Project Update

Welcome to the October 2016 edition of the HE&WM newsletter, the newsletter of the EU-HCWM project. We are now moving into the final 3 month period of the project. We are currently working on an exploitation plan for the project outputs and also trying to increase the number of professional networks associated with the project. In addition we are also developing the e-learning platform which will facilitate online access to the training programme and where relevant the vocational qualification. More detail on all of this in the December newsletter.

As is the tradition with these projects they normally culminate in a final conference and we are no different. We have planned this event in association with the NHS National Performance Advisory Group on Waste in Birmingham on 10 November this year at the Thistle Royal Angus Hotel.

The speaker programme has been finalised and details are in this issue of the HE&WM.

In this issue we reflect on the latest project partners meeting in Warsaw as well as looking forward to the final partners meeting on 9th and 11th November. We will also preview the final conference and outline some of the topics to be covered there.
Project Partners Meeting - Warsaw

The penultimate project partners meeting was hosted by the Institute of Environmental Protection – National Research Institute (IEP-NRI) in Warsaw.

We welcomed Ivone Werner to the meeting and as the representative from UEHP this was her first partner meeting.

The meeting was extremely productive and as you can imagine with a meeting towards the end of the project minds were very much focused on the final conference and the delivery of the final project outputs.

Pawel and his team at IEP-NRI ensured we were all well catered for in Warsaw and the meeting facilities were excellent and he and his colleagues were excellent hosts.

It was a packed business agenda at the meetings during the two days but there was time in the evenings to enjoy the wonderful city of Warsaw and to experience the local cuisine. I think that those of us who were seeing Warsaw for the first time will definitely have a revisit to this lovely city on our to do lists.

The most important output from this meeting was to agree on the exploitation plan for, and associated Intellectual Property Rights to, the final projects outputs. This we have now agreed upon and there will be further discussions on the proposed exploitation partners in due course. The issue of exploitation however is slightly complicated by the fact that only the UK and Poland for the moment will be working with the final outputs as a formal national vocational qualification.

The other partners will utilise the outputs as a formal training programme delivered by them but administered by a credible Pan European industry partner.

The meeting concluded with a short session on the planning arrangements for the final conference.
EUHCWM Final Conference Preview

At last we have the finished speaker programme for the final conference. We think it is an excellent line-up which fits best with the overarching aims of the 3 year EUHCWM project. We are particularly delighted that we can have this excellent event in the UK and in partnership with the National Health Service; National Performance Advisory Group – Best Value Group on Waste. We have been working extremely closely with them on the project outputs and throughout this three year process and it is fitting that we celebrate the project end together through this final conference.

We have arranged the final partner meetings for the 9th and 11th November with the conference itself sandwiched in between on 10th November. We have allocated enough space for around 100 delegates and speakers. If this free event is of interest to you please register by sending an email to scott@icerms.com

We have tried to provide an event programme which reflects the institutions in the UK who play a vital role in the sustainability agenda at the NHS while also highlighting the key stakeholders responsible for the vocational qualification and training agenda within the waste sector itself. In order that the project outputs to be properly disseminated as widely as possible it is important that multiplier groups are identified and we are delighted that some of those key multipliers have also agreed to present at the event. One of the other aspects that has been extremely important in the success of the outputs have been the sharing of knowledge and best practice across the project partners and we are pleased that we are able to set aside conference time for this purpose. Speakers from the UK and across the EU will present examples of best practice from their healthcare facilities and countries.

We hope you will attend the conference and that you will continue to engage with the project as part of the stakeholder group targeted in the Project Output Exploitation Plan.

The Final Conference will be live streamed in full on our Youtube channel. For more information on this please email: media@icerms.com

Birmingham

The final conference is being hosted in the city of Birmingham. It is the largest and most populous British city outside London, with a population in 2014 of 1,101,360 Birmingham metropolitan area is the second most populous in the UK with a population of 3.8 million. This also makes Birmingham the 9th most populous metropolitan area in Europe. Today Birmingham's economy is dominated by the service sector. The city is a major international commercial centre, ranked as a beta- world city by the Globalization and World Cities Research Network; and an important transport, retail, events and conference hub. Its metropolitan economy is the second largest in the United Kingdom with a GDP of $121.1bn (2014) and its six universities make it the largest centre of higher education in the country outside London. Birmingham's major cultural institutions – including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Birmingham Royal Ballet, the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, the Library of Birmingham and the Barber Institute of Fine Arts – enjoy international reputations, and the city has vibrant and influential grassroots art, music, literary and culinary scenes. Birmingham is the fourth-most visited city in the UK by foreign visitors.
EUHCWM FINAL CONFERENCE
Royal Angus Thistle Hotel, Birmingham on Thursday 10th November 2016

