



News from the International HPH Network

Team-up for Clinical Health Promotion - beneficial and rewarding networking

All professionals working with Clinical Health Promotion should look into using the umbrella of the International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals & Health Services, so they don't have to stand alone and invent the projects from scratch, implement the ideas and convince their managers. But how to use the HPH Network in a meaningful way and how to find the right partners and collaborators?

By Jeff Kirk Svane, Technical Officer in the International HPH Secretariat

About the The HPH Network

The International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals & Health Services is a "network of networks". In total, it consists of more than 30 National/Regional HPH Networks, collaborating to reorient health care towards active promotion of health.

Each of the National/Regional HPH Networks consist of a minimum of 3 hospital and health service members. Furthermore, more than 60 hospitals and health services are individual HPH members of the International Network, since they are located in places yet without a National/Regional Network.

Get further information about the HPH Network at: www.hphnet.org

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Professionals working with Health Promotion in hospitals are entrepreneurs. We get things going, start up projects and create work and activity that puts things into motion in many places – changing the ways our organisations do business and reaching much further than our own departments. We just rarely see ourselves this way. After all, we are just doing our jobs and taking care of the patients as well and as whole-heartedly as we can, right? Sometimes, it works well and sometimes it works less well, but it works.

But what if you want it to work well all the time? One way to make this reality is to team-up and collaborate with other HP professionals in a network – and here we are lucky, since such a network already exists - The International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals (the HPH Network).

The raison d'être of HPH has been formulated in a common agreement on a certain basis-level standard for Health Promotion – practically formulated in the official WHO HPH Standards. A network is defined as a relation between different persons. It can be a social relation like family, interest-based like sports or cultural, a professional relation with colleagues, a more random relation with travel mates, or a combination of these types.

As a member of the International HPH Network you are automatically part of a closely-knit network – and one that is

pre-dominantly based on professional interest and work. Whether it be local, national or international, HPH lets you take part in lots of activities which practically cover the entire spectrum of important issues: getting inspired and learning more about Health Promotion, visiting and sharing knowledge with others that have something to show, convincing managers, obtaining funds, designing and implementing Health Promoting projects, publishing and disseminating results and knowledge, and much more.



The International HPH Network builds on discussions and collaboration from international colleagues with different approaches to and ideas of Health Promotion.

In common for all these activities are that you can commit as much as you like, and that you can pick and choose activities fitting your interests and needs: the activities are not mandatory and you can take part to a degree that fits you, and you can do so when it suits you.

This article however is about turning up the commitment dial on your involvement in the HPH Network.



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The HPH Network (both internationally and locally) is a network of professionals with a common interest in Health Promotion and with a common ambition to optimize the efforts and the uptake within their organisation.

Like all other entrepreneurs, you are probably great at networking on the non-committed level already, and you undoubtedly have a well-functioning network of colleagues and co-workers. Most likely, you take part in meetings, conferences and other events in your local setting that is related to Health Promotion. But if you want to do even more with your Health Promotion and the actual implementation of it, you should consider making better use of the benefits and tools that a more formal and committed network, such as the HPH Network has to offer.

This is how the HPH Network works

In a well-functioning network, people move away from “me-thinking” and begin “we-thinking”. Network members exchange information, share knowledge, pass on know-how, and in some ways they also take on risk and cost as a team, rather than by themselves. Like with a baseball team, each win is a result of a group-effort – and each defeat is on all of us. It makes sense to share both victories and defeats – and more often than not, you’ll find that whatever obstacles you face in your Health Promoting work has been faced before somewhere else, and whichever success you have had, will be of as much use to someone else as it has been to you.

The competencies of each individual member hospital and the persons that represent it, can benefit and be used by other members, because each organisation and each person contributes what they have to offer – and we all have different skills, resources, professional backgrounds and knowledge. This is, for some reason, abundantly true for Health Promotion since it seems there is no “typical professional route to Health Promotion” and active HPH professionals tend to come from a multitude of different job-functions and professions. As a result, the combined pool of knowing and doing is hugely beneficial to have at disposal of each member, which is the case in the HPH Network.

