Dr Adela Maghear & Aidan Long
HCWH Europe
HCWH EUROPE’S AIM FOR PHARMACEUTICALS

Support the safe production, management and disposal of pharmaceuticals, reducing their environmental and health impact throughout the entire life cycle and fostering innovations for green products.
Learn more about the Safer Pharma campaign and challenge the pharmaceutical industry and legislators to protect human and environmental health in Europe.

Join the campaign!
The aim of this campaign:

Achieve new EU legislation that starts curbing pharmaceutical pollution, an EU law that will take action, which in turn will lead to a measurable reduction of pharmaceuticals in the environment over time.

Protect the environment from pharmaceutical pollution at all stage of their life cycle.
Challenge the pharmaceutical industry to clean up their production.

Raise awareness amongst healthcare professionals about the impact of pharmaceuticals in the environment, encouraging rational prescription practices.

Help citizens to understand the impact of pharmaceuticals in the environment and how to safely dispose of unused medicine.

Work towards transnational agreement to ensure the minimisation of pharmaceuticals in the environment.
The countries were selected taking into consideration the diverse types of collection systems for unused pharmaceuticals implemented at national, regional or local level.

Survey carried out in the capital cities of six European countries: Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, the United Kingdom.

Survey carried out in the capital cities of six European countries: Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, the United Kingdom.

The general public’s approach to disposal of unwanted medicines and to help assess the efficiency of existing pharmaceutical collection schemes in these countries.

600 respondents, 100 in each city.

HCWH – 2013 snapshot report
Unused Pharmaceuticals – Where Do They End Up?

THE STUDY
HOW THE COLLECTION SYSTEM WORKS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Pharmacies in the United Kingdom are obliged to take back and sort unwanted and/or unused medicines brought by patients and return these to the National Health Services (2013).

The system only covers household waste. Medicines from care homes cannot be accepted by pharmacies since 2005, unless pharmacies have a Waste Management Licence.

On certain occasions, besides the collections in pharmacies, local collection events are also organised by the NHS.

The main aims of the system are to provide an easy method for disposal of unwanted human medicines, while reducing environmental risk and accidental poisoning.

Local authorities, without the participation of the pharmaceutical industry, finance the disposal system and promote awareness campaigns.

All local Primary Care Trusts in England and Local Health Boards in Wales have a scheme in place to collect and dispose of unused medicines through pharmacies.
LIMITATIONS OF THE EU REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

- Directive 2004/27/EC (relating to medicinal products for human use) introduces an obligation for Member States to implement appropriate collection schemes for unused pharmaceutical products.

- It does not provide any guidelines on implementation of schemes and a number of studies have pointed to significant differences between Member States.

- Detailed information regarding the implementation and efficiency of collection schemes for unused pharmaceuticals throughout Europe is highly scattered and deficient, preventing comparisons between countries and type of scheme implemented.

- It is not clear that all EU countries have implemented their obligations.
EUROPEAN STRATEGIC APPROACH DELAYED

Diclofenac and 2 synthetic oestrogens are included on the Watch List of substances subject to EU-wide monitoring under the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2013/39/EU).

In 2018, the Commission will propose a Strategic Approach on pollution by pharmaceuticals.
DATABASE ON BEST PRACTICES TO ADDRESS PHARMACEUTICAL POLLUTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

A short state of the art evaluation on past/running approaches to reduce pharmaceuticals in the environment.

The database will be addressed to different stakeholder groups: pharmaceutical industry, policy makers, national authorities, health professionals.

The aim is to give the best practice examples on a national scale for distinct measures/actions taken that the past/running projects have described as being successful or, by contrary, have been proven ineffective.

This database will enable good networking among different stakeholders.
SURVEY ON ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA APPLIED AT MANUFACTURING PLANTS

Build a survey for pharmaceutical industry to respond on how they address environmental criteria at their manufacturing plants both in Europe and overseas.
GLOBAL GREEN AND HEALTHY HOSPITALS (GGHH)

- An international network of:
  - Hospitals
  - Healthcare facilities
  - Health systems
  - Health organisations

- Members are dedicated to reducing their environmental footprint and promoting public and environmental health
GGHH MEMBERS AROUND THE WORLD

GGHH has 805 members from 47 countries representing the interests of 25,600 hospitals and health centres

US & Canada
HCWH’s implementation arm, Practice Greenhealth has 1,400 Hospital members in the U.S. In Canada, GGHH members include 5 Health Systems and 2 Organisations representing the interest of 878 Hospitals and Health Centres.

