

European Society of Hypertension

WG on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk assessment in subjects living in or emigrating from Low Resource Settings
WG on CV Risk in LRS

Working Group on: **CARDIOVASCULAR RISK IN LOW RESOURCE SETTINGS**

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PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Background and Aims

Stroke mortality, is now highest in Eastern Europe, north Asia, central Africa, and the south Pacific. If we assume that stroke mortality can serve as a proxy for average blood pressure (BP) in a population, the necessity to adopt actions to increase the diagnosis, treatment and hypertension control in low resource settings (LRS) is now a recognized global priority.

Issues for specific activities of the WG

1. Current WHO/ISH guidelines for developing countries support adoption of a total risk approach enabling the intensity of interventions to be matched to the degree of total risk. Information regarding the prevalence of proteinuria in LRS is lacking.

WG specific activities:

to prepare a state- of -the -art review article and/or a White Paper on CV risk stratification and management in LRS

to investigate the prevalence of early kidney damage (proteinuria) and to validate the ESH/ESC algorithm for CV risk assessment in LRS

to promote more frequent and widespread BP measurement as a screening tool also thanks to ad hoc developed devices in LRS

to prepare educational material for ESH Summer and Winter Schools to promote awareness on hypertension and CV risk in LRS

2. In the last decades of the 20th century, Europe witnessed a relevant wave of immigration. A high prevalence of hypertension and CV disease with a low rate of awareness has been observed in immigrants. Communication problems and cultural barriers in the approach to prevention strategies have to be specifically addressed.

WG specific activities:

to start a screening program on immigrants living in different European countries using a shared methodology

to analyze administrative datasets such as hospital admission episodes statistics and drug prescriptions to target need and reduce inequalities

3. In recent years different technologies proved their value in improving cardiovascular risk stratification. However, the costs of instruments and personnel are a relevant limitation to move these technologies in LRS.

WG specific activities:

to develop diagnostic tools which can be used by non-medical personnel, nomadic caregivers, for screening purposes able to provide enough information for addressing the subject to further evaluation

to facilitate communication of clinical data to caregivers also in remote areas of LRS through appropriate application of novel communication technologies

4. Planning and implementation of intervention strategies for cardiovascular prevention in LRS and migrants (in particular targeting high risk populations).

WG specific activities:

to model the effect of salt reduction policies, of smoking cessation and of pharmacological prevention strategies on hypertension and CV risk in LRS.

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APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE

1. A degree in medicine and/or specialization in cardiology, nephrology, internal medicine or any biomedical science
2. An ongoing scientific activity in Low Income Countries or Migration (according to main publications and impact factor)
3. A willingness to actively participate to Working Group activities (list of fields of interest)

WG ACTIVITIES

WG at the ESH Congress

22nd European Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Protection, London, UK: The ESH Council accepted the proposal by PA Modesti and G Parati and the WG was founded

23rd European Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Protection, Milan, Italy: The WG organized the first Virtual Session on June 15, 2013: Virtual Session - **Global Health: The Need for New Perspectives** (webcast: http://esh2013.infomedica.com/Webcast/Virtual_Session/index.html)

Publications by WG

Modesti PA, Agostoni P, Agyemang C, Basu S, Benetos A, Cappuccio FP, Ceriello A, Del Prato S, Kalyesubula R, O'Brien E, Kilama MO, Perlini S, Picano E, Reboldi G, Remuzzi G, Stuckler D, Twagirumukiza M, Van Bortel LM, Watfa G, Zhao D, Parati G; for the ESH Working Group on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk in Low Resource Settings. CARDIOVASCULAR RISK ASSESSMENT IN LOW RESOURCE SETTINGS. A consensus document of the European Society of Hypertension Working Group on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk in Low Resource Settings. *J.Hypertension* 2014 Feb 26. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 24577410.

Publications by WG Members

Due to the very large number of publications by the WG members, only papers dealing with the Topics covered by WG have been listed here below: