
- **For more information see www.urhis.eu**

Significant Events

- **Training workshop 1 was held on 7 - 10 September 2009 in Liverpool, UK minutes of the meeting are on the [website](#)**
- **EU health forum Gastein, Austria , 18–20 October 2009**
- **Training workshop 2 to be held in Maribor, Slovenia 19th–22nd January 2010**
- **Urban Health Workshops and presentations at EUPHA 2009 conference in Lodz, Poland (www.eupha.org)**
- **The 11th International Hepatitis C Conference, 16th November 2009, Manchester, UK (www.hepc09.org.uk)**
- **ICUH 2009, Nairobi 18-20 November 2009**
- **Health Impact Assessment Conference 2009, Rotterdam 15-16 October 2009**

Other activities

Arpana Verma presented EURO URHIS-2 at the EU forum, Gastein, and the Health Impact Assessment Conference, Rotterdam.

EUHSID Newsletter #2- The EUHSID (European Health Surveys Information Database) project is an inventory of national and multi-country health surveys. The information is included in the HIS/HES database and is accessible online. The newsletter including links to can be found at <http://www.euhsid.org/docs/Newsletter/Newsletter2.htm>

The next training workshop will be held in Maribor, Slovenia.



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