

## Overview: CHANCE – MSc Curriculum in Migrant Health: Addressing New Challenges

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The influx of migrants to the European Union (EU) is continuously increasing, creating challenges for all the health, public health, social and economic sectors of Europe. The CHANCE programme aims to address this complex issue from the health angle, focusing on the alarming lack of human resource capacity. In spite of this, at present there is a significant shortage of formal higher education programmes in Europe aiming to provide professionals with the training, knowledge and skills to address this new challenge.

The main objective of the CHANCE programme is in synergy with the WHO Public Health Aspects of Migration in Europe (PHAME) project, aiming to strengthen countries' capacity to manage large and sudden influxes of migrants. The CHANCE consortium of 6 EU academic institutions is coordinated by the University of Pécs, with co-financing from the EU ERASMUS Lifelong Learning Program in order to address this human resources need.

The curriculum provides motivation and orientation, knowledge and skills to postgraduate students, health, public health and social care professionals. These are all individuals who (aim to): assist, treat, and provide care and referral services to migrating individuals; and/or design, plan and implement health and social care programmes for migrating populations (including addressing their integration needs); and/or participate in health-related research for migrants. The academic content is built around 6 core competencies (C):

- C1: epidemiology and research methodology (University of East Anglia, United Kingdom)

- C2: environmental medicine and occupational health (University of Pécs, Hungary)

- C3: economic/health economic impact of migration (University of Pécs, Hungary)

- C4: organization and systems management (University of Krems, Austria)

- C5: clinical and public health assessment (University of Kosice, Slovakia)

- C6: social and behavioral aspects of migration including multicultural, multireligious aspects and their health/mental health impact (University of Greifswald, Germany).

The curriculum will start at the beginning of the next academic year (second half of 2014). The University of Pécs Migrant Health Programs (<http://www.mighealth-unipecs.eu/>) and the CHANCE (<http://www.migranthealthmsc.eu/>) websites provide more detailed information about the programme. Interested people can register in order to receive up-to-date information.

The University of Pécs is proud to contribute its experience and scientific capacity to the WHO PHAME project. Its training and research profile is in synergy with the project objectives and this newsletter is an opportunity to assist in strengthening the response capability via advocacy, information sharing and training provision.