

Prevention / Vaccination

According to the UN **Declaration of the Rights of the Child**, the child has among other things the right to adequate nutrition, housing and medical services, to special care if handicapped, the right to be protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation and the right to full opportunity for play and recreation and equal opportunity to free and compulsory education, to enable the child to develop his individual abilities and to become a useful member of society.

ECPCP will work on strategies to improve the quality of preventive HEALTH CARE for infants, children and adolescents. It will also work on recommendations on how to harmonize the different health booklets and mother-child passports in EU countries.

While growing up, children should be regularly checked for their physical, cognitive, social, mental and emotional wellbeing.

For the future we plan to develop **Standards for Health Care Services** for children and adolescents, guidelines for developing and organizing physical and mental health services for child / adolescents welfare such as:

Initial Health Screening(like mother-child-passports), Comprehensive Health Assessment for infants, children and esp. for adolescents. The latter should be performed by pediatricians who are trained in adolescent health and – medicine. Providing Primary Health Care and Monitoring of Children's and Adolescent's Health Status should follow evidence-based knowledge

For school children, our main focus will be in identifying neuro-developmental- and behavioral problems, learning difficulties and mental health problems.

We also will highlight the necessity of **primary health care for adolescents** by a well trained medical staff in adolescent friendly services.

The first steps will be to collect data on:

- Child care records / Mother-Child-Passports of European countries,
- Preventive health screening by primary care pediatricians
- The types of developmental tests used and until which age.
- Adolescent healthcare records and surveys.

Immunization and Vaccines (and Biologicals) are the most important tools to protect the public especially infants, children and adolescents against vaccine-preventable diseases. We will collect the different vaccination schedules and programs of the EU countries and lobby for a general harmonized European immunization program.

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