When World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was launched by INPEA eight years ago, it definitely was an idea whose time had come. WEAAD has caught the imagination of and has been embraced by NGOs, government agencies and individuals in many countries.

In 2008, INPEA partnered with the Canadian Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse to host a very successful 2–day conference in Ottawa, to mark WEAAD. In 2009 the official INPEA WEAAD event was held in Paris, in partnership with ALMA, the French national elder abuse prevention organization just prior to the World Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics. In 2011 the conference was held in London, hosted by INPEA and Action on Elder Abuse, the major elder abuse organization in Great Britain, and six other organizations that work on behalf of older people. Last year we partnered with ZIVOT 90 in Prague in conjunction with the biennial conference of the International Federation on Ageing. This year INPEA and the Korean Elder Protection Agency are partnering to host an outstanding international event that will take place in Seoul immediately before the opening of the 20th World Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics. The focus will be on new research, policy, practice and tools from around the world directed at stopping elder abuse and neglect in both community and institutional settings.

Registration fee (coffee breaks & lunch included):
INPEA or Korean Elder Protection Agency members $29US or 32KRW or 21€
Non–members $53US or 59KRW or 37€

If you join INPEA, you can take advantage of the reduced INPEA members’ conference fee. To join INPEA and to register for the conference visit www.inpea.net
June 23, 2013
8:30–9:00 Registration

9:00–9:15 Welcome and Introduction
  • Gloria Gutman, President INPEA
  • Elizabeth Podnieks, Founder of WEAAD
  • John Beard, Director, Life Course and Ageing Programme, WHO

9:15–9:30 Government Initiatives: North America
  • Kathy Greenlee, Administrator, Administration for Community Living and Assistant Secretary for Aging, US Administration on Aging
  • Margaret Gillis, Senior Director, Division of Children, Seniors and Healthy Development, Public Health Agency of Canada.

9:30–10:30 Focus on Asia
Chair: Mee Hye Kim – INPEA National Representative for Korea
  • Young Sook Choi, Executive Director, Korean Elder Protection Agency. Korean Approaches to Elder Abuse Prevention and Response
  • TBA

10:30–10:45 Coffee Break & Networking

10:45–12:00 Symposium 1 – Defining, Measuring and Monitoring Elder Abuse
Chair: Simon Biggs, INPEA Special Advisor (Australia) (TBC)
  • Uwe Brucker (Germany). MILCEA – Monitoring in Long-Term Care – A 5 Country Pilot Project on Elder Abuse
  • Cynthia Thomas (USA), Lynn McDonald (Canada), Ariela Lowenstein (Israel) and Marie Beaulieu (Canada). Measuring Abuse in Institutional Settings
  • Lynn McDonald (Canada). Resident-to-Resident Abuse: A Growing Problem

12:00–1:00 Lunch hosted by the Korean Secretariat IAGG, INPEA UN Activities Report – Susan Somers, INPEA Secretary General and Co-Ordinator INPEA UN Policy/Affairs, & INPEA Annual/quadrennial Members Meeting

1:00–1:45 Regional Highlights Part 1
Chair: Lia Daichman, Immediate Past-president INPEA (TBC)
  • Asia – Mala Kapur Shankardass (India)
  • Latin America and Caribbean – Lia Daichman (Argentina)
  • North Africa and Middle East – Abla Sibai (Lebanon)
1:45–2:30 Symposium 2 – Intervention and Prevention
Chair:
- Marie Beaulieu (Canada). Volunteer Activity to Counter Elder Abuse Mistreatment: Critical issues
- XinQi Dong (USA). Elder Abuse Prevention: Socio–Cultural Context and Implications in Chinese Populations
- Les Jackson (Australia). Elder abuse prevention in Queensland: Servicing 1.7 million square kilometers with 5 people and a lot of data.

