

Observatory Venice Summer School

“Hospital reengineering: new roles, tasks and structures”

We would like to announce our Summer School in collaboration with the Veneto Region of Italy which will take place on the island of San Servolo in Venice 3 -8 August, 2008.

Objectives: The summer school will bring together a mix of policy-makers, planners and health professionals to review evidence and share experiences around hospitals and their links with other parts of the health and care systems and the community. The intention is to raise key issues, share participants' insights (whether they are practitioners or analysts), develop a greater understanding of how evidence and context interact and build networks. The emphasis will be on participative approaches, complemented by some formal teaching (in English).

Topic: The 2008 school will look at how hospitals interact with the rest of the health and care system and with the communities around them. The course will focus on the policy rather than management dimensions of boundaries to the outside world. The implications of the relationships with other actors (including patient and consumer groups) will be addressed as well as the repercussions for the division of labour and internal organization. It will help to understand and show how to support seamless links between services; and how to identify, plan for and manage hospitals' place in health and care systems.

Target audience: The summer school's target groups are (i) senior to mid-level policy-makers and (ii) a limited number of junior professionals who are making careers in policy and management at a regional, national or European level. All participants should be in institutions with decision-making powers whether government or non-governmental (e.g. ministries, national health institutes, federal committees), relevant provider or payer associations (such as national insurance boards, hospitals or hospital federations, management boards, physicians' chambers) or community stakeholder or consumer groups. Applications are welcome from all countries across the European Region.

Organization: Applications with CV will be invited in a formal announcement in January 2008. A selection process will follow and a limited number of bursaries will be available. The Summer School is accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education and therefore counts towards ongoing professional development in all EU Member States. The programme will be tailored to the mix of participants. The course will be led by leading international experts and decision-makers.

Please write for more details to summerschool2008@obs.euro.who.int

The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies supports and promotes evidence-based health policy-making through comprehensive and rigorous analysis of the dynamics of health care systems in Europe and beyond. It is a partnership that reflects the dynamic nature of policy-making. It includes national governments (Belgium, Finland, Greece, Norway, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden); regional governments (the Veneto Region) international organizations (the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, World Bank, European Investment Bank and Open Society Institute); and academia (London School of Economics and Political Science and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine). More information on the Observatory is available at www.euro.who.int/observatory