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АРМЯНСКАЯ АССОЦИАЦИЯ ДЕТСКИХ ВРАЧЕЙ
ARMENIAN PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION

FACT SHEET

“Armenian Pediatric Association” Non-Governmental Organization (ArmPA) was established in 2007. It has embraced different pediatric professionals from the field of child health care. Among the members of the Association’s Council are leading pediatricians, pediatric surgeons and pediatric specialists from Yerevan and regional clinics, public health experts and the Ministry of Health (MoH) authorities, faculty members and representatives of the relevant international NGOs.

The activities of the Association are targeted to tackling the problems in the field of child and adolescent health and improving quality of pediatric care in Armenia, and include:

- **support to organization and providing effective pediatric care;**
- **developing evidence-based clinical guidelines and other educational materials;**
- **support to continuing medical education and development of pediatric staff from different levels of health care;**
- **support and advocacy for developing the national policies and improving quality of the medical services;**
- **support to research, reviews, surveys in the field of pediatrics and child health care;**
- **international cooperation.**

Activities:

✓ National Pediatric Conferences

The large-scale national conferences with international participation were held in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016 under support of the Ministry of Health, Yerevan State Medical University after M.Heratsi and our partners. Nearly 400-450 pediatricians, family doctors, pediatric surgeons, medical faculty and other specialists participated to each of them. Among speakers of the conferences were well-known specialists from Switzerland, UK, Denmark, Finland, Russia, Georgia etc.

✓ Pediatric Schools

Annual Pediatric Schools are held in Arabkir MC-ICAH, under the auspices of the MoH, aimed to present the newest achievements of medical practice and science to hundreds of local doctors. The number of participants was as follows: 2008 - 45; 2009 – 65; 2010 - 43; 2011- 172; 2012 – 175; 2013 -244, 2014-180, 2015-189, 2016-242, 2017-199.

All educational events were certified by the relevant CME credits of MoH.

✓ **Developing guidelines and other educational materials**

The guidelines on management of Urinary Tract Infections, Cystic Fibrosis in children, guides on Management of Pneumonia and Tonsillitis in children and on other pediatric topics have been developed and approved by MoH. Other clinical recommendations and informational booklets were provided to doctors during above-mentioned educational events.

✓ **Publication of the Pediatric bulletin** (published under support of World Vision Armenia).

✓ **Outreach seminars and care to children**

Each year Association conducts up to 7-8 visits to different regions of Armenia to provide up-to-date information to the health staff of the primary and secondary levels of health care. Nearly 30-40 doctors attend the outreach seminars in regions. The teams of pediatric specialists visit regions and provide care and consultancy to children on a regular basis; so far about 3500 children were among beneficiaries of the activity.

✓ **Support to research**

The Association plays the important role in scientific research work participating in discussions around the current and planned scientific theses.

✓ **Support to policy developing and advocacy**

In 2010-2011 in collaboration with World Vision Armenia within the frames of the "Child Health Now" campaign ARABKIR MC-ICAH and ArmPA prepared the analytical report on current situation and issues of pediatric health care, assessment of professional resources in Armenia. The round table was organized with participation of MoH, YSMU, representatives of the clinics and professionals from local and international organizations. The current issues of pediatrics as well as the need to increase a role of Pediatric Association in child health policy, programming and development of clinical standards were discussed.

In 2012- 2013 in collaboration with World Vision Armenia within the frames of the "Increasing a role of health professionals in improving quality of pediatric care in Armenia" program, ARABKIR MC-ICAH and ArmPA implemented regional level project, which aims to raise the problems of health care quality and accessibility of services for newborns and children, relying on the strength and active involvement of the Association's regional representatives, services providers and NGO-s. Meetings were held in Lori and Shirak; Results were summed up and presented on the national level. The Issues and the guidelines policy documents of pediatric health care was elaborated; round table discussions with participation of the MoH, YSMU, regional pediatricians and interested professionals from international organizations were held. The current issues of pediatrics as well as the need to increase a role of Pediatric Association in child health policy, supportive supervision, programming and development of clinical standards were discussed.

Since 2015 under support of Open Society Foundations –Armenia, ArmPA is working to introduce **Pediatric Palliative Care** (PPC) in Armenia. In 2015 PPC needs assessment in Armenia was conducted, the situation analysis document with suggestions for the relevant model has been developed. The draft concept of the PPC in Armenia was presented and discussed on the national level at Round table held in 2016. The relevant actions were included in the recently adopted National Strategy on Child and Adolescent Health and Development and Action plan for 2016-2020. ToT trainings were held on PPC for the relevant health and social care staff in 2017.

ArmPA is an active member of the Mother and Child Health Alliance of the NGO-s working in the field.

✓ **International cooperation**

In 2009, 2012, 2014, and 2015 ArmPA held conferences, master classes and check-ups of more than 400 children in the Republic of Nagorno-Karabagh. In 2010 by invitation of the Georgian Respiratory Association joint conference and check-ups were held; about 100 children of Javakhet region of Georgia were consulted.

Numbers of teaching courses, seminars and other events are held every year in collaboration with international professional associations, our partners from Zurich Kinderspital and leading clinics; hundreds of pediatricians, family doctors, pediatric specialists and residents participated in these educational events.

Since 2007 Association is an acting member of the European Pediatric Association – Union of European Pediatric Societies (EPA–UNEPSA) as well as the International Pediatric Association. Association regularly participates in the General Assemblies and other events held by international organizations.

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