

Report of MACEDONIA

ACTION PLAN 2015-2016

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Initiative team Istanbul 2015

- Progress
- Stagnation
- Regression
- ???!!!!!! ...

**Comprehensive abortion care in
Macedonia**

- Even though majority of factors which influence and contribute to the development and realisation of the predetermined goals of obtaining Comprehensive abortion care in Macedonia are available...
- Still... we realise that without wide support from the MoH, HiF, ruling political party's policies with tendency towards restrictive law regulations ...



- Options for a legal progress towards CAC in Macedonia are very LIMITED
- So, are we stagnating or maybe even regressing?



- **No.**
- Because every progress based on evidence based medicine and achieving higher standard of health care for the patients is unstoppable!
- It can be slow down in certain circumstances, but NOT stopped
- In the era of internet knowledge sharing, professionals learn and put into practice their newly acquired knowledge

- Unofficially, if 60% of Obs&Gyn knew about MA in 2012, and 26 % were using it (survey done by Dr.Brankica Mladenovic),
- Now 95-100 % know about it, and more than 60 % are providing that service to their patients
- MVA is offered and used maybe by up to 5% of the Obs&Gyn, in several private practices



- During past several years , population of Obs&Gyn is shifting towards younger age, with education in foreign languages (mainly English and German) , with less prejudices and reluctance towards “new methods” of abortion services and contraceptive technologies
- Educated female population in Macedonia is more informed about different options of delivering abortion services and family planning, and asking questions and demanding answer for the best standard of abortion care

- Family physicians are also being educated and consequently becoming part of the education and prescription process of family planning methods and options for safe abortion
- So far, more than 200 family physicians have been trained and supplied with the essential literature on contraceptives and abortion

- Non Governmental organisations dealing with human rights, gender based issues, women's right to choice and social welfare are all well educated and involved in activities, development and distribution of brochures, as well as debates, press conferences and protests
- They are interlinked among themselves, and coordinate their activities



- Even though all the parties involved in the process (doctors, clients and NGO's) are progressing to better education, knowledge and activities....
- Lack of support from responsible governmental institutions , or let's say opstruction from their side is making that the things are moving slowly and partially on the "non regulated field"

- What does it mean?!
- We may conclude that the methods are known, partially used and asked from the clients, but are completely unregulated and possibly legally dangerous



- According to the new restrictive law, three day waiting period is asked before the actual abortion method is used
- Medications for MA are not officially recognized as a means for abortion, and are not registered yet
- MVA is not officially recognised as a method of abortion

- MA and MVA are official and recognised methods in the Standards of safe abortion-(developed and adapted by the WHO standards) and approved by the Association of Obs&Gyn of Macedonia
- ..but not signed by the Minister of Health and blocked procedure of approval by the Government



- The Law- proposing FINE up to 5000 Euro for not acting according to the regulations in it...
- Fortunately, nobody is accused and fined for delivering abortions and not-obeying the new law

- Let see and briefly discuss the objectives





- **Objective 1:**
- To ensure that at least 50% of clinics provide CAC services according to WHO recommendations using MVA and MA by
 - Changing practices locally- using the adopted Standards of safe abortion from Obs&Gyn Association-

- Standards-approval form MoH
- Workshop on MA and MVA- possibly at the University Clinic of Obs&Gyn and with the help of FIGO Regional Coordinator (preliminary talks done)
- Procurement of MA drugs
- Procurement of MVA sets (5 sets donated by Stelian)

- Starting routine practice and option to the women for other abortion practice than D&C
- Once more printing and distributing brochures on MA for health professionals and clients

- **Objective 2:**
- To ensure that more than 30 % of women request MVA or MA when applying for Termination of pregnancy as a result of rising awareness campaign

Campaigns

- NVO
- MAGO
- UN affiliated organisations

**Printed and web based
informational leaflet
and sites**



- **Objective 3:**
- To increase from 13% to 30% use of modern contraceptive methods, by improving the competences of health providers from different levels of care for contraception information and counselling

- **FP activities**

- Training programmes /modules developed
- FP curricula for different groups developed
- TOT module conducted
- Active and regular modules for family physicians conducted

Book on family planning
training develop/printed

4 corner stone books on
FP and contraception
translated on
Macedonian/Albanian-
CD distributed



Still, lot has to be done

Today and in the future



- Sometimes everybody needs some help



спасибо
danke 謝謝
ngiyabonga
teşekkür ederim
tapadh leat
gracias
moichchakkeram
go raibh maith agat
arigatō
dakujem
merci
ευχαριστώ
terima kasih
sukriya
kop khun krap
grazie
sagolun
dziękuję
hvala
mauriuru
obrigado
bedankt

