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FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGY TRAINING OF EPIDEMIOLOGISTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN FRAME OF THE ECDC TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Czech Republic has a long history of capacity building in public health and epidemiology included. Since its accession to European Union in 2004, the Czech Republic participates in training activities delivered by European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). This training of epidemiologists is primarily organized by the Public Health Training Section of the Public Health Capacity and Communication Unit. European Program for Interventional Epidemiology Training–EPIET is its major activity. Together with EPIET, the European program for public health microbiology training–EUPHEM is organized. EPIET originated in 1995 in response to the need for epidemiologists at European level with field epidemiology and international expertise. Being a grant project in 2007, it became a sustainable programme of ECDC. The program continues a capacity building to respond to new and re-emerging threats of communicable diseases. EPIET is two-year learning by doing fellowship program for European Union Member States (<http://www.epiet.org>). ECDC has developed, in cooperation with epidemiologists of the EU member states, a set of core competencies and skills requirements for epidemiologists. EPIET programme reflects these competences in the field of surveillance, surveys, outbreak investigations, field studies, scientific communication and education. Many of these competencies coincide with the professional competencies gained by epidemiologists in the Czech Republic in Postgraduate education. From 1995 to 2017, 546 fellows graduated from the EPIET-EUPHEM programme. Sixty six fellows from Eastern and Central European countries participated between 2004 and 2017. Czech Republic contributed with six fellows, five epidemiologists and one microbiologist. Further more than 90 professionals from CR attended ECDC sort courses. Number of graduated fellows and participants in courses as well as facilitators and teachers build a considerable critical capacity to address health threats within the country and in cross border reactions.

Biography

Vladimir Prikazsky (CSc) has graduated from Medical Faculty of Hygiene of the Charles University in Prague in 1981. He has completed his Postgraduate studies in Medical Microbiology in 1987 and the PhD in 1991 from Comenius University in Bratislava. He worked in NIPH in Bratislava dealing with Epidemiology of Resistance to Antibiotics. In National Institute of Public Health in Prague, he was charged with epidemiology of tuberculosis and general epidemiology. He worked in ECDC focusing on education and training of epidemiologists in Europe and in Mediterranean region from 2007 to 2018. Currently, he is a Deputy Director for scientific affairs in NIPH in Prague. He has published more than 40 papers in various journals and co-authored a textbook of epidemiology in Slovakia.

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