2:30: 2:45 Coffee break

2:45–3:30 Symposium 3 – Tools, Training and New Issues and Concerns
Chair: Noriko Tsukada, INPEA national representative for Japan (TBC)
- Bridget Penhale (UK). Mind the Gap! Improving Intervention in Intimate Partner Violence Against Older Women
- TBA
- Gloria Gutman (Canada). Senior-to-Senior Bullying

3:30–4:15 Regional Highlights – Part 2
Chair:
- Sub–Saharan Africa – TBA
- North America – Marie Beaulieu (Canada)
- Europe – Ariela Lowenstein (Israel)
- Oceania – Wayne Fielding (Australia)

4:15–4:30 Wrap up

*Program subject to change.
Abstracts


Volunteer workers, especially involved older adults, have been recognised as important actors in the continuum of services to counter elder abuse. However there is a lack of research on their action, roles, responsibilities, accountability and the way they should be supervised. We conducted a qualitative pilot study that will lead us to a major grant proposal in 2013. In this pilot study, the Association Estrienne d'Information et de Formation aux Aînés (AEIFA–DIRA) (an Eastern Townships association for information and training of seniors), whose main mission is to help seniors in mistreatment situations, has obtained a grant to recruit and train new volunteers. In parallel, we carried out an action–research project pursuing the objective to document volunteer activity in the fight against mistreatment, as well as the different forms of training and supervision. Semi-structured individual interviews with eight volunteers in the fight against mistreatment were conducted prior to and following a first intervention (n= 14 interviews). The perspectives of the directors of the organization (n=6) were also noted through a group discussion. A thematic analysis helped to shed light on the nature of the activities carried out by volunteers, their role in the continuum of services available to seniors in mistreatment situations, and the existing and desirable favorable conditions (among which, training and supervision) in the exercise of their functions as volunteers. Our presentation will focus on 3 critical issues: recruitment and role (retired professional who do knowledge transfer in their volunteer work or open to all); accountability and supervision.

Uwe Brucker. MILCEA – Monitoring in Long–Term Care – A 5 Country Pilot Project on Elder Abuse

The MILCEA–Project contributes to the prevention of elder abuse. The subordinated goal is to develop a monitoring system that allows the assessment of elder abuse and elder abuse risks in long–term care as a precondition for prevention. In a subsequent step appropriate actions must be implemented to protect the elder person. MILCEA was funded by the European Commission.

As the proportion of people aged 65 years and older is growing all over Europe also elder abuse will grow as a public health and societal problem. Older people particularly in later life and nearing the end of life are at risk of becoming frail. The increasing dependency on the help of others in daily living makes people in need of long–term care vulnerable to maltreatment. Monitoring Elder Abuse refers to a constant observation and evaluation of the care giving process in order to detect either a risk situation in elder abuse or an actual case of abuse. Furthermore concrete steps of actions must be taken that lead to the protection of the older person.

In Seoul the methods of the MILCEA–Project–Partners (from Austria, Germany, Luxemburg, the Netherlands and Spain) and the findings of the framework for a monitoring system are reported.

Awareness and knowledge of elder abuse are prerequisites for monitoring: elder abuse must be part of the education of nursing and all health care professionals and social workers. The responsibilities of key actors in the prevention of elder abuse in long–term care should be clearly defined and communicated. Also service providers of long–term care should include the topic into their quality management system.

Requirements on monitoring – identification and action – will be presented in Seoul as part of the framework on preventing elder abuse in long–term care.
Elder abuse is a pervasive global public health issue and an independent predictor of morbidity and mortality. Despite these adverse health outcomes, our global understanding of elder abuse prevention is very limited. By the year 2013, one out of every four older adults will be a Chinese person, and recent PINE study (N=3,020) indicates that 1 out of 4 Chinese older adults have experienced some form of abuse, neglect and exploitation since the age of 60 years old. In this presentation, we will highlight the scope of elder abuse in Chinese populations. In addition, we will discuss the socio-cultural context and intergenerational issues surrounding elder abuse through both quantitative and qualitative studies in Chinese populations. Moreover, we will discuss the perceived challenges and barriers in the design of a culturally appropriate prevention and intervention strategies for Chinese populations, as well as the role of community based participatory research methodology in dealing with culturally sensitive issues. Furthermore, we will discuss the practical and policy implications of national initiatives to combat the elder abuse issues in our increasingly diverse aging populations.

Gloria Gutman (Canada). Senior to Senior Bullying

Bullying is a social and interpersonal problem defined as intentional repetitive aggressive behavior involving an imbalance of power or strength (Hazelden Foundation, 2008). Considered for many years to be primarily a problem among children and youth in the school system, the scientific study of bullying began with children in schools. In the 1990s, it expanded to include adults in the workplace and to prison populations. In recent years, bullying has been recognized as occurring among older adults in various congregate settings including senior centres, adult day care centres, seniors housing, assisted living and long term care facilities. Articles about senior bullying have begun to appear on websites concerned with senior care (e.g. www.mybetternursinghome.com) and in the popular press (newspapers, magazines, blogs). The scientific study of senior bullying is, however, still very limited. This presentation reviews the extant literature.