Once an HPH member, it is of course also possible to personalize your involvement and its content – to make your network more specific. After all, judging from the many takes on HP that exists, we as professionals have a tendency to have as many opinions as we are people. For that reason, it can be beneficial to focus on topics that are especially relevant to your exact work - such as how to do research in Health Promotion, how best to implement Health Promoting activities, how to do physi-

cal activity interventions in hospitals, etc. Or you could tweak your involvement towards a very goal-oriented purpose, sharing the responsibilities related to a given Health Promotion activity or project – such as running a scientific project, supplementing each other’s portfolios with new ideas, helping each other with abstract writing and reviewing, writing articles together etc.



In November 2011, the Korean HPH Network arranged a baseball tournament for health professional in Andong City, Korea. The one day event presented the opportunity for Korean health professionals to gain insight in the area of Health Promotion and to network with colleagues and others.

Things to consider before you join

First and foremost, you need to be clear on the purpose at hand. What are your goals related to joining the network? To get that sorted, you can start with a simple “who-what-why”.

Who are you looking for in terms of collaborators? Are they national or international, practitioners, policy makers or a certain profession, etc?

What does joining the network entail in regard of benefits and commitments? Be sure you read what you commit to, and consider whether you are ready and able to deliver on the commitments you sign up for in the HPH Letter of Intent – this of course also includes paying the member fee.

Why do we do it? What is the purpose of joining? It could often be about implementing Health Promotion and you would do well to articulate your “why” in a sentence at the very onset - e.g. “we want to ensure that Health Promotion is implemented in our hospital to the benefit of patients, staff and community.”

Next, and maybe after you join, you would probably need to begin defining the above in more detail – what is, for instance, the minimum level of implementation needed for you (and your colleagues and managers) to consider the improvement in HP activities and the HPH membership as such a success and a good investment of time and resources?



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You should also start gearing up for the practical work – such as by finding out who will coordinate Health Promotion in your hospital and setting up a multidisciplinary steering committee for Health Promotion to help that person (read the WHO HPH Standards for details on what is good to measure and how to set up HPH in a hospital).

This is how you join the HPH Network and start reaping the benefits

All types of hospitals and health services, anywhere in the world, can join HPH. The only requirement is that your organisation actively sees patients.

To join HPH, simply fill out the HPH Letter of Intent and submit to the International HPH Secretariat at info@hphnet.org.

If you are in an area that has a National/Regional HPH Network, you can send the letter directly to the National/Regional Coordinator. Check if you have a National/Regional Network and find the contact information you need here: <http://www.hphnet.org/members/nr-networks>.

Once the HPH Secretariat has your Letter of Intent in hand, we will process the application and commence the ratification process. An invoice for the annual HPH member fee will be issued to you – the current rate is 250 Euro per hospital per year – and once this is paid; your membership certificate will be issued. There are reduced fee for members from lower income and developing countries. Please visit the HPH website for more information.

This is how you keep the momentum

We are all different in terms of interest and opinion, disposition and collaborating skills. That is why the following 10 advice of networking are good to follow. They may be common sense to a certain degree, but they will help you get the most out of your HPH membership:

- Use the reciprocity principle: contribute first
- Be present and attentive
- Be precise and interesting
- Be honest and diplomatic
- Ask for help
- Follow up and remember to say thanks
- Train your people-skills
- Be patient and think long-term
- Be a bridge-builder and create contact
- Take initiative – it is okay to challenge yourself

You can also contact the International HPH Secretariat for more support regarding how to get involved in HPH, becoming a member, fully utilise the network etc.

Among other things, the membership also carries with it benefits such as:

- Use of the HPH emblem on publications and electronic material
- Reduced conference fees at HPH Conferences
- Easy access to combined Health Promotion knowledge, know-how, strategies, methods of more than 900 hospitals and health services working in the field
- Invitations to join research projects – often a way to fast-track your hospital's becoming truly health promoting - and at the same time access to a network of possible partners for research you want to do
- Access to professional development, teaching and training in Health Promotion topics – such as in WHO HPH Schools
- Invitations to join international task forces and working groups (and the possibility to initiate such groups)
- Technical and strategic support from the International Secretariat. If applicable, support from national/regional coordinating institution
- A hospital profile on the International HPH website, free copies of the Clinical Journal of Health Promotion and the HPH newsletter
- Tools for Health Promotion work and support for how to successfully use them - such as the WHO HPH Standards, HPH models, guide for healthy workplace, SEMT on children's rights in hospital, standards for equity in health etc.
- Energy, direction, support and inspiration – crucial to the success of your Health Promotion work

Affiliated membership

If your organization does not see patients and is thus not eligible for normal HPH membership, but has a supportive role (such as a university, a health IT company or so on) you can apply for Affiliate HPH Membership, if you fulfil the ethical criteria. Read more about Affiliate Membership and become a member under this scheme here: <http://www.hphnet.org/members/affiliatedmembers>

Welcome to the HPH Team.



