EPIPICTO: developing in practice a pictorial guide for marginalised adults with epilepsy



Janet Mifsud, Frank Portelli, Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association, Malta; Caroline Morton, Manon van der Meij, Stichting Epilepsie Instellingen Nederland (SEIN), Netherlands; Shirley Maxwell, Frey O'Brien, Epilepsy Connections, Scotland; Thomas Porschen, Interessenvereinigung für Anfallskranke in Köln e.V., Germany; Michael Alexa, Epilepsie Dachverband Österreich, Austria.

Contact email: epipicto@gmail.com Website www.epipicto.eu

Introduction and Aims

EPIPICTO is a 2 year Erasmus+ EU funded project to develop a pictorial guide for adults with epilepsy whose language and / or literacy issues prevent them from accessing written information about their disease. The project aims to improve the health, wellbeing and social inclusion of these persons by providing them with a resource to help them to better manage their epilepsy.

Methodology

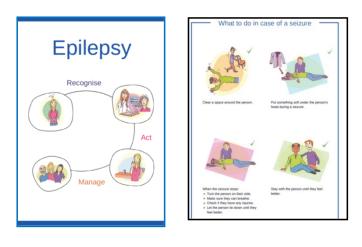
EPIPICTO is being developed using the complementary skills and experience of 5 European partner organisations in the production of epilepsy educational resources and the provision of information to people with epilepsy on the margins of society. EPIPICTO is a co-production with people living with epilepsy and their carers in all 5 partner countries; their input ensures that information needs of people with epilepsy are addressed in the guide, and that the images , minimal accompanying text and "tone of voice" are appropriate, attractive, accessible and inclusive.



EPIPICTO partners at the European Epilepsy Meeting, Vienna August 2018

Results

To date the content, images and text have been developed, tested and amended during 12 online meetings plus face to face meetings in Malta, Glasgow and Vienna and Cologne Testing of initial drafts has shown that pictorial information about epilepsy can be effectively and appropriately communicated in all partner countries. The final draft was tested among various populations in Spring 2019.





Pages from the EPIPICTO guide

Conclusions

EPIPICTO will provide a new form of flexible pathway for adult learning. EPIPICTO will equip people to better understand, manage and communicate about their epilepsy, and to access social, health, education and employment services. It is also being planned that the guide will be available online as an open resource so that the minimal accompanying text can be translated into other languages.

