

European Health Examination Survey Conference

Monitoring the Health of Europeans

6-7 March 2012
Brussels, Belgium



The European Health Examination Survey (EHES) is a collaboration between European countries to collect nationally representative high quality health data which are comparable between countries and over time. The purpose of EHES is to facilitate evidence-based planning and evaluation of public health policies and actions. EHES is particularly valuable for monitoring major modifiable risk factors of chronic diseases, which cause 86% of deaths in Europe.

EHES Pilot project was conducted in 2009-2011. During that, standardized health examination surveys (HES) in the working age population were planned and piloted in 12 countries. Some of the countries had earlier national HESs and some were planning their first national HES. The core measurements, included by all countries, were weight, height, waist circumference and blood pressure, and blood samples were taken to measure lipid profiles and glucose or HbA_{1c}. These are modifiable determinants of major chronic diseases which cannot be monitored by other means, such as health interview surveys or administrative registers. There was also a short questionnaire to complement the data on the examination measurements.

The EHES Conference will present the key results of the EHES Pilot project and provide a forum for the discussions on the needs and uses of health examination data on both policy making and research. The conference has oral presentations but also posters describing the results of the individual national HESs or pilot surveys and the details of the work of the EHES Reference Centre.



The meeting of the Employment, Social Policy and Consumer Affairs Council of the European Union in December 2011 called the European Commission to:

“Consider the need for the better deployment of existing data and additional comparative data and information on unhealthy lifestyle behaviours, social health determinants and non-communicable chronic disease. This should be obtained for sustainable health monitoring system already in place or which might be established at EU level.”



Agenda of the EHES Conference

This is a tentative programme (12 January 2012) of the EHES Conference. The titles of the presentations and the schedule are indicative. The final programme will be published at the EHES Conference website at http://www.ehes.info/EHES_conference.htm after all speakers have been confirmed.

Tuesday, 6 March 2012

Health examination surveys - from monitoring to health policy

Chair: Hanna Tolonen, EHES Project Manager, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:00-9:30	Registration and setup of posters	
9:30-10:00	Opening of the conference	To be confirmed
10:00-10:20	Health policy and health monitoring in Europe	To be confirmed
10:20-11:00	Coffee break and posters	
11:00-11:30	EHES - Setup and expectations	Kari Kuulasmaa, EHES Leader
11:30-12:30	EHES - Implications	Kari Kuulasmaa, EHES Leader
12:30-13:45	Lunch and posters	
13:45-14:05	Health examination surveys in Italy	Donato Greco, Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Italy
14:05-14:25	40 years of health examination surveys in Finland	Pekka Puska, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland
14:25-14:45	New health examination survey in Slovakia	Gabriel Šimko, Public Health Authority of Slovak Republic, Slovak Republic
14:45-15:05	NHANES, USA	To be confirmed
15:05-15:25	Discussion on the presented national experiences	
15:25-16:05	Coffee break and posters	
16:05-16:50	Panel discussion: Health examination surveys - a tool for health monitoring, health policy and research	To be confirmed
16:50-17:00	Summary of the 1 st day	Kari Kuulasmaa, EHES Leader



Agenda of the EHES Conference

Wednesday, 7 March 2012

Comparable data through standardization

Chair: Kari Kuulasmaa, Research Professor, EHES Leader, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:00-9:30	Summary of the 1 st day	Hanna Tolonen, EHES Project Manager
9:30-9:50	Role of surveys in nutrition surveillance in Europe	Liisa Valsta, EU/EFSA
9:50-10:10	Role of surveys in human biomonitoring	Anke Joas, COPHES Project
10:10-10:40	How new measurements get included to the NHANES?	To be confirmed
10:40-11:20	Coffee break and posters	
11:20-12:05	EHES Manual and national HES manuals - tool for standardized national HESs	Hanna Tolonen, EHES Project Manager
12:05-12:35	Importance of training in standardization of national HESs	Päivikki Koponen, EHES RC
12:35-13:50	Lunch and posters	
13:50-15:00	Quality assurance measures in EHES	
	Site visits	Katri Kilpeläinen, EHES RC
	Laboratory data quality	Georg Alfthan, EHES RC
	Evaluation reports	Hanna Tolonen, EHES Project Manager
15:00-15:40	Coffee break and posters	
15:40-16:00	Innovations and limitations in the recruitment of survey participants	Sanna Ahonen, EHES RC
16:00-16:30	HEIDI-system for disseminating health indicators	To be confirmed
16:30-17:00	Summary of the Conference	Hanna Tolonen, EHES Project Manager



Conference venue and registration

Conference venue

The EHES Conference will be organized in Bibliothèque Solvay, Leopoldpark, 137 rue Belliard, Brussels, Belgium.

The meeting place is located just behind the European Parliament and can be easily accessed from the Brussels city centre by metro.



Registration

The EHES Conference is free of charge but the registration is necessary due to limited size of the conference venue.

Please, fill-in the registration form at http://www.ehes.info/EHES_conference.htm.

The deadline for the registration is on 10 February 2012.

For more information, please see the EHES Conference website at http://www.ehes.info/EHES_conference.htm or contact Katri Kilpeläinen (katri.kilpelainen@thl.fi) or Sanna Ahonen (sanna.ahonen@thl.fi).



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