Europe
22 hospitals and health centres, 19 health systems and 9 organisations, representing the interest of 6,602 hospitals and health centres.

Asia
92 hospitals and healthcare facilities, 6 health systems and 11 organisations representing the interest of 8,224 hospitals and health centres.

Latin America
447 hospitals and health centres, 34 health systems and 14 organisations, representing the interest of 1,592 hospitals and health centres.

Africa
30 hospitals, 5 health systems and 2 organisations, representing the interest of 1,453 hospitals and health centres.

Pacific
6 hospitals, 19 health systems and 5 organizations, representing the interest of 581 hospitals and health centers.

Global
1 health system and 3 organizations representing the interest of 1,040 hospitals
EUROPEAN GGHH MEMBERS

- 22 hospitals and health centres,
- 19 health systems, and
- 9 organisations

Representing the interest of 6,602 hospitals and health centres.
EXPERTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

60 from academic, government, public sector, private sector in all 10 goal areas
GGHH PROGRAMMES & BENEFITS

The GGHH Agenda and its 10 sustainability goals

Protect public health from climate change

A data center to measure your footprint and track progress

An online global collaboration platform

Online education to learn about sustainable health

Guidance documents for sustainable health care action

Find out more at www.greenhospitals.net
Mobilising healthcare institutions around the globe to protect public health from climate change

MITIGATION  RESILIENCE  LEADERSHIP
• The **connective tissue** of the GGHH network
• **1,200** users from around the world
• Innovative online platform
• Access all GGHH member **tools and resources**
• **Crowd source** questions and receive advice
• Visit **community spaces and discussion forums** focused on the 10 goal topics
• Inspire and educate
• Access **Hippocrates data centre**
GGHH CONNECT – COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS

Pharmaceuticals Community

HCWH Report: Unused Pharmaceuticals: Where do they end up?

This report discusses the results of a survey carried out by HCWH Europe in the capital cities of six European countries to understand the general public’s approach to disposal of unwanted medicines and to help assess the efficiency of existing pharmaceutical collection schemes.

Download the Report

Recent Community Activity

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Pharmaceutical Pollution - the need for sustainable procurement

Anja Leetz

Pharmaceutical Pollution - the need for sustainable procurement
6/20/17 1:49 PM

Dear colleagues,

HCWH Europe organised a webinar on pharmaceutical pollution with a specific angle on procurement. You can listen to the recording here.

Speakers were Professor Alistair Boxall, Professor in Environmental Science - University of York Environment Department and Ms. Lorea Coronado-Garcia, Greening Health Systems Specialist - UNDP HIV, Health and Development Team, Istanbul Regional Hub.

Let me know if this is interesting and useful for you or if you want us to put on additional webinars on pharmaceuticals.

Regards, Anja
GGHH CONNECT – COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS

What are the most effective strategies for energy conservation in hospitals?
One-stop shop for healthcare sustainability data!
NOT JUST ABOUT DATA!
FORMS – REPORT AND TRACK!
GRAPHS – BENCHMARK AND COMPARE!

- Emissions from burning diesel:
  - Yearly emissions in metric tons of CO₂.
  - Comparison of emissions over years.

- Emissions from burning naphtha for transportation:
  - Yearly emissions in metric tons of CO₂.
  - Comparison of emissions over years.

- Simple total waste generation:
  - Hazardous chemical waste.
  - General waste.

- Waste treatment and disposal:
  - Different types of waste.

- Percentage of total greenhouse gas emissions:
  - Comparison of emissions from different sources.

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INTERACT WITH YOUR TEAM AND OTHERS AROUND THE GLOBE!
JOINING GGHH

Membership is FREE

Open to the Health Sector
- Hospitals
- Health Systems
- Health Centers
- Healthcare Organizations

Member request on the GGHH website: www.greenhospitals.net/

For more information contact: globalnetwork@hcwh.org