



International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation

NEWSLETTER

Issue: 40

2nd February 2007

IPSF Publications

Design by Mohamad Nader

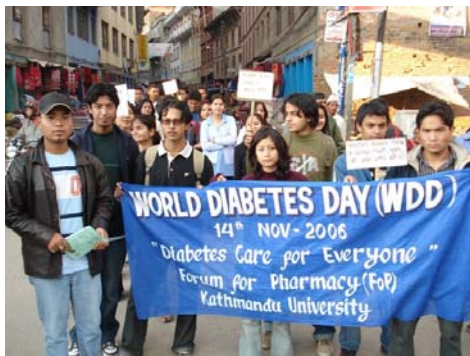
PUBLIC HEALTH - What's been and what's to come!

Anna Watson, Chairperson of Public Health

Greetings IPSFers! The last two months of 2006 saw IPSF members mark two important dates in the IPSF public health calendar by implementing events and campaigns on these topics in their own countries and communities. **World Diabetes Day** was celebrated on **14th November** and on **1st December**, it was **World AIDS Day**. Here is just a taste of what IPSF members got up to...

World Diabetes Day celebration in Nepal

Uttam Budhathoki



Forum of Pharmacy (FoP) at Kathmandu University celebrates World Diabetes Day every year. It was decided to celebrate outside of university as well this year. An awareness campaign (rally) was organized on World Diabetes Day. Pharmacy students from the BPharm and MPharm course participated in the campaign. The campaign team from the university went to Banepa, a town in the Kavre district of Nepal. The campaign was organized from 3:00 - 5:00 pm as it was the rush hour in the market.

Fliers were designed and printed by FoP for free distribution. They comprised information about diabetes, prevention and precautions of diabetes and things to follow by diabetic patients in local Nepali language. Fliers were designed in such a way so as to have the information as well as being in a simple and local language so that it is understandable.

Students made playcards by hand which had information about diabetes on them and these were displayed during the campaign. A banner was used to show who the students were and what the purpose of the campaign was.

The targets of the campaign were: People should know about diabetes, its susceptible people, how to prevent it, if it is already there, what are the things to be done?

Around 200 pharmacy students were involved in the preparation of the campaign and around 150 were present in the campaign itself.

People appreciated our activity instantly on the spot also and they encouraged us to do this kind of campaign in the future.

"Project Virus" in Slovenia

Jasna Grželj

Even though Slovenia is a small country and the problem of AIDS is not as acute as elsewhere in the world, great importance is given to the World AIDS Day. Numerous events take place, the most important for pharmacy students is the "Project Virus", with the slogan "AIDS does not choose. You can".



It was organised by medical students in collaboration with other students and consists of workshops and peer education during the whole year. A big concert and awareness action are organised on December 1st. Volunteers distribute free condoms and the most important, information. The main goal is to inform people and to break stereotypes.



So what did we do? First, it was necessary to wrap all the condoms in the paper wrapping with the slogan of the campaign and to fold all the red ribbons. This is named the Condom Party – the Faculty of Medicine is open all night long, and students are working and having lots of fun. Then we had a lecture where they gave us basic information that we should pass on to others. And finally, we had a stand in the lobby of our faculty, where we distributed ribbons, condoms and answered lots of questions.

I believe the campaign had a great success. We are looking to get more involved in the year to come!

Anti-AIDS Campaign in Romania Adrian Gheorghe

'Anti-AIDS' is the public health campaign that receives by far the most of both the public's and the organizers' attention in Romania. This year, in four university centres (Timisoara, Cluj-Napoca, Iasi and Bucharest) AIDS was, for a few days, the major public enemy. All the campaigns focused on presentations and printed materials in order to inform the young generation (students, pupils) on the dangers brought about by HIV; red ribbons and condoms were distributed to all the participants. Each centre chose its own partnerships, spanning from a county hospital (Iasi), trained doctors (Timisoara) to specialised associations like The Red Cross (Bucharest) and PSI Romania. The activities varied likewise: fund raising party for children with HIV in Iasi and signing anti-AIDS manifestos in Bucharest, for example. The impact of such public health campaigns on the youth was evaluated in all the centres by means of a common questionnaire, which would enable us to make our campaigns better and better every year.

As for the future, our main goals are to establish firm partnerships with organisations interested in such events and to widen our target public.

Safe love from Romania to you all!



The first IPSF public health campaign of 2007 will be in association
with

World TB Day on 24th March.

LOOK OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION ON IPSF'S ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS (TB) CAMPAIGN IN THE SPECIAL EDITION OF THE IPSF NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO THE CAMPAIGN: IT WILL BE ARRIVING IN YOUR INBOXES AT THE BEGINNING OF MARCH!