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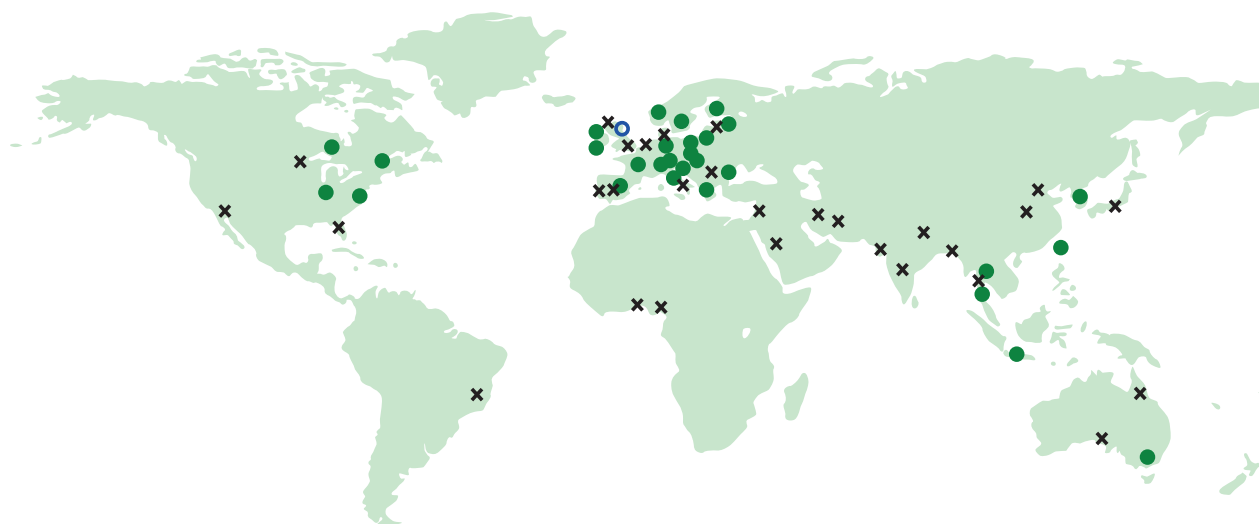
The first members from Pakistan & Ghana have joined the HPH Network

The International HPH Network continues expanding world wide, and it is with great pleasure that we welcome our two newest HPH members: New World Hope Organisation from Pakistan & Municipal Health Directorate from Ghana.

New World Hope Organization provides health care to rural and low income areas by raising awareness, capacity building and service delivery. New World Hope Organisation is running a total of 12 hospitals, clinics and health centres in Pakistan, and they offer a variety of health care and nutrition programs to their patients. They also do community work; including renovating and building, equipping and running health care hospitals and health care centres, training midwives and traditional birth attendants along with providing medication, health and hygiene training. We wish to welcome New World Hope Organisation welcome in the International HPH Network.

We also wish to welcome the Municipal Health Directorate, Tetrem Hospital, as the first Ghanesian member of the International HPH Network. The Municipal Health Directorate is only the second HPH member in Africa, and the International HPH Network hopes to gain wider representation in the continent in the nearest future.

Map of the worldwide representation of HPH member Hospitals and Health Services by end of March 2014



● = Country / Region with HPH Network(s)

✕ = Country / Region with individual Hospital or Health Service HPH Member(s)

○ = Affiliated Member(s)

The International HPH Network has members in all six continents and in a total of 42 countries. The HPH Network was initiated in Europe in the 1990'ties and has since then experienced a great expansion, especially in North America, Asia and Australia. In the last two years, members in Afrika and Brazil have also joined the HPH Network.



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Legacy statement from the chair of the HPH Governance Board, Dr. Shu-Ti Chiou

After having served for four years as an elected member, with the last two years as the Chair of the HPH Governance Board, we now sadly say good bye to Dr. Shu-Ti Chiou, the Coordinator and founder of the Taiwanese HPH Network.

