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SunPass gets Innovation Award



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Every child knows that a breath of fresh air is healthy. But what happens when the sun protection is missing? This issue addresses an exemplary project of the European Skin Cancer Foundation (ESCF). The project “SunPass – Healthy sun fun for Kids” was awarded with the “Innovation Award Dermatology 2013” on 16 March 2013.

Since 2011 the Professional Society of German Dermatologists (BVDD) and Jenapharm (former Intendis) offer the prize in order to support promising ideas, concepts and basic approaches in the field of dermatology. This year Jenapharm provided an undivided prize of 5000 Euro in order to support the further educational work of the kindergarten project.

In 2009 the ESCF initiated the “SunPass” project to honor kindergartens for their efforts in sun protection. During the pilot phase the INA.Kindergarten of the Charité University Hospital was the first kindergarten receiving the SunPass certificate. Another 70 child care centers from nine German counties followed.

After the evaluation of 55 kindergartens it was identified that there are measurable successes in sun protection. The knowledge of all parties concerned has improved and well-aimed measures have been implemented, e.g. more places in the shadow for the children to play or using sunscreen several times a day. Kindergartens which satisfy all the aspects of the “sun protection agreement” will receive the SunPass certification.

It is inevitable with a long lasting impact to inform small children and their parents about the risks of the sun. Kindergartens are suitable places for this educational work. Surveys of the ESCF showed, that among 3400 families every fifth child had already suffered at least one sunburn. Obviously parents underestimate the danger of the sun. According the survey only 14 percent of

Contact details

ESCF - European Skin Cancer Foundation
Schumannstraße 1b
10117 Berlin
Germany

Head

Univ.-Professor Dr. med. Eggert Stockfleth
Tel. +49 (0)30 - 450 518 266
Fax +49 (0)30 - 450 518 966
e.stockfleth@escf-network.eu

Manager

Birgit Hinrichs
Tel. +49 (0)30 - 897 522 76
Fax +49 (0)30 - 897 522 74
b.hinrichs@escf-network.eu

Public Relations

Stefanie Schnarr
Tel. +49 (0)30 - 897 522 76
Fax +49 (0)30 - 897 522 74
s.schnarr@escf-network.eu

Foundation board

Univ.-Professor Dr. med. Eggert Stockfleth
(Chairman)
Univ.-Professor Dr. med. Wolfram Sterry
Dr. Markus Heuel
Peter Schouten

www.Facebook.com/ESCF.Network

www.twitter.com/ESCF_Network



Account details

Account holder:
Stifterverband für die
Deutsche Wissenschaft

Bank: Deutsche Bank AG, Essen
Bank code: 360 700 50

Account number:
247 190 210

IBAN: 48 360 700 500 247 190 210
BIC: DEUTDEDE

the parents indicated that their children wore hats outside. Only every fifth parent paid attention to sun protection clothes of their children.

“The skin of children is at particular risk”, explains Professor Eggert Stockfleth, head of the ESCF. “The skin is very sensitive and has no natural mechanism to protect itself against UV radiation” The missing awareness of sun protection in childhood has mostly long term effects.



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See more at:

<http://www.escf-network.eu/en/welcome/news/newsdetails/article/sunpass-gewinnt-innovationspreis.html>

Dermatologists from the United Kingdom attended the ESCF Partner Class



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Dermatologists from the UK were trained in prevention, diagnoses and therapy of skin cancer on 22 – 23 March 2013. They also got to know the history about the traditional department of dermatology of the Charité from the pestilential house to a European Skin Cancer Center.

Other topics included new optical technologies for skin cancer diagnoses, the role of HPV infections in skin carcinogenesis, the importance of sun protection as well as new options for skin cancer therapies.

Some of the participants demonstrated own case studies from their daily hospital routine which were discussed intensively within the group. The next Partner Class will take place in April 2013.

See more at:

<http://www.escf-network.eu/en/welcome/news/newsdetails/article/aerzte-aus-grossbritannien-bei-der-escf-partner-class.html>

Solariums can work like a drug

Every visit of a solarium increases the risk to develop black cancer. Nevertheless, some people cannot get enough of it, because the artificial sun can cause dependency. Affected people are tanned but they find themselves pale and unattractive. If these people avoid tanning beds for some days, they suffer from nervousness, tremors and depressive moods as well as a strong desire for sunlight. This is pointed out by the German Cancer Aid in Bonn.

Due to the effect of UV rays endorphins are produced in the body. That is the reason why experts assume that they work like a drug being produced in the body and make happy. According to the Cancer Aid, especially young people want to increase their wellbeing and attractiveness with the help of tan. But they underestimate the danger of skin cancer.



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The risk to develop skin cancer doubles when people up to the age of 35 go to solariums regularly once a month. Addicts use tanning beds at least once a week or even on a daily basis. According to the Cancer Aid these people have a distorted self-image, like anorexic people have. (Source: dpa)

See more at:

<http://www.escf-network.eu/en/welcome/news/newsdetails/article/solariums-can-work-like-a-drug.html>

Construction workers have a higher risk getting skin cancer

Construction workers, sailors and other people who work outside have a higher risk of skin cancer. “Therefore, it is very important to pay attention to sun protection in such jobs”, says Professor Hans Drexler from the German Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.



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To apply sunscreen regularly and sufficiently is only the last step. These employees should wear protective clothing like a sun hat. They should try to avoid the sun and if possible take a break during the midday heat.

(Source: dpa)

See more at:

<http://www.escf-network.eu/en/welcome/news/newsdetails/article/bauarbeiter-haben-erhoehtes-hautkrebsrisiko.html>

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Newsletter Editorial of the ESCF

Stefanie Schnarr
Schumannstraße 1b
10117 Berlin, Germany
Tel: 030/897 522 76
s.schnarr@escf-network.eu
www.escf-network.eu

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