Education law in the Republic of Croatia and the development of education of children in hospitals

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Psychosocial care for hospitalized children at the University Hospital Centre Zagreb. In 1923 it was called:
“daycare centre and school for older children”.
Educational system in Croatia

- **Nursery** (6 months to 2 years of age)
- **Kindergarten** (2-6 age group)
- **Primary School** (7-14 age group)
- **High School** (15-18 age group)
- **University**
The first verified curriculum for preschool children was created by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports in 2005.
Hospital schools and kindergartens in Croatia

- schools
- kindergartens
Elementary schools in hospitals:

- University Hospital Centre, Zagreb
- Children’s Hospital, Zagreb
- Sestre Milosrdnice Clinical Hospital Centre, Zagreb
- Psychiatric Hospital for Children and Adolescents, Zagreb
- Srebrnjak Children's Hospital, Zagreb (centre for allergology)
- The Clinical Hospital Centre, Rijeka
- The Clinical Hospital Center, Split
- Krapinske Toplice, Special Hospital for Rehabilitation
- Varaždinske Toplice, Special Hospital for Medical Rehabilitation
- Pula General Hospital
- Lopača Psychiatric Hospital
- Thalassotherapia Opatija
From The Law on Education in primary and secondary schools, article 42nd:
For those students who, due to higher motor disabilities or chronic illnesses, can not attend school; with the approval from the Ministry, schools organize classes at home, or in health institutions if the student is on extended medical treatment, thus enabling them to pass their tests and final exams.
140 teachers in Croatia

• Teachers are paid by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports
• Hospital schools are a part from the nearest school and are not independent
• School at home

78 permanent employees in hospitals
Education of teenagers in 14-18 age group

- In Croatia there is no systematic education for long-term hospitalized students in high school education system.
- Primary school teachers in hospitals offer individual help in learning to high school students.
- NGO projects provide high school students with individual help in learning.
Communication with hospital staff

- Unbalanced level of exchange of information on hospitalized students/pupils
- Spontaneous conversations
- Formal meetings
Hospital teachers' out of hospital activities

- Hospital teachers work in a team with doctors and nurses
- Participation in camps for chronically sick children with diabetes, phenylketonuria, asthma, Crohn's disease and oncology patients.
LIFELONG PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

OF TEACHERS IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

OF TEACHERS WHO WORK IN HOSPITALS
Every year Education and Teacher Training Agency and University Hospital Centre Zagreb organize professional training for teachers:

Why educate teachers and expert associates about diabetes and epilepsy?

- There is a need for comprehensive care of patients with chronic diseases – health, psychosocial and pedagogical assistance

- Due to lack of information and poor awareness, on one hand, educators deny a disease, and on the other hand, set unnecessary limitations to sick students
Education of county leaders 2014

Topics:
• Psychosocial functioning of children with malignant disease
• Challenges and difficulties they face upon returning to their original school
• Education of children with malignant disease
• Methods of informing peers about diseases
• Interactive material in communication with children
Professional training of self-organizing hospital teachers 2014

• Training with guest teachers
• Lectures by experienced hospital teachers
Department of Pediatrics, University Hospital Centre Zagreb
Elementary School Jordanovac
Organization „Our Children“ Maksimir

Educating Hospitalized Children in Croatia in the context of
The European Union

Supported by Ministry of Science, Education and Sports and
Croatian Education and Teacher Training Agency
International Conference for Hospital Pedagogues
Zagreb, April 25, 2014
Advocating needs for the education of hospitalized chronically sick children

- At conferences and expert meetings
- Through media
NGOs' role

- Recognize users' needs
- Projects serve to provide activities as an added value to formal curriculum
Our future goals...

- Introduce the curriculum for hospitalized high school students !!!!
- Using ICT in the education of sick children
- Create connections with the Faculty of Teacher Education at University in Zagreb
Our future goals...

- Provide professional training for hospital teachers
- Make the network for hospital schools in Croatia
- Provide information and increase the number of HOPE members in Croatia
Thank you for your attention!
Any questions?

At home...

In my office...