Creating a Healthier Future
History

For the past 67 years, Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health has been faithful leader and companion of the citizens of Zagreb on the road to health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease and exhaustion”. Today, it employs 414 experts in various fields.

Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health was founded in 1949 as Public Hygiene Institute, a professional and research institution covering all issues in the field of hygiene and preventive medicine.

In 1961, the Zagreb City Council issued an official order on establishing the Zagreb Healthcare Institute, thus promoting the Public Hygiene Institute into an independent healthcare institution organized on the workers’ self-management principles. As stated in the order, the main task of the Institute was to organize and perform preventive healthcare service, to upgrade public hygiene, to study problems related to community, industry and food hygiene; to coordinate work of healthcare institutions in the City of Zagreb for efficient public healthcare measures and actions; to provide professional assistance in performing preventive measures and methodological instructions to healthcare institutions; to study and prevent infectious diseases and epidemics, as well as diseases associated with poor hygiene; to study problems encountered in maternal, infant, preschool children, schoolchildren and adolescence healthcare; to study problems of social diseases; and to organize and actively participate in health education of the population at large, including collection, processing and analysis of health statistical data.

The Zagreb Healthcare Institute was renamed into the City of Zagreb Institute of Public Health in 1994, into Dr Andrija Stampar Institute of Public Health in 2008, and into Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health in 2014.
Our vision is, as one of the centers of medical excellence in the Republic of Croatia, to be the best public health institution in the region and our mission is reflected in the provision of services in the field of public health, while respecting the highest standards of social responsibility and science-based knowledge, and by offering reliability and quality of the principles of medical excellence to our customers.

Today, we are the leading institution in the practice and services of the public health system of the Republic of Croatia. The Institute activities include public health, epidemiology, environmental health, microbiology, school medicine, prevention of addiction and mental health care. The Institute is also a teaching unit of the School of Medicine, University of Zagreb and School of Medicine, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University from Osijek. The Institute is a collaborating institution of the Catholic University of Croatia, School of Medicine, University of Rijeka; Faculty of Science and Faculty of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb; Faculty of Textile Technology; Faculty of Kinesiology; Faculty of Agriculture; Faculty of Veterinary Medicine; Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology; School of Dental Medicine; Libertas International University; University of Applied Health Sciences; Zagreb Health School; and Velika Gorica University of Applied Sciences, thus also successfully performing our educational role in the community.

The Institute has established cooperation with the leading public health and scientific institutions in the Republic of Croatia (Croatian Institute of Public Health and county institutes of public health, Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health, Croatian Veterinary Institute, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Meteorological and Hydrological Service), Central and South Europe (Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Macedonia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro), but also with the University of Botswana and the city of Kinshasa, DR Congo.

There are four reference centers of the Ministry of Health working at the Institute covering the areas like elderly health care, rabies, pharmacoepidemiology and food safety, and the Institute is in the process of obtaining fifth reference center named Reference Center for the Diagnosis of Sexually Transmitted Diseases. In 2013 National Reference Laboratory for Mycotoxins in Food and Feed and in 2014 Laboratory for Analysis of Determining Adulteration of Honey were established at the Institute by the Ministry of Agriculture.
One of the most significant projects of the Institute are as follows: establishing of the South East European Network for Food Safety and Quality Control (SEEN-FSQC); Controlled Quality; Food Safety Center; Geros, a system for monitoring and evaluation of health needs and functional ability of the insured gerontological and geriatric patients, which is linked to national health system CEZIH (gerontological food standards for menus at senior homes and gerontology center); early detection of Alzheimer’s disease procedure; the pilot project entitled Individual Monitoring of Diabetes by mobile application (DiaVitas), which has been created in order to personalize diet and exercise based on medical data; pollen forecasts, an innovative mobile application designed for those suffering from allergies, which has been developed by PLIVAzdravlje in cooperation with the Institute; the eco-schools within the environmental management system ISO 14001, and others.

The City of Zagreb is making great efforts in the preservation and improving the environment and sustainable development, and in improving health and well-being of all citizens and future generations, thus consequently the Institute carries out a series of tests and continuous monitoring of environmental factors to assess their impact on the health of people and state of the environment. A new project, City of Zagreb Ecological Map, is the basis in establishing a balance between the quality of the environment, health and lifestyle of the citizens and spatial and functional structure of the city.

