

Regional Programme for Health Promotion

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The Veneto Region is an autonomous territorial organisation with legislative and executives powers. The Veneto Regional Government provides health and social services to the resident population through 21 Local Health Units and 2 Hospital Trusts.

The European and international dimensions are seen as paramount for the development of the regional health system. For this reason the Veneto Region is member of several EU networks and institutions.

The Regional Programme for Health Promotion (in Italian: PRPS) is an instrumental office of the Veneto Region and part of the Regional Public Health System.

It has the leadership of the health promotion effort in the Veneto Region.

The aims of the Programme are: to assist the regional policy makers in the decision making process, to provide citizens with adequate information and skills to enhance their health, to train social workers and health professionals, to disseminate health-related information, to apply for and manage E.U. project proposals on behalf of Veneto Region.

PRPS has acquired relevant experience in the field of health promotion and health education, such as food and health, sexual reproductive health, AIDS and other communicable diseases' surveillance.

PRPS coordinated as lead partner a E.U. project on HIV prevention: "Immigrants from European Southern and Eastern Borders: HIV Health Risks, Social Condition and Service Provision Re-orientation" (2002-2004) and participated in the BORDERNET project on HIV/AIDS/STI prevention, diagnostic and therapy as lead associated partner of WP8 on improvement of diagnostic (2004 – 2007). PRPS is currently coordinating the SIALON project on HIV/Syphilis prevention. The project is geared to collect in outreach gay friendly settings serological and behavioural data on syphilis and HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men, using an innovative non-invasive testing method based on detection of HIV and Syphilis antibodies in oral fluid; a specific work package is devoted to the training of these new lab techniques applied to oral fluid, based on a previous validation study.

A larger project based on SIALON has recently been approved by EAHC for E.U. co-funding.

As Associated Partner, PRPS on behalf of Veneto Region is participating in the Emis E.U project that aims at providing a consistent and integrated model of research into HIV/STI prevention among MSM.

On behalf of Veneto Region, PRPS is also participating in the HEALTHY REGIONS European project – lead of WP5, mapping of the regional health competencies, and will be also representing Veneto Region in the forthcoming HEALTHY CHILDREN E.U. project.