Organ Transplantation: Ethical, Legal and Psychosocial Aspects.

Outreach from the European Platform ................................................. 2

Summary .................................................................................................. 3

Coordinator, Leader contact and partners .............................................. 7

Outputs .................................................................................................... 8

  D01 - A book titled 'Ethical, Legal and Psychosocial Aspects of Organ Transplantation: Outreach from the European Platform'. This 'ELPAT book' will contain scientific publications by speakers, including best practices and recommendations (EN) ........................................ 8
  D02 - ELPAT Website. www.elpat.org www.esot.org/elpat (EN) .................. 8
  D03 - Programme Book, including abstracts (EN) ...................................... 8
  D04 - Final Report (EN) ...................................................................... 8
  D05 - Conference announcement (folder) (EN) ....................................... 8

Final Report (EN) .................................................................................. 8
Organ Transplantation: Ethical, Legal and Psychosocial Aspects. Outreach from the European Platform

JA2015 - GPSD [705038]

| START DATE:     | 23/04/2013                     |
| END DATE:       | 23/04/2014                     |
| DURATION:       | 12 month(s)                    |
| CURRENT STATUS: | Finalised                      |
| PROGRAMME TITLE: | Second Programme of Community action in the Field of Health 2008-2013 |
| PROGRAMME PRIORITY: | -                              |
| CALL:           | Generate And Disseminate Health Information And Knowledge (Hi-2012) |
| TOPIC:          | PROMOTE HEALTH (HP-2012)       |
| EC CONTRIBUTION: | 100000 EUR                    |
| KEYWORDS:       | Tissue, cell and organ transplants, Tissues and Cells |
| PORTFOLIO:      | Organ Transplantation          |
General objectives

The objective of the 1st ELPAT conference in 2007 was the initiation of a European platform on ethical, legal and psychosocial aspects of organ transplantation. The objective of the 2nd ELPAT conference in 2010 was to expand the platform towards new EU Member States.

The general objective of the 3rd ELPAT conference, titled "outreach from the European platform", is to exchange knowledge, information and best practices on how to improve access to transplant care in countries with low organ donation rates. The importance of ethical, legal and psychosocial considerations is emphasized. These considerations are vital for the implementation of safe and sustainable transplant programmes. The focus is not only on EU Member States, but also on Candidate countries and Third countries in the Black Sea -and Balkan Region.

Ensuring better access to transplant care is a priority of the Workplan 2012.

We aim to fulfil the general objective by realizing the following strategic objectives:

1. to maintain multidisciplinary topics and themes, especially ethical, legal and psychosocial aspects of organ transplantation (see para. 4.5).

2. to achieve a wide representation of transplant professionals from countries with relatively low donation rates and high donation rates. The target number is 250 persons. The target groups are professionals with scientific backgrounds in e.g. transplant medicine, ethics, health economics, philosophy, law, criminology and psychology (see para. 4.6). By drawing upon the international networks of ELPAT, ISN, TTS and ESOT, the congress holder has the opportunity to achieve a representation of transplant professionals and experts from all corners of the world. This way, exchange of knowledge and best practices will have an international dimension from which countries across Europe can benefit.

3. to gain transparency and insight in donation practices and barriers in new EU Member States, candidate countries and surrounding European countries such as Moldova, Turkey, the Balkan Region and the Black Sea region.

4.to achieve sustainability by enhancing longer-term collaboration and cooperation between European countries and non-European countries. This is done by stimulating representatives to become a member of ELPAT, TTS and/or ESOT and to join study projects of the ELPAT working groups. The focus topics of the ELPAT working groups are described at www.elpat.org.

5.to organize informal focus sessions and workshops where delegates are given the opportunity to present on (best) organ donation practices, pinpoint the bottlenecks encountered and to discuss possible strategies with the aim to increase transparency, improve access to transplant care and reduce
6. Participants of each focus session and workshop will be encouraged to write down recommendations and best practices that will be published in Deliverable No. 1 (see para. 3.6).

Sustainability and continuity of conference outcomes is attained by widespread dissemination of deliverables to participants and non-participants, the annual follow-up ELPAT working group meetings, joint study projects by the ELPAT working groups and online interaction and discussion on the ELPAT forum (www.elpat.org). The dissemination strategy is described in para. 5.2

**Expected achievements**

Based on the amount of ELPAT members, its international network, its recognition as an official committee of ESOT and promotional conference activities, the current, expected, estimated number of participants is 250. ELPAT and ESOT have recently witnessed a considerable growth of members from new EU states, candidate countries and other Eastern European countries. These networks will be relied on to target participants from these countries.