08.30 – 09.00hrs: Registration (Tea/Coffee)

Session Chair: Dr Anne Woolridge

09.00hrs: Welcome - (Dave Tucker NPAG/Scott Crossett EUHCWM)

09.10hrs: NHS National Performance Advisory Group on Waste - (Dr Sue Berry, NPAG)

09.25hrs: EUHCWM Project: Overview and Final Deliverables - (Scott Crossett)

09.40hrs: NHS Sustainable Development Unit — (Jerome Baddley)

10.00hrs: Waste Management Industry Training & Advisory Board – (Chris James)

10.20hrs: The Healthcare Waste and Resources Research Group – (Dr Terry Tudor)

10.35hrs: Zero Waste Europe - (Paweł Głuszyński)

10.55hrs: Sustainable Healthcare – (Dr Paul Garassus, EUHP)

11.15 – 11.30hrs: Tea/Coffee

11.30 – 12.30hrs: EU Best Practice/Knowledge Transfer Session

Gregory Sarafianos, EUHP, Greece
Maria Passalaqua, Club EMAS, Spain
Pawel Wowkonowicz, IOS-PIB, Poland
Viktor Hristov, REC FYROM, FYROM

12.30 – 13.30hrs: UK Best Practice/Knowledge Transfer Session

Waste Data Reporting, Nick Fayers, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS FTE Trust
Any Takers Waste Recycling Scheme, Luke Champion, 2gether NHS Foundation Trust
Nerys Simmons, Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Healthcare Waste Management in the Community Setting, Sid Siddiqui, Derbyshire Community Health Services Trust,

13.30 - 14.20hrs: Lunch

Session Chair: Dr Sue Berry

14.00hrs: Healthcare Waste Management: An International Perspective – (Jan-Gerd Kuehling, ETLog)

14.45hrs: Healthcare Waste Management – Making Progress in Albania - (Eduart Cani, REC Albania)

15.00hrs: Healthcare Waste Managers – Professional Networks Development - Beyond the EUHCWM project lifecycle – (Aditi Ramola, ISWA)

15.15hrs: EUHCWM Project: Moodle Platform – HCWM Vocational Qualification and Training – (Tal Peer, ICERMS)

15.30hrs: EUHCWM Project: Final Outputs – Exploitation Plan (Scott Crossett, ICERMS)

15.45hrs: Closing Remarks – (Dr Sue Berry, NPAG)

16.00hrs: Conference Close
ISWA World Congress Review

ISWA is a global, independent and non-profit organization whose work is focused on promotion and development of sustainable and professional waste management. The vision of the association is a clean planet whose waste is efficiently used and reduced, and then collected, recycled and treated in an adequate manner so that everyone could exercise their right to and environment with clean air, water, seas and land.

ISWA is open for individuals and organizations from the field of science, public institutions and companies involved in or interested in improving their work in this field. As the leading global association for solid waste management, with members from over 100 countries, ISWA enables networking and exchange of ideas, knowledge and experience with professionals from the entire world.

This year the ISWA World Congress was held in Novi Sad Serbia. The venue was the Novi Sad fair and 1300 delegates attended the event with a particularly strong showing from the United States where next year’s event will be hosted in Baltimore. That said there was also a really strong Serbian contingent and it was nice to meet Serbian colleagues from past projects there.

The Novi Sad event was very well hosted and there were a diverse range of presentations, discussions and debates over the 3 day event including a meeting of the ISWA Healthcare Waste Working Group hosted by Chair Dr Anne Woolridge.

Healthcare waste is not a high volume, high profile waste stream. That is of course until it is found in the wrong place or causes harm to individuals or the environment. In this session, the work of the ISWA Healthcare Waste Working Group (HCW WG) will be highlighted and how we work with the World Health Organization.

There will be an opportunity to gain an insight into how the European directives have been transposed into Serbian healthcare waste management strategy and practice as well as how the issue of out of date donated Pharmaceuticals has been addressed.

