

## Workshop: Quality of care in pediatric diabetology

After the results of the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) have become available, there has been further awareness of the importance of optimal glycemic control from the very beginning of the disease in all patients with Type 1 diabetes, including adolescents.

Despite the enormous improvement of knowledge in this field, the outcome quality of care of children with T1DM is still quite disappointing: in an international cross-sectional non-population based study of around 3,000 children with diabetes from 18 countries in Europe, Japan and North America, it was demonstrated some years ago that only one third of the children cared with a modern approach showed a HbA1c level lower than 8% (1). More recently, the Diabetes Group of the Italian Society of Endocrinology and Diabetology showed that the glycemic control in more than 3,000 Italian children and adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes was far to meet the DCCT standards (2).

In this workshop, held in Siena, Italy, from 27 to 29 November 2003, some European scientists focused the news in epidemiology, immunopathology, treatment which could influence the quality of care of diabetes in children and adolescents around the world. Close to these speakers of great reputation, several young paediatricians from various Italian regions, all

experienced in the management of Type 1 diabetes mellitus, reported the situation in Italy concerning organization, services, tools for treatment offered to children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes.

This workshop was part of a series of periodical meetings centred on type 1 diabetes management in Italy, opened in Salsomaggiore Terme, Pama, Italy, on November 2002, with a session devoted to the Quality of Life . Both workshops were organized by Novo-Nordisk-Italy, a company which closely follows the evolution of paediatric diabetology in Italy.

We extend our personal thanks to Dr. Sergio Lai, Dr Federico Serra and Dr. Giampiero Marra for assistance in the organisation of this workshop and for promoting the publication of these proceedings. A special acknowledgement we would address to Dr. Rossana Di Marzio for critical reading of the manuscripts. This supplement is published around two years late since the workshop has been hold. The delay has not to be attributed to the editors which however apologize for this regrettable trouble.

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