One of the most significant public health activities of the Institute is founding the South East European Network for Food Safety and Quality Control (SEEN-FSQC), the first European organized group of public health, educational and scientific institutions, universities and laboratories.

The main goals of SEEN-FSQC are the following:

• health and economy improvement in the region,

• strengthening the need to ensure standardization of controlling food safety,

• encouragement of testing and inspection control and quality management (accreditation and certification of food), as the core business in the area of food safety, and

• further improvement of institutions that educate future professionals and participate, directly or indirectly, in the production and distribution of food
In addition to these basic goals, the Network provides support in the standardization of primary production, transportation, sales and control of suppliers and goods to the manufacturers and distributors of food products. Also, manufacturers are provided with professional assistance in complying with regulations and standards of the importer; specialized training, courses, conferences, symposia, congresses and conferences will be held in the future. By this, the Institute achieves its mission of caring for the safety of food reaching final consumer.

Members of the Network are the most eminent institutions and laboratories from seven countries in the region, including institutes of public health and faculties that participate in the process of food production, Ruđer Boškovic Institute as the most important scientific institution and larger private laboratories.

This type of organization enables the Network to be a guardian of human health in the region and supporter of businessmen. The Network will be controlling food safety and food quality and label products that meet the set criteria. The first project of the Network will be to focus on the promotion of food security during its production and placing it on the market, harmonization of legislation in the field of safety, quality and food safety, and promotion of preventive analysis during production and marketing.
Department of Epidemiology

Department of Epidemiology participates in designing and implementation of specific programs targeting usual public health issues, and also in some emerging new public health challenges. Besides the aforementioned activities, Department of Epidemiology additionally performs scientific research in the domain of epidemiology and public health. Moreover, Department of Epidemiology educates the vulnerable groups and general population about the main public health problems and protective behaviors. In daily routine, Department of Epidemiology is working continuously with all relevant public health institutions.

The Department has four divisions and the Ministry of Health Reference Centre for Rabies:

**Division of Infectious Diseases Epidemiology** collects and analyzes data on communicable diseases and identifies their characteristics in order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Within the Division, different preventive programs are developed in the interest of reducing the morbidity and mortality of infectious diseases. Division also monitors vaccination coverage at the county level and intervenes if the appropriate vaccination
coverage is not achieved. Within the Division there is also the Center for Vaccination and Traveler Disease Prevention, a designated World Health Organization (WHO) center for yellow fever vaccination, where besides yellow fever vaccination there is a possibility to get a pre-travel consultation and vaccination.

**Ministry of Health Reference Centre for Rabies** is performing numerous activities in the area of human rabies protection, and therefore cooperates with many veterinary organizations, facilities and institutions, and is supervising the antirabies activities of county public health institutes in the Republic of Croatia.

**Division of Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases Epidemiology** carries out activities of monitoring and epidemiological evaluation of different risk factors, morbidity and mortality, and risk factors for selected priorities in the field of chronic noncommunicable diseases. Division is vital in planning and conducting different health promotion programs with all relevant stakeholders. Division participates in the roll out of the National Cancer Screening Programs of Breast Cancer and Colorectal Cancer. In cooperation with Department of Health of the City of Zagreb, the Division conducts the Program of Preventive Mobile Mammography for women who are not targeted by the National Screening Program.

**Division of Food Safety System** provides food safety education and certification program for food handlers. Department also performs implementation and auditing of the HACCP systems.
Department of Clinical Microbiology

The Department is based on seven divisions and work is organized on two locations. Diagnostic services are performed mostly at the Institute main location (Mirogojska cesta 16), while some services are being performed on the other location in the City of Zagreb (Remetinečki gaj 14). Department has 60 employees, 13 of them medical doctors - specialists in clinical microbiology, three of them with master degree and three with PhD.

Department of Clinical Microbiology diagnostic services meet entirely the needs for microbiological diagnosis of all outpatients in the City of Zagreb. Samples can be processed at one place, regardless of the pathogen type (bacteria, viruses, fungi or parasites). Therefore, diagnostic procedures are organized within the laboratories and divisions, i.e. Division of Urogenital Infections; Division of Respiratory, Skin and Soft Tissue Infections; Division of Sexually Transmitted, Blood Borne and Systemic Infections; and Division of Gastrointestinal Infections.
In 2004, Division of Molecular Microbiology was founded. This Division uses the most sophisticated amplification methods for the detection of various pathogens regardless of sample type. Different molecular methods for detection and genotyping of bacteria, viruses and parasites such as qualitative and quantitative polymerase chain reaction (PCR), multiplex PCR, reverse hybridization on tape and other molecular methods are implemented. Our Serology Laboratory is so equipped to enable detection of antibodies in patient serum samples, so that indirect etiologic diagnosis of some bacterial, viral or parasitic infections is possible.

