

HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR ELDERLY IN THE FUNCTION OF THE CROATIAN ECONOMY GROWTH

In Croatia, Opatija was held the 2ND CROATIAN GERONTOLOGICAL CONGRESS WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION from 9 to 12 March 2006. The Congress was organized by the Centre for Gerontology of the Zagreb Public Health Institute, Croatian Society for Gerontology and Geriatrics of the Croatian Medical Association and City Office for Health, Labor, Social Protection and Veterans of City of Zagreb.

The experience and study results are presented by four main Congress topics:

- 1) Gerontology and prevention for elderly people in the world and in Croatia;
- 2) Geriatric with specific practice and projection examples of geriatrics and gerontology health care;
- 3) Pension funds and economy development through population aging;
- 4) and Aging theories scientific cognitions.

Our aim and purpose is to improve health care for the elderly, to enable exchange of experience and knowledge between specialists in different segments of gerontology and geriatrics from the world and Croatia, and to set landmarks and encourage development and growth of gerontology and geriatrics as professions.

Our outstanding scientist, practitioner and educator Primarius Berislav Skupnjak was published in Croatian medical journal that 2ND Croatian gerontological congress with international participation was been perfectly organized and marked as very successful. On the Congress was been 680 accessaries and with style their program, messages to gerontology and geriatrics professions and other public, this Congress outstanding beneath other average expert meeting. Congress did had major effect on development to gerontology and geriatrics professions not only in Croatia, but and in Europe. 2ND Croatian gerontological congress with international participation was characterized and pressing with two gerontology books. That is Gerontology number of Medicus (number 2, volume 14 – Zagreb, Croatia 2005.) and The journal of the Croatian medical association (128, Supplement 1 – book of abstracts with 222 published abstracts).

INTRODUCTION

By tendency of the enlargement of elderly population Croatia accompanies the trend of constant demographic trends present in advanced developed countries of world. Undoubted is the significance of health management for elderly people in the planning, uses and evaluation of Program of measures and procedures in the protection of elderly people's health with the use of Program primary, secondary and tertiary preventions for elderly. His base point is to contribute the preservation and advancing of health, functional abilities and qualities of all more numerous and fast growing Croatian old people's population. In the execution of the Program of health care for the elderly, health management dictates adequate, accessible and efficient healthcare for older persons and rational geriatric health consumption. This will be realized not just in the framework activities of the health already in social, pension, educational and economic system of Croatia. The health management for elderly by the way of execution of the regular four areas of gerontological activities (NN 121 / 03, NN 82 / 02, NN 28 / 05, NN 58 / 05) of Referential National Centre for gerontology along with Centres for gerontology of the County Institutes for public health of Croatia enables the production of gerontological standards and algorithms with the establishment of the nets of gerontological and geriatric healthcare, and for

the purpose of satisfactions of the health need of older persons. Gerontological teams have the normative population scope 30 000 elderly from 65 and higher years in their field of work. The gerontological team composes experts: doctor spec. public health / the epidemiologist-gerontologist, higher nurse / the higher occupational therapist for elderly and gerontological health statistician.

METHODS AND INSTRUMENTS OF EXECUTIONS OF THE SUPREME, MIDDLE AND BASIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

Centre for gerontology of the Zagreb Institute for public health - The referential centre of the Ministries of health and welfare of Croatia for the health care of elderly people, as the supreme health management for older persons, does most complex tasks and businesses through four next extents regular gerontological activities:

1. Permanently accompanies, studies, evaluates, supervise and plans health needs and functional incapacitation of older persons in the field of work;
2. Gives professionally-methodological help, supervises, gives instructions and reeducation of the managers and other conductors in the health care for older people;
3. Actively participates in the formation of the Programs of measures and procedures in health care for the elderly as well as executions of the Programs of basic preventive measures of primary, secondary and tertiary preventions for elderly people;
4. Actively participates and conducts scientifically-research and publication of gerontological-educational activity.

Education in the area of gerontology and geriatrics basic is the assumption of the quality health management for elderly people, who fills all demands and set aims for rational and efficient protection of health and health care of elderly people.

At the level of middle health management for older persons function regional Centres for the gerontology of the of Croatia. Establishment of the work and tasks of Gerontological team on the County Institutes for public health according to the Health care law and the Program of statistical research is based upon monitoring, identification, research and reporting to Referential Centre for gerontology of the Zagreb Institute for public health about health needs of functionally incapacitated elderly people in the age of 65 year and higher for institutional and non-institutional healthcare in their counties / regions and propose This Programs for following, research and evaluations of health needs and functional abilities of elderly people are executed by the way of individual gerontological access, on the basis of professionally-methodological instruments-Evidential lists.

The basic health management for elderly present Gerontological centres, homes for old and disabled people, geriatric hospitals, daily hospitals for geriatric patients, geronto-services, centres for the rehabilitation, working therapy and help for older people, societies and clubs for elderly. They have been encumbered for the operational level plannings, in other words for specific procedures and processes in the health management for elderly people.

CONCLUSION

The supreme management for health care of older persons by the execution of regular gerontological activities of Referential Centre for gerontology as well as

Centres for gerontology of the County Institutes for public health of Croatia, enable adequately planning, execution and evaluation of Programs of measures and procedures in health care for older people with the use of Program primary, secondary and tertiary health preventions for the elderly. This is also of great importance in the planning of development of Croatian economy and for the process of the accelerated Croatian including in EU. Every from quoted levels of health management for elderly is vital for the success of better future for older persons, but is not able alone separately successfully function without the interconnection with remainder two levels. The special importance for health management of elderly is in insurement of his permanent education in gerontology and geriatrics by European gerontological standards, and for the purpose of advancing health care and preservations of functional abilities of the Croatian older population.