

Workshop for HPH Newcomers 2009

The Vienna Recommendations 1997

Virpi Honkala, MD

Medical director of Raahe District Hospital, Finland

National coordinator of HPH Finland

Fundamental principles

Based on:

the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion
(WHO 1986)

the Budapest Declaration on Health Promoting
Hospitals

(First HPH action plan 1991)

the Ljubljana Charter for reforming Health Care
(WHO Europe 1996)

Fundamental principles

1. Promote human dignity, equity and solidarity, and professional ethics, acknowledging differences in needs, values and cultures of different population groups
2. Be oriented towards quality improvement, the wellbeing of patients, relatives and staff, protection of the environment and realization of the potential to become learning organizations
3. Focus on health with a holistic approach and not only on curative services

Fundamental principles

4. Be centred on people providing health services in the best way possible to patients and their relatives, to facilitate the healing process and contribute to the empowerment of patients
5. Use resources efficiently and cost-effectively, and allocate resources on the basis of contribution to health improvement
6. Form as close links as possible with other levels of the health care system and the community

Strategies for implementation

1. Fostering participation and creating commitment
 - encouraging participatory, health-gain oriented procedures throughout the hospital
 - active involvement of all professional groups
 - building alliances with other professionals outside the hospital
 - encouraging an active and participatory role for patients
 - creating healthy working conditions for all hospital staff
 - reduction of hospital hazards
 - reduction of psychosocial risk factors
 - enhancing the commitment of hospital management to health gain
 - principles of health should be included in the daily decision-making processes

Strategies for implementation

2. Improving communication, information and education

- improving communication within and the culture of the hospital
 - better quality of life for hospital staff
 - encouraging interprofessional cooperation and mutual acceptance
- improving communication between the hospital staff and the patients
 - respect and humane values
- enhancing the provision and quality of information, communication and educational programmes and skill training for patients and their relatives
- integrating the principles of HPH into the hospital's routine
 - a common corporate identity within the hospital

Strategies for implementation

2. Improving communication, information and education

- improving the hospital´s communication and cooperation with social and health services in the community, community-based health promotion initiatives and volunteer groups and organizations
 - helping to optimize the links between different providers and actors in the health care sector
- developing information systems that measure outcomes as well as serving administrative purposes

Strategies for implementation

3. Using methods and techniques from organizational development and project management
 - to change and reorient existing hospital routines to make the hospital a learning organization
 - to train and educate personnel in areas relevant for HP
 - education, communication, psychosocial skills, management
 - to train project leaders in project management and communication skills

Strategies for implementation

4. Learning from experience

- exchange of experience:
 - HPH projects both nationally and internationally
 - different approaches to problem solving
- HPH should commit themselves to regional, national and international exchange and communication

Participation in the WHO HPH Network

Hospitals that want to belong to the WHO HPH Network:

- should endorse the fundamental principles and strategies for implementation of the Vienna Recommendations
- should belong to the N/R network in the countries where such networks exist
 - hospitals without networks apply directly to the international coordinating institution
- should comply with the rules and regulations established at the international and national/regional levels by the members of the international network, the WHO and the international coordinating institution

Types of membership

- Members of the national/regional networks
- Individual members from countries where no national/regional network exists
- Members of thematic networks