Dr. Chiou has been a very active and influential contributor to the International HPH Network, where she among many other things has been a strong force in the HPH, most notably in Asia. Dr. Chiou has been key to many initiatives and projects, and the HPH Network wishes to thank and acknowledge her for all her work and excellent leadership. Below, we present Dr. Chiou's Legacy Statement.

Dear friends and colleagues

I would like to thank the network members for the support and opportunity granted to me to serve the International HPH Network as Chair of the Governance Board. It has been a wonderful experience working with all the outstanding and devoted GB members, WHO-CCs and the secretariat. Thank you all!

I joined the GB first as an observer in 2008, and then was elected to be the Vice Chair in 2010. I have been actively participating in several task forces, working groups and various network duties, including the Editorial Board of Clinical Health Promotion, the TFU Task Force, Task Force for HPH & Environment, Task Force for HPH & Age-friendly Health Care, Scientific Committee for the HPH Conference, a working group on WHO-HPH standards, a working group on healthy workplace, etc. The process of working with you was fruitful and inspiring!

During my two-year term as the GB Chair from 2012 to 2014, I deeply appreciated your efforts to promote the growth of our international network to over 1,000 members across 5 continents. The expansions in Eastern Europe and in Asia were most remarkable. I'm also happy to see Taiwan's growth to more than 130 members during this period. It has also been a privilege for me to sign several important MoUs on behalf of HPH, such as the MoU with the Global Network for Tobacco Free Health Care Services signed in 2012 and the MoU with the International Hospital Federation signed in 2013. It is unforgettable to see that every GB member has been taking at least 1 or 2 portfolios and has worked so hard to carry out all GB strategies very well. The secretariat also did very well in supporting the work of the HPH Governance Board and General Assembly. You are marvelous!

As the Director-General of Taiwan's Health Promotion Administration, I had the opportunity to give speeches

in various international conferences, and I often talked about partnership between public health and health care or other HPH-related issues. I hope this helped to raise the visibility of the HPH Network to some extent. These events included the 2012 annual assembly of the US Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the 38th IHF World Congress in Oslo 2013, the 20th World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Korea 2013, European Health Forum Gastein 2010-2013, APHA 2011, Global Health Forum 2013 in Taiwan, the 2013 McKinsey LSN Conference in London, etc.

Last year, I had the honor of being elected Global Vice President for Partnerships of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) with a 3-year term. I will continue to advocate for HPH through the IUHPE platform and its events.

I am grateful to see the collaboration between us. I'm confident that the network will continue to develop and expand under the leadership of the new chair. And, no doubt about it, Taiwan HPH Network will also continue to actively participate with you and promote the Global strategies of the International HPH Network.



Dr. Shu-Ti Chiou
Chair Governance Board
The International HPH Network
April 2012 - April 2014



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Follow the HPH Network on Social Media – join the global LinkedIn Group

With more than 800 members, the global HPH LinkedIn profile is active and is filled with interesting and useful discussions for everyone interested in health promotion and the HPH Network.



As the use of Social Media is heavily increasing, the HPH Network has followed the trend and is now very active via the LinkedIn group: Health Promoting Hospitals & Health Services - Global.

The group is administrated by Sally Fawkes, Coordinator for the Victorian HPH Network in Australia and member of the HPH Governance Board. Sally has been very active in the advancement of the HPH Network on the Social Media. The HPH Group on LinkedIn is a dynamic forum for lively discussions and a way to share views and ideas of interest for the members. The LinkedIn group also offers the opportunity to establish new contacts with other interested in Health Promotion.

Amongst the many interesting discussions at the LinkedIn group we can mention: Effective governance structure; Clinical tool for addressing poverty; Supporting patients to be smoke-free; Promoting Health equity – what can systems and government policy do?

Join the LinkedIn group and express your views and input in the many discussions.



International Network of
HHealth
Promoting
Hospitals & Health Services

HPH Material in local language needed

Among the recent developments of the HPHNET.ORG website, the HPH secretariat have added Google Translate, so that visitors can have the website displayed in 50+ languages. Following this improvement, the secretariat wants to update the website with local language HPH materials.

This is why we kindly ask the National/Regional HPH Coordinators, to please send us any HPH material that has been translated into your local language. We will then upload the material to the website, in order to support the existing and future members in your regions even better.

Please send any translated HPH materials you have on file to info@hphnet.org

