



Message from the Project Coordinator



The CARE project gave to the CARE participating countries the challenging opportunity to work jointly in order to increase their level of preparedness to migration influx, by developing common tools and operational procedures for better taking care of migrants' health. At the same time, this approach has not disregarded the hosting communities, through capacity building actions and public - private organization partnership facilitation. The awareness of the general public against misconceptions about the health of migrants arriving in Europe has been also increased.

At the end of this positive experience, it clearly appears the necessity to sustain over time the relevant tools developed. We are confident that this objective can be achieved, given the large participation of Public Health institutions which have a central role in the identification of priorities and promotion of effective solutions, for the benefit of migrants' health.

Dr. Gianfranco Costanzo
INMP (National Institute for health, migration and poverty – Rome, Italy)

Results of the CARE Project

The CARE project addressed key public health challenges related to the migration crisis in Europe, through targeted and appropriate healthcare provision for migrants/refugees, the monitoring of communicable diseases, the training of relevant professionals and the production of awareness raising material and dissemination campaigns.

The healthcare provision model of the CARE project has successfully addressed the challenge of providing effective and



targeted healthcare services to the needs of migrants hosted into the hotspots and migrant centres, where the project was involved. In Italy, the clinical activities implemented by the multidisciplinary teams have achieved a total of 11,057 examinations, among which 1,879 psychological assessments were performed. Clinical protocols have been created for

diseases such as the cases of scabies and cases of fever accompanied by skin rash, which have been applied, respectively, in 2,621 and 116 cases. In Greece, the project's multidisciplinary teams have managed more than 12,000 cases in the islands of Kos and Leros, where the CARE project was implemented. Referrals were made for a high number of demanding psychiatric cases that needed further psychiatric and psychological support. Moreover, clinical protocols concerning scabies and fever accompanied by skin rash have been implemented in a large number of cases.

Furthermore, age determination processes were applied to 75 cases of young unaccompanied migrants in Italy and in a large number of cases in Greece, through the holistic protocol for the age assessment of unaccompanied minors. The protocol has proven to be effectively applicable even in the short span of time of stay of the migrants into the hotspots. Moreover, by applying the CARE innovative tools, it has been possible to bring out their vulnerability conditions.



The multidisciplinary teams working into the hotspots have also successfully employed the system developed for migrants' health tracking and monitoring. In particular, in the occasion of clinical examinations, they have registered the health data of the migrants on the portable electronic devices, then delivered to the same migrants, in order to ensure the continuity of their health

care also in their subsequent transfers to other reception centers. The devices delivered so far have been 342. In addition, an important fact is the positive reaction of the migrants/refugees towards the health monitoring and tracking system. Specifically, many of them have requested the delivery of their own portable device at the end of their examinations. Local databases of the health monitoring system are currently under statistical analysis.



Thanks to the high commitment of all participating countries, in the duration of the one year, that the CARE project ran, its objectives were met through the following activities: 1) developing and piloting/simulating a syndromic surveillance system, that can facilitate the detection of infectious disease outbreaks and contribute to the early detection of public health

emergencies in migrant centres, 2) development of a comprehensive survey on vaccination policies at national level and offer to newly arrived migrants at local level, and 3) setting up and piloting a novel travel health information model targeted to the information needs of frontline health care workers in migrant centres and to the ongoing outbreaks in the Mediterranean Migration Routes.

Moreover, the CARE project has developed informative material for the general public, in order to combat existing stereotypes regarding migrants' health by demystifying relevant myths. This awareness raising material was disseminated in places, where a lot of people can be found like train stations or central meeting



migrant's centres.



Furthermore, training seminars addressed to health and non health professionals working with migrants/refugees took place during October, November and December 2016 in Italy, Croatia, Malta, Slovenia and Greece. Each country selected topics and group of trainees, according to the national context and the needs for training on migration issues. The feedback gathered from the participants in these trainings revealed the on-going necessity of the health and non health professionals for lifelong learning.



Lastly, the CARE project has developed recommendations on the strategic Public Health planning regarding migrant and refuge populations and the role of civil society organisations. The final recommendations focus on the identified needs related to : 1) sufficient but at the same time - flexible funding for healthcare planning and provision to migrants and refugees especially for civil society organisations who are often called to address emergency situations; 2) less bureaucracy when it comes to setting up synergies between different stakeholders from the governmental, public and civil society sectors and launching collaborative initiatives; 3) coordinated planning and action between the different stakeholders involved such as ministries, regional health authorities and national and international civil society organisations; 4) continuous quality training for volunteers in civil society organisations and also staff involved in the delivery of healthcare to migrants and refugees with an emphasis on considering cultural sensitivity in health care services. Overall, positive attitude-building at the community level, that is, challenging stereotypes embedded in many host societies regarding migrants and refugees being a 'potential public health danger' and tackling prejudiced attitudes is needed. This can ensure that migrants' and refugees' healthcare rights are respected and their needs promptly addressed, while harmony at the community level is ensured.

In terms of the project's visibility, 5 Info Days were carried out in the CARE participating countries during February and March 2017, in order to present and disseminate the project's objectives, results and achievements, as well as to engage all relevant institutional stakeholders in a constructive discussion on policy recommendations or future actions.

Overall, as the one year CARE project approaches its finalisation, clear and solid results are being documented, while its impact is expected to flourish in the short and long term, creating a paradigm for appropriate healthcare provisions and services for migrants/refugees in Europe.

Latest News & Events



CARE Info Day in Italy, March 2017

On the 14th of March 2017, the Info Day of the “CARE Project: Common approach for refugees and other migrants’ health: results achieved and possible future actions ” was held at the INMP headquarters, in Rome, with the presence of the Project Officer from CHAFEA, Ms. Paola D’Acapito.

[Learn more](#)



CARE Info Day in Greece, March 2017

An Info Day was organised on the 10th March 2017 in Athens, Greece within the framework of the WP2 of the European project “CARE – Common Approach for Refugees and other migrant’s health”. The aim of the Info Day was to present the results and activities of the CARE project.

[Learn more](#)



CARE Info Day in Slovenia, March 2017

The Info day of the CARE project took place on the 9th March 2017 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The National institute of public health (NIJZ) hosted the event in the lecture hall at NIJZ regional unit in Ljubljana.

[Learn more](#)

CARE Info Day in Croatia, February 2017

An Info Day of the CARE project “Common actions for refugees and other migrants’ health“ was organized in Croatia on the 24th February 2017, in Europe House, A. Cesarca 4-6, Zagreb.

[Learn more](#)



CARE Info Day in Malta, February 2017

An Info Day was organised on the 17th February 2017 in Malta, within the framework of the WP2 of the European project "CARE – Common Approach for Refugees and other migrant's health".

[Learn more](#)




For more information visit the project website careformigrants.eu



This newsletter is part of the project "717317/CARE" which has received funding from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020). The content of this newsletter represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it can not be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

[View this email in your browser](#)

This message was sent to v_vivilaki@yahoo.co.uk by eu@cmtprooptiki.gr
Spyrou Merkouri 38, Athens

 [Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage Subscription](#) | [Forward Email](#) | [Report Abuse](#)

