

## Final report for granted project

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**Contact person/applicant:** Smaranda Diaconescu

**Country** Romania

**E-mail** turti23@yahoo.com

**Title of the granted project** Identifying and tackling economic, cultural and social factors that lead to inappropriate sexual education in Romanian teens

**Amount granted by the ESC (in euro)** 3000

**Project number:** P-2015-A-05

**Allocated mentor:** T. Bombas

**Date project actually started:** 23-11-2015

**Date of completion:** 22-11-2017

**Please provide a report of your findings and data.**

The project started in november 2015 and ended in november 2017. The research part was questionnaire-based and included 268 adolescent girls and their mothers. The educational part included printed brochures with informations about the main contraceptive methods that can be used by teenagers and the main consequences of teen pregnancy and teen birth. The teenagers were investigating during their hospitalization in one of the pediatric clinics of the university hospital for children. Patients were hospitalized by themselves or accompanied by their caregivers. Mothers of hospitalized children (boys or girls) were encouraged to answer to the items considering the older girl in the family (some items were targeting the relationships between mother and daughter and the information related to the sexual education provided to her girl). Informed consent was presented and signed before filling in the questionnaires and patients and mother were informed that they could retract from the research in any moment with no consequence. The research was approved by the ESC and the ethical committee of "St Mary" Emergency Hospital for Children, as condition of the project development. The team project conceived two questionnaires in order to be applied to mothers and teenager girls. Some items were formulated identically in both types of questionnaires in order to point the differences between mothers and teenagers' opinion regarding the same fact, like: Have you spoken to your mother about pregnancy? and have you spoken to your daughter about pregnancy?

The analysis of data was realized using SPSS statistical program, version 23. Mean and standard deviation were used in order to analysis the descriptive statistic of socio-demographic data. Frequencies were used in order to identify the most frequent answers or behavior of subjects.

The teenagers included in the research are aged between 12 and 19 years old. The majority of them are from rural areas and Christian –orthodox (92.86%). Regarding teenagers family, almost 15% of them are living with one parent (being divorced or having one parent deceased). First menarche was registered for all teenage hospitalized girls, with a mean of 12.48 years old ranged between 9 and 15 years old. Subjects were questioned about the source of information about the aspects related to the menarche. The answers are presented in the figure below:

Age at first sexual contact is presented in the figure below

64.66 % declared they addresses to their parents in order to find out informations on contraceptive methods while 15.79 % declared they addresses to their friends. Among contraceptive methods used by the investigated teenagers are condoms, calendar methods and contraceptives. A number of 21.59% of girls answered that their partner is taking care about contraceptive methods. Regarding knowledges about STDs, teenagers listed HIV infection (85.6%), candidosis (16.5%), chlamidiasis (3.8%), trichomoniasis (1.5%) etc. The vast majority of the responders (93.38%) declared they strongly agree the idea of health and sexual education in schools.

The conference that ended the project took place november 22, 2017, with around 90 participants (teens, medical students, representatives of local authorities involved in child and family protection, medical trainees of various specialties, the project team etc). The programme included two workshops entitled „Practical aspects in communication with pregnant teens, teenmothers and their family-the role of the pediatrician“(Prof. Dr. Smaranda Diaconescu, "Titu Maiorescu" University Bucharest, Faculty of Medicine) and "Practical aspects in communication with pregnant teens and their family-the role of the gynecologist"(Associate Prof. Dr. Iolanda Blidaru "Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi). The programme included the presentation of the main results of the project and also several oral communications as listed above:

Daniela Cozma (Chief of the Service for Minors and Family Protection, the Mayoralty of Iasi) "Children borned from children; psycho-social implications of teen pregnancy. This presentation included official data from the Iasi Meyer regarding all teen mothers in Iasi county

Iolanda Blidaru, Victor Rugina ("Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi, "Cuza-Voda" Hospital Iasi): "Particularities of sexuality and contraception in teenagers"

Associate Professor Camelia Soponaru ( "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Iasi)- "Psychoemotional development of children with teenmothers"

Mihaela Veronica Miron, Sorin Perianu, Marius Manea (The Anti-drug Center for Prevention, Evaluation and Counseling Iasi): "Teenagers, drug consumption and consequences for risky sexual behavior"

Ancuta Bojian (The Child Protection Service Iasi): "The role of parents in child's perception of diseases"

Claudia Olaru, Nicoleta Gimiga ("Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi), Cristina –Raluca Stanca ("St. Mary" Emergency Hospital for Children Iasi): "Child abuse as a risk factor for teens addictive behaviors"

Diana Muraru ("Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi): "Psychosocial support for children with minor parents"

Oana Rosu, Madalina Costin ("St. Mary" Emergency Hospital for Children Iasi), Smaranda Diaconescu ( "Titu Maiorescu" University Bucharest Faculty of Medicine): "Health education in Romanian schools: from necessity to reality"

Lecturer Dr. Laura Trandafir ("Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi): "Particularities of contraception in obese teenagers"

All participants received printed materials that included flyers with contraceptive methods that can be used by teenagers. All printed materials and Conference banner included the logo of the ESC.

**Please provide a final detailed budget on how much you have spent. Was any money not spent? Receipts may be requested.**

100 euros - printed papers, questionnaires  
200 euros – brochures  
1700 euro-Teen Contraception Day

We did not spend around 1000 euro-we will use it for congress registration fees or article processing charges

**How will your findings be presented?**

Publication in journal  
Presentation

**Was your paper published? Indicate journal and acceptance date**

Not yet

**Presentation – note meeting organisation and date**

Smaranda Diaconescu Abused and neglected children. Teen pregnancy. Summer school of the Romanian Society of Pediatrics, august 2016.

Smaranda Diaconescu: Health education in Romanian schools: what it is and what it should be. International Conference „Health promotion-a priority of public health”, Orhei-Republic of Moldova, june 2016

**Add any other information you feel we should have**

Thank you so much for your support! We would not have been able to undertake this project without this grant.

**Please let us know whether having a mentor has been helpful or not**

Yes

**Full Name**

Smaranda Diaconescu

**Date**

20-12-2017

info@escrh.eu