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EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN
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EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIHI LIJEČNIKA
ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟΪΑΪΑΝ Α ΝΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΝΗΧΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ
ASOCIATIA EUROPEANA A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE**

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Agenda:

- A. Safety of Care Law
- B. National Vaccine Prevention Plan (PNPV)
- C. Essential Levels of Care (LEA)
- D. Law on the acceptance of unaccompanied foreign minors

Safety of Care Law

The most important event of the last 12 months, which involved the healthcare professionals and citizens of our country, was recent: on 17/03/2017 the new law was finally published in the Official Journal concerning the “*Provisions regarding safety of care and patients, as well as regarding the professional responsibility of those exercising healthcare professions*”.

This law, which finally places Italy at the level of many other European countries, addresses and governs the subjects:

- safety of care and healthcare risk;
- responsibility of those exercising the healthcare profession;
- responsibility of the healthcare facility, public and private;
- methods and characteristics of the judicial proceedings dealing with healthcare liability;
- mandatory insurance;
- establishment of the Guarantee Fund for damages resulting from healthcare responsibility.

We wish to emphasize that Article 1 of the law qualifies safety of care as constituent part of the right to healthcare and specifies that it is implemented also through all the activities aimed at the prevention and management of the risk connected to the provision of healthcare services and through the appropriate use of the structural, technological and organisational resources.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to assess too quickly the results of this law since we will have to wait for the enactment of the various implementing decrees with first of all, but certainly not the only one, the establishment at the Ministry of Health of the List of Scientific Companies

authorised to prepare Guidelines and Recommendations which will then become a reference for all the professionals.

National Vaccine Prevention Plan (PNPV)

The second important subject refers to the publication in the Official Journal (18/2/2017) of the National Vaccine Prevention Plan 2017-2019 (PNPV) which represents a healthcare opportunity for every citizen. The new vaccine offer included in the Plan was jointly created, at the technical and political level, between the Ministry of Health and the Conference of the Regions.

Here are some of the priorities of the National Vaccine Prevention Plan:

1. Keep the country Polio-free
2. Pursue the objectives of the National Plan for the Elimination of Measles and Congenital Rubella (PNEMoRc) and strengthen the measures to eliminate them.
3. Guarantee an active and free supply of vaccinations, access to services and availability of vaccines.
4. Plan actions for the population groups that are hard to reach and with low vaccine coverage (HtRGroups)
5. Prepare an Institutional Communication Plan on vaccinations.

Furthermore, a series of specific objectives are covered in the Plan, including those of vaccine coverage for all the vaccinations on the Schedule.

New vaccinations offered by the NHS

The new Plan, in addition to the old vaccinations (against diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal C in newborns, HPV in eleven-year-old girls and flu in subjects ≥ 65 years of age) introduces the vaccinations against meningococcal B, rotavirus and varicella in newborns, extends the anti-HPV vaccination to eleven-year-old makes, introduces the vaccination against ACWY135 tetravalent meningococcal and the polio

booster with IPV in adolescents. It includes pneumonia and shingles vaccines for those over sixty-five years of age.

All the vaccines included in the new Schedule of the PNPV have been inserted in the DPCM defining the new LEA, recently published in the Official Journal.

Training, correct communication and registry office

The PNPV 2017-2019, moreover, emphasizes the ethical and social value of the vaccinations and how fundamental it is to share the awareness of their efficacy in creating better health, in primis among all the healthcare workers, but also in the general population.

The document highlights that this objective can only be achieved with targeted training and educational events, implemented in schools of every kind and level and in the university and specialised educational plans of the medical-healthcare subjects, so that an agreement has been defined between the Ministry of Health and the MIUR (Ministry of Education, University and Research)

No less important, the subject of communication by the doctors of the NHS to their patients and the communication by the central institutions, which must be focused on the transparency and deep knowledge of the contents of the PNPV and its technical-scientific prerequisites is covered in the Plan.

Lastly, we reiterate that the Plan anticipates the implementation of the national electronic register of individuals vaccinated, which will make it possible to evaluate with extreme precision the progress of the coverage, reminding those entitled that they have not yet taken advantage of it, as part of a strategy of a truly active offer.

The Emilia-Romagna Region and the Tuscany Region have courageously made the vaccinations mandatory for non-compulsory schools. This is directed at dealing with a continuous increase in cases, especially as regards measles, which since the beginning of January 2017 are already over 2,000 while in all of 2016 there were 844.

Essential Levels of Care (LEA)

On 12 January 2017, the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers was published: “Definition and updating of the essential levels of care” anticipating additional financing of Euro 800 million.

The aforementioned Decree is the result of the joint work by the State, Regions and Scientific Companies.

The new decree:

- defines the activities and services guaranteed the citizens with public resources made available to the National Health Service;
- describes in greater detail and precision services and activities already included today in the essential levels of care;
- innovates the nomenclature of specialised outpatient healthcare and prosthesis care, introducing technologically advanced services and excluding obsolete services;
- redefines and updates the lists of rare diseases and chronic and disabling diseases that give the right to the exemption.

The D.P.C.M. updates the essential levels of care of the National Health Service updating the prosthetic nomenclature and including new services such as heterologous and homologous assisted reproduction, new vaccines (pneumonia, meningoccal and chicken pox), extends the vaccine for the papilloma virus also to male adolescents, screening at birth, exemption ticket for those suffering from endometriosis and innovations also in the treatment of autism, gambling and in the treatment of pain.

Law on the acceptance of unaccompanied foreign minors

Last 29 March the Chamber of Deputies definitively approved the Law on the acceptance and protection of unaccompanied foreign minors.

For the first time, the methods and procedures for verification of the age and identification, guaranteeing uniformity at the national level, is regulated by law. Greater protection is anticipated for the right to education and health but beyond the protection of health the importance of the obligation to register them in the National Health Service must be emphasized.

Italy now has a European-level avant-garde law which provides solutions for the more than 25,000 minors who arrived on our Southern shores alone

during 2016 of which, even though in a small percentage (0.3%), there are children under 6 years of age.

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