



**INEBRIA:
Background, Development and Future
Plans**

**Nick Heather,
Chair,
INEBRIA Steering Committee**



Origins of INEBRIA

- **Remnants of WHO Phase IV Collaborative Project**
- **Encouragement and support from Dr. Maristela Monteiro, WHO Geneva**
- **Add participants in PHEPA**
- **Add participants in the WHO Collaborative Project on Dissemination of Brief Interventions for Alcohol Problems in Primary Health Care: A Strategy for Developing Countries**
- **Meetings of Steering Committee and wider discussions held in conjunction with meetings of PHEPA**
- **Hosted by Programme on Substance Abuse, Government of Catalonia**



Membership of Steering Committee

- **Prof Nick Heather (Chair)**
- **Dr. Peter Anderson**
- **Dr. Joan Colom**
- **Dr. Antoni Gual**
- **Dr. Isidore Obot (WHO)**
- **Ms Lidia Segura (Secretariat)**



Scope of INEBRIA

- **Remit widened from Primary Health Care to all relevant medical and non-medical settings**
- **BUT confined to alcohol brief interventions**



AIM

**To promote wide implementation of
brief interventions in a variety of
settings for hazardous and harmful
alcohol consumption at local,
national and international levels**



SIX OBJECTIVES (a)

- 1) To share information, experiences, research findings and expertise in the area of alcohol brief interventions**
- 2) To facilitate training on brief interventions and provide assistance to countries and institutions to adapt and implement brief interventions, particularly with regard to the transfer of knowledge and technology from high income to low income countries**



SIX OBJECTIVES (b)

- 3) To promote best practice and develop guidelines for the wide dissemination and implementation of brief interventions**
- 4) To identify gaps and needs for research in the field of alcohol brief interventions, promote international research co-operation and set standards for research in this field**



SIX OBJECTIVES (c)

- 5) To integrate the study of brief interventions with the wider context of measures to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harm**
- 6) To pay particular attention to the needs of young people in relation to alcohol brief interventions**



MEMBERSHIP

- Open to any individual with demonstrated experience in the area of brief interventions for alcohol problems, either from undertaking research or having implemented interventions in one or more settings
- Also open to any individual with a *bona fide* and active interest in conducting research on or implementing in practice alcohol brief interventions
- Open to individuals (not institutions) although individuals may be recognised as representing their institution's interest in alcohol brief interventions



MEETINGS

- Meetings will be organized once a year in the format of a scientific conference (mainly posters, oral presentations, maybe symposia) and training workshops open to all members
- Special sessions on guideline development or selected topics will be limited to invited participants
- It is anticipated that meetings will be held in different venues each year
- Next meeting in Muenster during week 14-18 September, 2005



ORGANISATION & ACTIVITIES (1)

- **The Catalan Government (CG) will act as the Secretariat of the Network**
- **WHO and CG will be responsible for organizing meetings, finalizing the programme, collecting and organizing abstracts and presentations, publishing proceedings, and posting them on the web**



ORGANISATION & ACTIVITIES (2)

- **A Scientific Committee will select abstracts for inclusion in the programme, select symposia and finalise the programme of meetings in consultation with WHO**
- **The members of the committee will be elected by all members of the Network**
- **The CG, with the support of WHO, will maintain a website with current information on new research, activities, reports, etc., related to alcohol brief interventions**
- **Information will be provided by the Scientific Committee or any member of the network interested in disseminating relevant material**



ORGANISATION & ACTIVITIES (3)

- **WHO and the CG will work with the Network on the development of guidelines and other tools that can be of direct relevance to countries interested in implementing brief interventions**
- **WHO will select experts from the Network to serve as consultants on the adaptation and implementation of brief interventions in developing countries, taking into account their experience, language proficiency and availability to provide advice**
- **WHO will not necessarily pay consultants for this task but recommend them to interested parties and will help identify resources to cover their time**



ORGANISATION & ACTIVITIES (4)

- **WHO and the CG will create a list-serve to start communicating with the Network and encourage communication among its members**
- **WHO and the CG will work with the Network on the development of monitoring tools for evaluating the uptake, quality control and effectiveness of brief interventions that could form part of national health programmes**



ORGANISATION & ACTIVITIES (5)

- **Can the organisation be improved?**
- **What other activities could the Network profitably engage in?**



FUNDING

- **Members will cover the costs of their own participation at meetings**
- **Exceptionally, WHO may cover the travel costs of some participants from developing countries, depending upon availability of funds**
- **Are other sources of funding needed?**
- **If so, what?**