The ISWA HCW WG has been a partner in the Lifelong Learning Programme project, developing an EU standardized approach to vocational educational training awards in healthcare waste management. The results of this project will be presented by the project lead.

The session was extremely well attended and it was an excellent platform to showcase the outputs of the EU-HCWM Project. It was also really good to see so many colleagues at the event and to meet new contacts in the sector.

Anne was busy at the conference as she was also chairing the plenary session on healthcare waste management which featured four speakers presenting their conference papers. There were two excellent speakers from Serbia, Dr Verica Jovanovic and Ivana Bosic. The papers presented at the session were:

- **HEALTHCARE WASTE: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE** - A. Woolridge
- **EU HEALTHCARE WASTE PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF AN EU STANDARDIZED APPROACH TO VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL TRAINING AWARDS IN HEALTHCARE WASTE MANAGEMENT** - S. Crossett
- **LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND NECESSARY WASTE DOCUMENTS IN SERBIA – EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE** - I. Božić
- **HEALTHCARE WASTE MANAGEMENT IN SERBIA - DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND SYNCHRONIZING WITH EU DIRECTIVES** - V. Jovanović, B. Matić, N. Đonović, S. Jovanović

Another important reason for the project having a presence at the event was to discuss some exploitation issues with ISWA CEO Hermann Koller and our ISWA project partner Aditi Ramola was able to ensure that we had sufficient time allocated from Hermann’s hectic schedule to discuss the key proposals for project outputs exploitation.

These discussions are a starting point in a process and we will hopefully be reporting fully on the finalised agreement in the November issue of the HE&WM.

Next stop for this excellent event in 2017 will be Baltimore, Maryland—Washington, DC Metropolitan Area on September 25-27, 2017. If you have not got your Blue Crab yet go to: [https://swana.org/News/NewsDetail.aspx?nc=229](https://swana.org/News/NewsDetail.aspx?nc=229) for more information.
Isle of Anglesey Rethink Nappy Collection Scheme

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has said that it will make changes to its new nappy collection service, following an outcry from residents who were asked to produce a birth certificate as proof before receiving the service. The council is set to roll out a new recycling service in October, which will enable residents to benefit from a wider range of materials eligible for recycling.

A fortnightly nappy recycling collection will be among the services provided, but was previously only available to families with children up to three years old. The council had asked residents wanting to use the service to provide proof of their child’s age in the form of a birth certificate.

However, families who will be affected by the changes said the rules did not take account of different rates of child development, or that some disabled children may still need nappies beyond a certain age. The Council has now increased the age of collection eligibility up to four years old and will now not be asking residents to produce a birth certificate. The council says that each any applications for a child over four years of age will be considered on a case by case basis, as would have happened for children over three previously.

Head of Highways, Waste Management and Property, Dewi Williams, explained, “We’ve listened to the concerns expressed by parents in recent days, and as a result will make changes to the service.”

“We’re introducing this additional new nappy collection service in order to help those with young children. From October, general waste (black bins) will only be collected every three weeks. By introducing this new service, we’ll ensure parents do not have to wait more than two weeks to dispose of nappies. He added, “Parents are encouraged to apply for the new service but they can still place nappies in the black bin too.”

Another service is available for individuals who are unwell or have medical needs, called the Offensive Non-Infectious Household Waste Collection. This service is available upon request from the relevant healthcare provider, via a prescribed application form.

Congratulations to GGHH as it Hits New Membership Milestone - 700 members

We at GGHH are proud to announce that we have reached a new membership milestone- 700 members in 39 countries, on 6 continents representing the interests of over 20,800 hospitals. 700 members! The growth and expansion of GGHH since we began 5 years ago has been exponential and exciting to be a part of. This growth demonstrates how sustainable health care around the globe is expanding. It is becoming mainstream practice in facilities large and small, in areas rural and urban, and in countries on every continent. The health care sector is taking a leading role in driving large-scale change to reduce its environmental footprint, and at the same time providing an example for other sectors to follow. Each and every GGHH member plays an important part in this transformation. We look forward to continuing our work together in the years to come to foster a healthy future for people and the planet.

To join visit: [http://www.greenhospitals.net/](http://www.greenhospitals.net/)

Webinar | Safer pharma: how healthcare can reduce pharmaceutical pollution

Earlier this year HCWH Europe with Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) co-organised the webinar Safer pharma: how healthcare can reduce pharmaceutical pollution. This webinar was created with the aims of raising awareness about the issue and enabled participants to apply newly gained knowledge in their daily practice. You can view the presentations and a recording of the webinar below.