In addition to basic diagnostic services, Department also participates in prevention activities and programs. In cooperation with other Departments of the Institute, we provide multidisciplinary approach, especially in the field of reproductive health, sexually-transmitted and blood-transmitted diseases (with special emphasis on vulnerable groups of pregnant women, young, drug addicts, patients suffering from chronic diseases, elderly, etc.).

Department also monitors antibiotic sensitivity and resistance providing recommendations for empirical treatment with an important educational role.
Department of Environmental Protection and Health Ecology

Department of Environmental Protection and Health Ecology is qualified according to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025: 2007 for the following areas: testing of food, animal feeding stuffs, wine, objects of common use, waters, waste, soil, sludges, eluent, ambient air, stationary sources emissions, construction products and acoustic testing, as well as sampling of food, water for human consumption, soil, sludge and waste. More than 350 test methods have been introduced, 40% of these accredited. About 1500 parameters are tested in Department laboratories.

Department performs 35% of methods in flexible accreditation, which gives the possibility of faster compliance with the requirements of customers because of the possibility to change the matrix, the analyte and the range of accredited area.

Department consists of the following organizational units:

**Water Safety and Quality Division** (Laboratory for Drinking, Surface, Pool and Underground Water, Laboratory for Water Microbiology, Laboratory for Waste Water and Laboratory of Sanitation Technique)
**Division of Food and Consumer Goods Safety** - Reference Center for Food Safety Analysis of the Ministry of Health (Laboratory of Food Chemistry, Laboratory for Food Contact Objects. Laboratory for Consumer Goods)

**Division of Food and Consumer Goods Microbiology** (Laboratory of Food Microbiology and Laboratory of Consumer Goods Microbiology)

**Division of Living and Working Environment** (Laboratory for Air, Noise and Other Microclimate Conditions, Laboratory of Aerobiology, Soil and Waste Laboratory and Laboratory for Ecotoxicology)

**Division of Joint and Confirmation Analytical Methods** (Laboratory of Liquid Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry, Laboratory of Gas Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry, Laboratory of Atomic Spectroscopy and Mass Spectrometry, and Reference Laboratory for Mycotoxins)

**Division of Risk Assessment and Logistics** (Section for Sample Reception and Processing and Analytical Reports Issuing, Section for Conformity Assessment, Emergency Laboratory and Wash-Room and Sterilization)

Our employees are scientifically, professionally and technically qualified to work in accordance with the internationally accepted guidelines. Continuous cooperation with national and international laboratories takes place in order to improve analysis, and thus the health of the population.

A number of accredited methods of fixed and flexible areas (Confirmation and HAA) have been approved by the Croatian Accreditation Agency. Expansion of accredited areas is carried out in accordance with the needs of users of our services and expertise of our experienced staff.

The main role of the Department of Environmental Protection and Health Ecology is concern for human health through the study of the influence of environmental factors in the living and working environment on the health of the population.

Therefore, Department of Environmental Protection and Health Ecology carries out complex examination of food safety and quality of food samples, objects of common use and drinking water. Department also carries out tests of other samples from the environment such as air, waste water, soil and waste.

Apart from the above examinations, Department examines the chemical and biological factors in the work environment, performs risk assessment for work places and participates in emergency procedures in cooperation with the National Protection and Rescue Agency and the City Office of
Emergency Management, all for the purpose of prevention, monitoring and improving the health of citizens and preservation of the environment in which the people are living.

Laboratories of the Department are involved in scientific research projects, annual monitoring of the Ministry of Health, the Croatian Food Agency (CFA) and Health Department of the City of Zagreb, and are part of the educational bases of the University of Applied Health Sciences in Zagreb, the University of Botswana and the University School of Medicine in Osijek.