Les Jackson (Australia). Elder abuse prevention in Queensland: Servicing 1.7 million square kilometers with 5 people and a lot of data.

The UnitingCare Community Elder Abuse Prevention Unit (EAPU) is a rights based service that integrates a Helpline, educational activities, networking and data collection into a holistic approach to elder abuse. Established in 1998 through ongoing funding by the Queensland Government and auspiced by UnitingCare Community, the unit has developed and adapted it’s model to provide coverage to around 600,000 seniors spread across a state nearly seven times larger than the British Isles. With limited resources and initially an even smaller research base to guide it, the EAPU established a data collection system in 2000 to inform all aspects of its service delivery. Access to non-identifying data from over 7,000 Helpline notifications now allows the EAPU to analyze the gender, age, abuse types and various risk factors associated with both the victim and perpetrator. Collecting and analyzing information on the notifier has also been a major factor in establishing, maintaining and directing the Queensland’s Government’s elder abuse awareness campaign – now in its fourth year. The presentation will cover the EAPU model and how the data is being used to inform service delivery, establish and enhance stakeholder relationships and coordinate activities across Queensland.

Lynn McDonald (Canada). Resident-to-Resident Abuse: A Growing Problem
Bridget Penhale (UK). Mind the Gap! Improving Intervention in Intimate Partner Violence Against Older Women

Violence against women in intimate partnerships is not only an issue for younger women – older women also experience this type of violence. However service providers and the police only rarely have contact with older women experiencing violence and responses are therefore not always adequate or sufficient to meet the needs of these women. This presentation describes the products of a six country project (Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, UK) funded by the European Commission within the Daphne III project that included development of brochures, guidelines and manuals for social services and law enforcement agencies, material for police training, brochures for older women, posters, postcards, booklets for age-sensitive public-relations work for social and domestic violence services and flyers for aging services. A summary of findings from an analysis of national case files of ipv against older women from courts, public prosecutors or the police will also be presented.

Cynthia Thomas (USA), Lynn McDonald (Canada), Ariela Lowenstein (Israel) and Marie Beaulieu (Canada). Measuring Abuse in Institutional Settings

This presentation describes a pilot project from a larger research program that examined the validity of a measurement tool developed for a national prevalence study of elder abuse and neglect in the community and institutions in Canada. The measurement instrument was drafted in a series of steps that included a review of the literature, a consensus panel to develop definitions, focus groups, cognitive interviews, dyadic interviews, and, finally large-scale pretesting. The community survey was administered over the telephone (N=267); the institutional survey was conducted in person (N=40). The construct validity of the measurement instrument for the institutionalized older adults whose abuse status was known prior to the interviews, was analyzed using a known groups approach to validity. The results provide evidence of the construct validity of the institutional survey.

About the Host Organizations

International Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)
INPEA’s mission is to increase capacity through international collaboration to recognize and respond to the mistreatment of older people, so that the later years of life are free from abuse, neglect and exploitation. It engages in research, education, and advocacy and originated World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, held annually on June 15. INPEA has Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC at the UN, is active in the UN NGO Committee on Aging in New York, Geneva and Vienna and is one of two international special interest organizations formally affiliated with IAGG. www.inpea.net

The Korea Elder Protection Agency (KEPA)
KEPA is a government-affiliated organization established in 2006 under the Elderly Welfare Law Act 39, section 5. Its goals are to create a seniors’ safety network, establish an elder abuse prevention network, and enhance cultural awareness for senior safety. KEPA headquarters consists of three parts: a Policy & Research department, Education & Support department, and Public Relations & Cooperation department. Headquarters’ primary functions are:
- Researching seniors’ human rights needs
- Suggesting government policy changes
- Maintaining an elder abuse counseling data-base
- Establishing partnerships with domestic and foreign senior care centers
- Training local office’ counselors
- Developing educational materials on elder abuse prevention
- Assisting and supporting local offices
- Nationwide promotion

KEPA has 24 local agency offices across the country. The local agencies’ primary functions include:
- Operating a hotline to report elder abuse
- Investigating elder abuse
- Counseling elder abuse victims and alleged perpetrators
- Counseling and services records storage
- Elder abuse prevention education
- Regional promotion

중앙노인보호전문기관
Korea Elder Protection Agency