Better control in Pediatric and Adolescent diabetes - working to create Centres of Reference

SWEET Project – Newsletter No. 1

Dear Ladies and Gentleman,

Welcome to the first newsletter from the SWEET project. Thank you for registering your interest in the SWEET updates. We would like to use this bi-annual newsletter to keep you informed about the on-going project work, important outcomes, decisions and next steps for the project.

Kick-Off meeting in Frankfurt, Germany in April 2008

We had a wonderful Kick-Off meeting in Frankfurt, supported by Lilly, where project partners from 10 EU countries met together for the first time. Over 40 participants from our various partner organisations attended the meeting,.

During the meeting we had excellent opportunities to review and start to work towards realisation of our 5 key objectives:

- **Work Package 1** – To strengthen the knowledge base regarding the status of diabetes in children and adolescents and related care.
- **Work Package 2** – To enhance and promote minimum, equal standards of treatment and care in paediatric and adolescent care in the EU.
- **Work package 3** – To improve control of diabetes and prevent complications by means of age appropriate patient education for paediatric and adolescent diabetes across the EU.
- **Work package 4** – To support healthcare professionals in providing high quality specialised care to children and adolescents in diabetes.
- **Work package 5** – To stimulate development of Centre of Reference for Paediatric and Adolescent Diabetes services across Europe.

Launch of SWEET website

The Kick Off meeting saw the launch of the new SWEET website. You can view the site at: www.sweet-project.eu. Please have a look at the site and let us know any comments or recommendations for further improvements via email at: sweet-project@hka.de.

The website has an area called Latest News where participants can find out our latest updates. For example there is a section where participants can download new documents regarding the SWEET project. The website also has links to our various partner organisations and patient and professional diabetes organisations from the member nations. Please help us to complete the lists of organisations.

Work packages 1 & 2:

Already this group, who are working closely together, have designed a questionnaire to be sent to SWEET participants and the other 17 EU nations (not directly involved in the SWEET project) to ascertain the status of diabetes care for children and adolescents across the EU. This work will report back at the next SWEET meeting in December.

Work package 3 & 4:

This group are also working together initially to identify age appropriate patient education packages currently available in the EU, and educational programmes for healthcare professionals.

Formation of Assessment and Advisory Committee (AAC)

The Project – coordination team got some suggestions for members of AAC after the Kick off meeting. Currently we have 7 candidates and wait of their consent to work with us.

Next SWEET meeting

The second meeting of the SWEET group will take place from 3rd - 5th December 2008 in Tolochenaz, Switzerland. Medtronic have kindly offered to support this meeting.

Finally

If you would like any further information about the SWEET Project, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at sweet-project@hka.de . We will be very happy to receive your feedback and helpful suggestions.

With kind regards and have a nice summer

The SWEET Project coordination team

Hannover, Germany, July 2008