



CPME Statement regarding Children Immunization

CPME welcomes the opportunity to table written statements to the WHO Regional conference Europe on such relevant topics of public health such as children vaccination.

Doctors believe there is still much to be done regarding children immunization both by healthcare professionals and parents, taking into account that every year 1.4 million of 10.6 million children that die before the age of five, are due to diseases that could have been prevented by vaccines (WHO/World Bank, 2005).

Regarding the role of doctors, especially those working in the primary care sector, we believe it is necessary to convince doubting parents to vaccinate their children according to the current national vaccination plans. They should also advise them to vaccinate their children with additional shots according to the child's health condition.

Doctors, especially those working in hospitals, should themselves get vaccinated against flu.

Doctors should reaffirm parents or their patients that vaccinating their children is much safer than not vaccinating them¹.

Doctors' organizations should convince the health care staff (including individual doctors) and the public that the vaccinations are indeed safe, necessary and ethical.

CPME supports the goal to maintain a polio-free Europe and eliminate measles and rubella by 2015.

❖ CPME Policy documents:

- CPME points in response to the Commission consultation document "Better medicines for children", adopted in 2002
- Motion on the prevention of infectious diseases, adopted in 2000
- Specific recommendations on preventive medicine, adopted in 1993
- Declaration on preventive medicine, adopted in 1984

❖ References:

WHO, World Bank. Global Burden of Disease, 2005.

http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/84302/Seven_Key_Reasons.pdf

WHO, Talking to parent about vaccines for children. 2012

http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/160755/Talking-with-Parents.pdf

¹ WHO, Talking to parent about vaccines for children. 2012 http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/160755/Talking-with-Parents.pdf