



# EUNESE News

European Network for Safety among Elderly

September, 2007

Center for Research and Prevention of Injuries

Editorial

Dear Members of the EUNESE,

With this newsletter we are happy to provide you with the latest news on the EUNESE progress and activities. We consider this effort as an effective way for disseminating and communicating information among network members- researchers, practitioners, and policy makers.

We kindly invite you to share with us and the members of EUNESE any abstracts you have submitted to national and international conferences and any related news on elderly safety activities, to be disseminated to our members.

We welcome your comments and suggestions which would lead to additional improvements of the newsletter.



## 1 October

### International Day of Older Persons

The UN General Assembly designated 1 October the International Day of Older Persons by resolution 45/106 of 14 December 1990, following up on initiatives such as the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted by the 1982 World Assembly on Ageing and endorsed later that year by the General Assembly.

The international Day of Older People sets out to improve the quality of life for older people and advancing UN Global Strategies

**Independence  
Participation  
Care  
Self-fulfilment  
Dignity**

are among the areas that EU calls Nations for action for the promotion of the older people's wellbeing

Theme 2007

### "Addressing the Challenges and Opportunities of Ageing"

The 2007 theme coincides with the theme of the first cycle of the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, as was endorsed by the Commission for Social Development at its 44th session in 2006 (Resolution of the 44th session).



More information  
[www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/un\\_meetings.html](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/un_meetings.html)

### Abstracts accepted

The abstract entitled

"European Network on Safety among Elderly: to add years to the life and life to the years"

by Valent F, Di Bartolomeo S, Little D, Channoufi L, Barbone F, Petridou E.

has been accepted in the

XXXI Annual Congress of the Italian Epidemiological Association (AIE)

to be held  
October 17-19, 2007

in  
Marina di Ostuni, Brindisi



see also:

Page 2: EUNESE members presentation  
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Center for Research and  
Prevention of Injuries  
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# EUNESE

## members presentation

### 2 Malcolm Barrow B.Sc(Eng), M.Sc.-UK



Malcolm Barrow is Managing Director of Consumer Safety UK. His career background is Operational Research, the application of mathematical methods and models to decision making. Since the 1970s he has specialised in developing statistical models of accidents and injuries. He pioneered epidemiological injury surveillance systems with HASS and EHLASS from 1986 when he became Head of Research in the Consumer Safety Unit in London. In 1987 Malcolm produced two of the first published reports addressing the safety of older people; aimed at identifying injury risks and challenging ageist stereotypes. "Falls Among the Elderly" carried out with the Age Concern Institute of Gerontology brought together academics and clinicians to provide the foundation for all subsequent work on this topic. "Living Dangerously", produced with the Centre for Policy on Ageing, challenged society to let older people experience the empowerment and life enrichment of risk taking. Malcolm has pursued these two themes - evidence based

research and promotion of positive societal attitudes – in extensive safety research and consultancy throughout the last two decades. Over the last three years, in addition to working on EUNESE and APOLLO, Malcolm has worked for the UK's Department of Health on the social welfare and public health of older people, and has worked for BSI, ANEC and the EU on consumer safety issues. He is currently the vice-chairman of Moorfields Eye Hospital. Malcolm has been responsible for the internal evaluation of EUNESE.

#### Contact details

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## EUNESE Sustainability Study

Dear EUNESE members,

During September 2007 EUNESE WG5 coordinated by the University of Udine, Italy will conduct the sustainability study of the EUNESE network.

To this end, a survey of network members has been designed aiming to elicit your response as a network member.

The aim of this effort is to find out effective ways to keep the EUNESE sustainable in terms of communication, relationships, governance and financial competence.

Furthermore, the information gained from this survey will contribute to an overall assessment of the added value of EUNESE in terms of injury prevention and the potential sustainability of the network for enlargement and future activities.

The survey's tool is a questionnaire developed to be completed electronically.

We kindly invite all of you for your collaboration  
in helping us to achieve these goals  
towards a sustainable EUNESE.

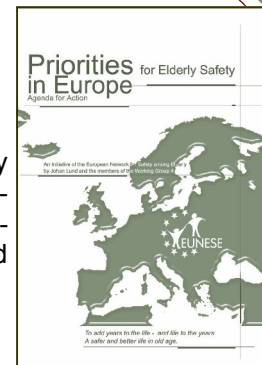


### "Best Practices Policy Manual and Information Leaflets" (NO, IT, CY, LI, SK, DK)

#### Priorities for Elderly Safety in Europe-Agenda for Action

An Initiative of the European Network for Safety among Elderly  
by Johan Lund and the members of the Working Group 4

The main aim of this Work Group was to develop and promote a best practice policy manual with the definitions and the cross cutting policy priorities for sustainable injury control and safety promotion in an aging EU society, both for independently living and elderly living in Nursing Homes. The manual details cost-effectiveness and evidence-based best practices for prevention of injuries in the elderly.



