

## **GPCRG (Greek Primary Care Respiratory Group)**

2012-2013 Activities Report

### **Main activities in 2012-13**

1. Creation of a network of family physicians and other health professionals interested in respiratory diseases.
2. Representing GPCRG in major international, national primary care conferences, including leading and chairing sessions on respiratory diseases (ie; participation in WONCA, in the IPCRG conference, in the national ELEGEIA conference each year).
3. Distribution of available teaching material and IPCRG leaflets in GPs interested in respiratory diseases.
4. Training students and GPs during residence about COPD, asthma, smoking cessation.
4. Supporting new GPs in research; providing guidance to generate their research ideas, supporting in methodology and statistics.
5. Each year since 3 years 2-3 COPD schools of a 4 days duration are organized as well as 1 on smoking cessation. These schools are highly attended and practical spirometry courses are also offered. Till now more than 300 GPs from all over Greece have been trained.
6. Participation in the formulation of a first attempt to create national guidelines for asthma and COPD. IPCRG and gpcrg involved.
7. Participation in the Board of IPCRG.
8. Review and translation of the document "Improving the care of adults with difficult to manage asthma: a practical guide for primary healthcare professionals". Opinion sheet translation in greek distributed in colleagues.
9. Participation in the development of the IPCRG COPD wellness tools.
10. Participation in the 6th World Conference of the International Primary Care Respiratory Group - Breathing New Life Conference, Edinburgh, 25th-28th April 2012. Several research ideas have been presented and implementation has started.
11. Participated in the translation and validation of the CARAT.
12. Participated in several UNLOCK projects.



13.

IPCRG in collaboration with ELEGEIA (GPCRG) will host the 7<sup>th</sup> World Conference of the International Primary Care Respiratory Group. 21<sup>st</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> May 2014, in Athens. Within this remarkable opportunity all GPs in Greece (public and private sector have been informed by post about IPCRG and current activities and welcomed to join IPCRG, gpcrg and the conference. 2500 letters have been send).

14. In collaboration with IPCRG and the flu at a glance GPs have been informed through emails and the website about the value of the flu vaccination. (700 emails) have been sent for each newsletter and we are now in the newsletter number 9 (9 out of 12). This initiative has been very well received by colleagues and by the calculated rate of opening of these emails.