

# Learning & Sharing Conference

## *Multidisciplinary Case Management Training Program for the Care and Treatment of Pediatric Cancer in CEE*

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**Quality Improvement Through Scaling up Evidence based Practices, Training  
and Assessment of Cancer Services**



# Project HOPE Foundation



since 1958

- Improving health via education, training, capacity building, targeted humanitarian assistance, health policy advise
- Present in 5 continents, 37 countries

## Latin America & Caribbean

Mexico  
Guatemala  
Nicaragua  
Honduras  
Dominican Republic  
Grenada  
Peru

## Central/Eastern Europe

Hungary  
Poland  
Bosnia  
Czech Republic  
Romania  
Macedonia  
Lithuania

## Russia/Eurasia

Armenia  
Russia  
Ukraine  
Tajikistan  
Uzbekistan  
Kyrgyzstan  
Kazakhstan  
Turkmenistan

## China

## Middle East

Iraq  
Jordan  
Egypt

## South East Asia

Thailand  
Indonesia  
India

## Africa

Malawi  
Mozambique  
South Africa  
Namibia



# Project HOPE in CEE



- **1974** Medical Education Exchange program at Polish American Children's Hospital in Krakow, Poland
- **1991-2002** Women's health in Hungary, Breast health programs in 4 CEE countries, Regional Training for Young Oncologists in Poland
- **1996-2005** Bosnia Health Reforms, WHO PHC Reform in Kosovo programs
- **2003-2008** HIV/AIDS program in 7 countries of the West Balkans, HIV/AIDS Case Management program in Lithuania
- **2005** Perinatal Centre of Excellence program in Romania
- **3535 health care managers trained in 10 CEE countries /1473 institutions represented /1039 change projects designed /80% of team projects implemented**



# Need – Closing the gap

Despite recent developments, the gap between Eastern and Western Europe childhood cancer survival rates and quality of care persists

## Needs to be addressed:

- Well trained personnel
- High quality, coordinated care
- Well-functioning support systems

	Incidence	Survival
Europe	130.9	63
Czech R	124.9	50
Hungary	119.6	57
Poland	106.5	68
Romania	101.8	33

Table 1. National estimates of incidence five-year observed cumulative survival (0-14); Source: ACCIS (Automated Childhood Cancer Information System) <http://www-dep.iarc.fr/accis/data.htm>

# Intervention

## Multidisciplinary Case Management Training Program for the Care and Treatment of Pediatric Cancer in CEE

**Goal** Program aims to improve the quality of life of children suffering from cancer and reduce the burden of childhood cancer in four countries (CzR, Hun, Rom, Pol) via better coordination of medical and psycho-social care using the case management approach

### **Objectives**

- Develop standards in case management for pediatric cancer patients and create a locally adapted and validated curriculum for case management training
- Improve the knowledge and practical skills of health and social care providers in pediatric cancer to provide case management
- Establish a network of health professionals working in health and social institutions that use the case management approach

# Intervention

**Duration** Two years: October 2009 – September 2011

**Target group** Multidisciplinary Case Management teams of Pediatric Oncologist, Pediatric Nurse, Psycho-oncologist, Social Worker, Family Member

**Training of Trainers** Technique which creates a pool of Master Trainers who are able to provide continuous professional education and promoting the approach of case management in practice

**Ultimate beneficiaries** Children with cancer and their families

# Key activities and progress to date

## 1. SenTAG – Senior Technical Advisory Group

- January 13-14, 2010 in Krakow, Poland
- Participants: Key Experts from CEE, UK and US
- Goals:
  - a. development of standards in case management for pediatric cancer patients
  - b. development of curriculum for the training
  - c. development of Program M&E Plan



## 2. Program Recruitment and Selection Process

- 12 Multidisciplinary Case Management (MCM) teams selected: two (2) from Czech Republic, three (3) from Hungary, four (4) from Poland and three (3) from Romania

## 3. Evaluation Plan and Program Curriculum Development

# Key activities and progress to date

## 4. Practice-based Training for the MCM teams

- May 14-18, 2010 in UCH Kraków, Poland
- Participants: 48 health and social care providers
- Topics covered:
  - a. principles of case management
  - b. Training of Trainers component
- MCM teams assigned to:
  - a. map available services for patients and families
  - b. create an implementation plan of a case management project to be introduced in each respective partner institution

## 5. Evaluate and adapt the Curriculum

## 6. Assist teams in establishing case management models



# Outcomes and Impact

- **48 health professionals/ Master Trainers with increased knowledge and practical skills in pediatric cancer case management**
- **Piloted and validated case management curriculum**
- **Evidence-based recommendations for pediatric cancer case management**
- **Integrated network of pediatric cancer care and treatment professionals**
- **Information booklet for patients and their families on the available services**
- **Final beneficiaries – around 300 new cases of pediatric cancer per year in each of 12 Oncology Centers and their relatives will benefit from the project getting better quality of care**

# Key Challenges

- **Differences in organization of pediatric care between participating countries**
- **Lack of personnel – especially Psycho-oncologists**
- **Project team assignment is an important learning tool and requires constant assistance from the Program Coordinator and Key Consultants**

# Key Lessons Learned

- **Key Consultants from each country should be involved in the program and especially during the preparatory phase**
- **Recommendations towards hospital leadership / fund providers to support psycho-social services in Oncology Centers seem to be reasonable**
- **Keeping continuous contact with 12 MCM teams and establishing a system of tracking their accomplishments and progress is critical**

# Thank you for your attention!