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ISBN 978-960-89383-1-1

#### Policy Recommendations

- Recommendation no. 1 Each member state in the EU and in the EEA should establish national action plans for prevention of injuries in elderly people. Targets should be defined in a way that it would be possible to measure whether they are met. Prevention measures should be taken, and annual reports should be available. An interministerial taskforce lead by the Ministry in charge may further facilitate co-ordinated action in the countries.
- Recommendation no. 2 Each member state in the EU and EEA should establish health based injury registration systems enabling sound and valid injury statistics to be produced. The European Commission should ensure that such systems are working. With such systems it will be possible to compare the statistics across the countries in Europe, in order to monitor the injury situation, and to find the factors involved in the injuries in order to design preventative measures.
- Recommendation no. 3 Each member state in the EU and EEA should report the fatalities in elderly people according to common coding rules, ensuring that it is possible to compare mortality statistics across Europe. The World Health Organization should increase their efforts to create a common understanding of the coding system and to control the quality of the statistics.
- Recommendation no. 4 Each member state in the EU and EEA, together with the European Parliament and European Council should establish one day of the year as the Day for Elderly Safety. Such a common day across Europe might raise awareness on prevention of injuries in elderly people.
- Recommendation no. 5 Each member state in the EU and EEA should build capacity for conducting research on injuries in elderly people: to understand their causes; to develop preventive measures; to plan and implement interventions; and to evaluate interventions for cost-effectiveness.
- Recommendation no. 6 Each member state in the EU and EEA should develop networks at central and local levels to promote implementation of evidence-based best practices to reduce injuries in elderly people.

#### The Material is available at:

Please, visit [www.euroipn.org/eunese](http://www.euroipn.org/eunese) to download the material developed by the EUNESE project WG4.

#### Master copies of information leaflets



These are three master leaflets addressed to elderly, caregivers and nursing homes' staff. To use in your own country/region, they have to be revised according to relevant facts, circumstances and addresses.

Customize the leaflets for your country/ region!

If you are interested in modifying and using one or more of the master copy leaflets, please contact us at [eunese@med.uoa.gr](mailto:eunese@med.uoa.gr) in order to provide you with the editable files (MS Publisher format)

[for elderly](#) [for caregivers](#) [for nursing homes](#)



# EUNESE

## European Network for Safety among Elderly

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Members news, announcements, requests

Dear EUNESE Members & Friends,

Please feel free to share with us and the rest members of the EUNESE any abstracts you have submitted in national and international conferences and any related news on elderly safety activities. We will be happy to further disseminate this information to our members.

### 3rd International Symposium on Social and Applied Gerontology

April 16-18 2008

Antalya Turkey

For further information, please, contact:

**Secreteriat:** Alev Ertem Özyılmaz

Email: [symposium@geroder.org](mailto:symposium@geroder.org)

Web: <http://geroder.org/symp>

Membership: In order to become a member of EUNESE, please visit:

[www.euroipn.org/eunese/membership.htm](http://www.euroipn.org/eunese/membership.htm)

or [www.eunese.org](http://www.eunese.org) (members area), fill in the application form and return it by e-mail to:

[eunese@med.uoa.gr](mailto:eunese@med.uoa.gr)

#### Further Dissemination Activities

##### Call for abstracts

5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Housing and Health

Safe and Healthy Housing Unit, Warwick Law School

17th-19th March 2008

Campus of the University of Warwick, Coventry, UK

The conference will provide a unique opportunity for cross-disciplinary and international discussion and will be of particular interest to lawyers and academics, architects, environmental health officers, public and community health physicians, general practitioners, housing managers, health visitors and tenant organisations.

You will find more information on the Unit's web-site

<http://go.warwick.ac.uk/healthyhousing>

For further information, please contact:

Margaret Parker at [m.k.parker@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:m.k.parker@warwick.ac.uk)

This Newsletter was developed in the context of the European Network for Safety among Elderly (EUNESE) project aiming to address injury prevention and safety promotion among senior citizens through an EU Network. The project run under the auspices of DG SANCO (Directorate C-Public Health and Risk Assessment, Health & Consumer Safety) and coordinated by CEREPRI.

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