Roughly 100 participants are expected from `old` EU Member States. 50 participants are expected from `new` EU countries (e.g. Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, and Romania), Acceding Countries (Croatia, Serbia) and EU Candidate Countries (Macedonia, Turkey, Montenegro). 100 participants are expected from surrounding EU countries and `third` countries, including Kosovo, Azerbaijan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Switzerland, USA, Canada, Australia, Middle Eastern states, South American countries and Asian countries.

Participants will be:
1) scientists / researchers who have professions in universities, academic hospitals and other academic institutions. Scientific background is not only transplant medicine, but also philosophy, biomedical ethics, law, governance, health economics, psychiatry, anthropology, criminology and psychology;
2) those with professions in public health governance, such as health ministries and organ allocation organizations;
3) people involved in international governmental organizations such as the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the WHO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
4) people involved in international (medical and human rights) organizations and professional transplantation societies, including members of TTS, ISN, ESOT and ELPAT
5) physicians and other medical practitioners involved in hospitals and other medical institutions.
Target audience

The conference addresses different types of stakeholders:

1. Scientists in the field of transplant medicine, ethics, law and psychology. This includes academics in transplant medicine, ethics, European law, medical law, criminal law, philosophy, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, anthropology and criminology. The conference specifically welcomes scientists from new EU member states, candidate countries and other Eastern European states. Those in need of extra support for travel and registration fees can request funding from the congress organization.

2. Transplant physicians, clinicians and other medical practitioners, such as nurses, transplant coordinators, surgeons and nephrologists.

3. Professionals in the field of public health, governance and health policy. It is the aim to establish links between scientific experts and policy-makers, so that information and knowledge, vital to improvement in organ donation policy reaches those that influence it. For this reason, policy-makers, state secretaries and other government officials from health ministries, especially those in new EU member states, will be invited. This will occur through close contacts that exist between the ELPAT Chair, the Dutch Health Council, ministries of health in European countries and other Competent Authorities.

4. Civil society. This includes patients, organ recipients and donors, such as members of the European Kidney Patients Federation (CEAPIR), the European Kidney Health Alliance, the Dutch Kidney Patient Foundation and the Federation of Kidney Donors.

5. International governmental organizations. These include representatives of the European Commission (EAHC), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Organised Crime and Drug Trafficking Unit (UNODC), the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the Council of Europe (CoE).

6. Professional transplantation societies. These include representatives of TTS, ISN, ELPAT, ESOT, the American Society of Transplantation, European Transplant Coordinators Organization, International Society of Organ Donation and Procurement.

7. Students. Students are welcomed through a reduced registration fee.

8. Geographic coverage: coverage is worldwide, extending to the European continent, the Middle-East, Africa, Central and Southeast Asia, South, Central and North America, Australia and Canada.
Conference programme

The programme outline has been included as a supporting document.
Duration: Saturday afternoon 20 April 2013 until Wednesday morning 24 April 2013.
Type of sessions: morning sessions (plenary), late-morning focus sessions (parallel), free communications (parallel), afternoon workshops and discussions (parallel).

Similar to previous conferences, the organizers will allocate a plenary morning session to priorities of the EU Health Programme. The conference will evolve around the following themes. These themes are also the long-term focus topics of the ELPAT Working Groups, who play a prominent role throughout the conference.

1. Cultural and Religious Aspects of Donation
   a. Altruism, b. Gender, c. Definition of death

2. Organ Trafficking and Paid Donation
   a. Transplant tourism, b. Incentives for organ donation, c. Tissues & Commercialism

3. Diverse Populations / Ethnic Minorities
   a. Equal access to health care, b. Home based education, c. Social economic status

4. End of Life Care (deceased donation)
   a. Legal aspects of preparatory measures, b. Moment of asking, c. Non heart-beating donation

5. Psychosocial Care
   a. Patient empowerment, selfmanagement, adherence; b. Donor recruitment, c. Children

6. Public Issues
   a. Campaigns / Communication; b. Social media, c. Media attention to new forms of transplantation

7. Justice
   a. Responsibility of transplant societies, b. Self sufficiency, c. Paternalism

8. Health Economics
   a. Prioritising care, b. Outsourcing transplantation, c. Price of life and fair trade

9. Developing transplantation programmes
   a. Practical implementation, b. Legal aspects and allocation, c. Achieving sustainability
COORDINATOR

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PARTNERS

No partners related to the current project
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