

# **Patients' beliefs and attitudes towards preventive services and lifestyles**

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## **Description**

WONCA Europe presently is preparing the formulation of a new European strategy and is discussing its new targets and objectives. EUROPREV - the European network for disease prevention and health promotion - recognises the importance of collecting relevant information and wishes to contribute to this challenge and task.

Aim of project: to elucidate what the beliefs and attitudes of patients are regarding preventive services and lifestyle.

## **Contents**

Collins C, Vahey C and Sheehan M. Do Irish GPs take opportunities to communicate with patients about behaviours that promote health and preventative examinations. National Institute of Health Sciences Research Bulletin December 2010, 5(4):17-18.

## **Objectives**

Specific objectives:

- to explore if patients have had any screening and if they have received any lifestyle advice or counselling from their general practitioners or other health professionals in primary care;
- to explore patients' beliefs about the effects of unhealthy lifestyle;
- to explore patients' willingness to modify their health risk behaviours;
- to study relationships between patient data and practice characteristics, health services characteristics and health prevention programmes and national policies.

Setting and methods: A self-administered questionnaire will be used to collect information about beliefs and attitudes of patients attending GP practices. Each country will select at least 10 practices - half rural or semi-rural and half urban. Forty patients of between 30 and 70 years of age (both included) will be selected

per practice using the following age and sex criteria: 10 males 30-49 years old, 10 females 30-49 years old; 10 males 50-70 years old, 10 females 50-70 years old.

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