**Context**

Pharmaceuticals in the environment represent a global pollution problem – over 631 different pharmaceutical agents or their metabolites have been detected in at least 71 countries on all continents. Pharmaceutical residues have been detected in surface water, sewage effluents, groundwater, drinking water, manure, soil, and other environmental matrices. Furthermore, antibiotics in the environment can promote the development of antibiotic-resistant pathogens a major global health threat. However, little is known about the effects on humans from continuous, long-term exposure to low concentrations of pharmaceuticals. At the international level, policy makers have begun to develop strategic approaches to address this problem aiming to reduce pharmaceutical pollution.

**Goals of the webinar**

- Raise awareness about pharmaceutical pollution and waste
- Educate health professionals about simple practices that can help reduce unnecessary pharmaceutical emissions in the environment with an emphasis on reducing unused and expired medicines
- Describe how healthcare professionals can educate patients about pharmaceutical pollution
- Discuss policy measures for reducing pharmaceuticals in the environment at European Union and international levels

**To watch this fascinating webinar visit:**

https://noharm-europe.org/issues/europe/webinar-safer-pharma-how-healthcare-can-reduce-pharmaceutical-pollution
HOPE Exchange Programme

Every year the European Hospital and Healthcare Federation (HOPE) runs an exchange programme to promote the sharing of knowledge and expertise within the European Union and to provide training and experience for hospital and healthcare professionals. This Exchange Programme covers a four-week training period and is open to anyone with a minimum of three years experience working in hospitals and/or healthcare facilities and since 2004, the NHS has welcomed 135 EU visitors and seen over 65 UK participants experience other healthcare systems. HOPE has produced a series of short informative videos about their annual exchange programme. There are three videos in total - one providing general information, one aimed at participants and one intended for host institutions.

Hope Exchange Programme 2017

The 2017 Programme will take place from 15th May – 14th June 2017 and applications for both organisations interested in hosting colleagues from abroad as well as participants looking to learn from organisations in a different country are now open until the 31st October 2016.


Conference on Climate and Health Care – COP22, November 14, Mohammed VI University Hospital of Marrakech, Morocco

As world leaders convene in Marrakech to map out strategies to achieve the climate goals agreed upon in Paris, Health Care Without Harm and The Mohammed VI University Hospital of Marrakech are pleased to host the Climate and Health Care Conference – COP22. This one-day conference brings together health sector representatives and experts from around the world to discuss the integral role of health care in this global effort. Speakers, including representatives from the government, private, and public sector of host country, Morocco, will present strategies and success stories on how health care can mitigate its climate impacts, develop low carbon models of care, and prepare to stand resilient in the face of a changing climate. This conference is free of charge. For more info please mail to nthorp@hcwh.org

The Biofuel Autoclave: A Low Cost, Non-electric Solution to Infectious Medical Waste

The Biofuel Autoclave pairs a gasketless non-electric autoclave with a highly efficient, low cost cookstove that can be powered by a variety of biofuels. This creates an autoclave that operates independent of the electric grid, lowering the primary barrier to autoclaving being a viable solution everywhere. It is an attractive solution to infectious waste management in rural areas and in disaster situations, when electric autoclaves may not be appropriate.

In May 2014, a joint effort between HCWH, HECAF, UC Berkeley, and InStove was employed to test the Biofuel Autoclave in Kathmandu, Nepal. Testing was performed not only to validate the autoclave but also evaluate which locally available biofuels were suitable for sterilization cycles.

Procedures for validating the efficacy of disinfection were based on challenge testing procedures developed by the GEF-supported UNDP-implemented Global Health Care Waste Project (www.gefmedwaste.org). Pressure pulsing, a technique of repeatedly building up and releasing steam pressure, was used to flush air from the waste and ensure effective disinfection.

The tests proved that the Biofuel Autoclave is versatile, as intended. It was able to reach sterilization conditions when powered by a variety of fuel sources including wood, biomass briquettes, and biogas. This flexibility of the Biofuel Autoclave makes it a sustainable solution for healthcare facilities in all parts of the world that are handicapped by lack of access to power. Download full report at: https://noharm-global.org/documents/biofuel-autoclave-low-cost-non-electric-solution-infectious-medical-waste

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