

LIFE ■ Environment



EMAS and Information Technology in Hospitals



LIFE04 ENV/GR/114

## Final Conference eHOSPITALEMAS project

### «Environmental Management in Healthcare»

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
Hotel TITANIA, Athens, Greece



The Final Conference of the project eHospitalEMAS will take place on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The Conference is organized by the Department of Health Economics of the National School of Public Health with the support of WHO.

Presentations include topics such as the relationship between health and the environment, the possibilities of implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS) in the healthcare sector and the results of implementing an EMS in Asklepion Voulas General Hospital and Metropolitan Hospital (the two hospitals participating in the eHospitalEMAS project). Moreover, the software developed in the project's framework in order to facilitate the implementation of EMAS in the hospitals will be presented and distributed.

Additional information and Registration Forms are available on the project's website [www.ecohospitals.gr](http://www.ecohospitals.gr) and from the helpdesk.

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## eHospitalEMAS news



## Remaining Actions

eHOSPITALEMAS

## 1 One-day environmental awareness event

On Thursday, **January 25<sup>th</sup> 2007** an environmental awareness event will be organized at "Asklepieion" General Hospital.

The event will take place in the hospital's kindergarten where children 3-5 years old will watch a presentation on proper separation and recycling of waste. A drawing contest will also be organized.

The purpose of the event is for the children to be presented with activities such as recycling and understand its importance for the environment and our health.

The event aims also at targeting the parents, who will also be sensitized through the event as well as motivated to act on recycling.

Finally, t-shirts with the motto "I recycle for a cleaner environment" will be given to the children to reinforce the message on the importance of recycling.

## 2

## EMAS Accreditation for the participating hospitals

The final step to successfully implement EMAS is accreditation by an independent body.

During the accreditation an audit takes place in order to check whether EMAS regulations are met and also whether the organization complies with the legislation requirements. The auditor also makes sure that that updated and detailed environmental plans are available, which set specific goals, responsible persons and timetables and that the organization's environmental performance is being monitored.

The monitoring results are declared in the organization's Environmental Statement, which will in turn be verified by the auditor and made public. When all the above are successfully completed, the organization is added to the Greek Ministry for the Environment, Public Works and Physical Planning EMAS register as well as the European Commission EMAS register.

The pre-audit that took place in the "Asklepieion" General Hospital gave very encouraging results. The pre-audit for Metropolitan hospital will soon take place and soon after the final audits.

# Workshops

Two national workshops were organized by the Department of Health Economics of the National School of Public Health with the purpose of presenting the eHospitalEMAS project's goals, actions and expected results to healthcare executives at a national level.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop

### "EMAS and Information Technology in Hospitals"

Monday 25/9/2006  
09.00 a.m. - 13.00 p.m.  
National School of Public Health



Participants included executives from private and public hospitals, Regional Health Administrations, the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity and the projects' partners. The workshop began with the presentation of the eHospitalEMAS project. Following, the relationship between health and the environment was discussed, the steps to implementing Environmental Management System in a hospital and the first results of the participating hospitals.



During the second session, the possibilities of adopting green purchasing methodology were discussed, there was a presentation of the eHospitalEMAS software and the workshop ended with the presentation of the dissemination activities.



# Workshops

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop

### «Environmental Management in the Healthcare sector»

Parallel to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pan-Hellenic Congress on Health Management, Economics and Policy

Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2006

14.00 - 16.00 p.m.

Conference Room: Hesperides

Venue: Athens Hilton Hotel



The 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop of the eHospitalEMAS programme took place parallel to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pan-Hellenic Congress on Health Management, Economics and Policy organised annually by the Department of Health Economics of the National School of Public Health and targeted mostly executives of healthcare organisations outside the Attica Region.

The introductory speech was on the Economics of Green Volunteering followed by a presentation on development of environmental health indicators in order to support health policy decision-making with emphasis on child health (EMHIS).

The thematics of implementing an Environmental Management System in a healthcare organisation as well as energy efficiency measures and green procurement were presented next and the session was closed with a presentation of the eHospitalEMAS programme.



## Site visit to a European Hospital



Within the framework of the eHospitalEMAS programme the partners have made a site visit 12-16 December 2006 to two certified by EMAS Italian hospitals, in specific the Monoblocco Ospedaliero Alta Val d'Elsa and OSPEDALI RIUNITI VAL DI CHIANA SENESE located in Siena, Tuscany. The two hospitals are the only hospitals in Italy that have acquired EMAS registration as of March 2005.



During the 2-day visit hospital executives gave a series of presentations on EMAS in the two hospitals, its strategic importance for their organisation. Presentations on the importance of the protection of the environment and EMAS were also given by representatives of the region of Tuscany, the province of Siena and the hospitals' certifying body.



Guided tours were also organised with emphasis on the procedures followed in the two hospitals regarding hospital waste separation and management and energy management.



## Guide on Implementing Sustainable Waste Management

Healthcare waste management is an important environmental issue that requires attention due to its impact not only on the protection of Public Health and the Environment but also its importance for the safety of the healthcare professionals. In specific, protection of the healthcare workforce health and safety during healthcare waste management procedures is an important factor of decreasing the degree and severity of both the injuries and the threats to their health deriving from their exposure to infected materials.

The Guide on Implementing Sustainable Waste Management is available to all parties involved in healthcare management. It targets healthcare workers as well as the people responsible for implementing an Internal System of Solid Waste Management. It contains guidelines on developing an integrated healthcare waste management plan, containing the quantity of waste produced, liquid waste management and the necessary precautions for preventing and measures for organising personnel training programmes.

The full text of the guide is available in Greek at <http://www.ecohospitals.gr/downloads.php>



# eHOSPITALEMAS



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