Department of Environmental Protection and Health Ecology has been involved in several projects:

- 2015-2016 scientific project entitled The Incidence of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Croatian Population as a Result of Chronic Exposure to Arsenic, scientific collaboration with the Institute for Medical Research and bilateral Croatia-Germany project
- COST program, COST Action FA1203 Sustainable Management of Ambrosia artemisiifolia in Europe (SMARTER)
- COST program, Improving Allergy Risk Assessment Strategy for New Food Proteins (ImpARAS) COST Action FA1402

Finished projects:

- COST program, COST Action ES0603 Assessment of Production, Release, Distribution and Health Impact of Allergenic Pollen in Europe (EUPOL)
- 2010-2014 project Glutathione S-Transferase and Superoxide Dismutase in the Etiopathogenesis (006-0061245-0010), approved by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports
- PHARE 2006, Development of Hazardous Waste Management System Including Identification and Management of ‘Hot Spot Sites’ in Croatia
Public Health Department

Public Health Department consists of Health Promotion Division, Inpatient Health Care Division, Outpatient Health Care Division, Unit for Preventive Medicine and Unit for Reproductive Health. Our interdisciplinary team consists of public health specialist, kinesiologist, nutritionist, occupational therapist, nurses and other professionals as needed.

The main goals of the Department are assessment of health condition and health needs of the population, identification and selection of priorities for needed interventions and implementation of measures regarding preventive medicine, health protection and health promotion, particularly in the field of primary prevention.

Department annually publishes the Health Statistics Yearbook of the City of Zagreb, which is a valuable contribution displaying health condition of the citizens of our beautiful city.

Health Promotion Division experts organize health campaigns – healthy lifestyle promotion, expert lectures, write articles in the field of health, publish Health for All e-magazine (www.zdravljezasve.hr), work with vulnerable and high risk groups, organize workshops in schools (balanced diet, physical activity, prevention of violence, emotional health, protection from sun), organize courses, public health actions and work with the media.
Preventive Medicine Unit provides individual consultations, preventive medical examinations, anthropological parameter measurements, laboratory biochemical analysis and molecular diagnosis. The goal of the Center for Preventive Medicine is to develop and enhance personalized preventive medicine.

Unit for Reproductive Health provides implementation of the National Program of Cervical Cancer Prevention and Early Detection, consultation and education regarding reproductive health.

**Projects:**

1. „We eat responsibly“ is a project that includes learning about food consumption in global context. The overall goal is to promote responsible eating (primarily in schools) in the context of saving our environment and the context of health.

   The project includes nine European Union countries. Project leaders are Glopolis Association of the Czech Republic and Croatian Lijepa naša Association. Public Health Department is partner in the project.

2. „Living healthy“ is a project that includes learning and implementation of good practice in the field of health promotion and enhancing physical activity in our daily lives. Project leader is National Institute of Public Health. Public Health Department is partner in the project.

3. Fitness Index is a project for health enhancing physical exercise as a key factor in the prevention of chronic noncommunicable diseases (type of project: Erasmus+). Department is partner in the project. Project status - logged - in the procedure of reviewing. Carrier of the project is Fitness Academy)

4. CroRun project; Department is partner in the project. Carrier of the project is CroRun Athletic Club.

5. Department participates in the project “From Health to Performance”, which is financed by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia. Leader of project is the Sun Center for Education and Consultation. The main activities are implementation of workshops on healthy diet in organizations/companies and implementation of workshops open to the public “Experts Ponder Health Workers” with the main goal to improve health in work organizations.

6. Public Health Department has been preparing project application to the European Regional Development Fund (Interreg HR-SLO). The overall goal
is to promote sustainable, secure and interactive cross-border cooperation between border regions of Slovenia and Croatian. A specific goal in the field of public health is to improve cardiovascular health of the border area population. The basic mechanisms will be strengthening the existing and establishing new structures of cooperation of health institutions and placement of new innovative models for the provision of public services (Mobile Center for Preventive Medicine).

Programs:

1. „I adopt healthy habits“ – a set of interactive health promotion workshops in schools and libraries: “Your body has been created for movement”, „Plate of health”, „Protecting from sun“, „How to recognize your emotions“, „Love-yes/violence no“.

2. Health enhanced physical exercise for people 50+ (Medveščak Society for Sports and Recreation); the Center is co-implementer; Carrier: Zagreb Association Sports for All.

3. Health enhanced physical exercise for people older than 50 (Trnje Society for Sports and Recreation); the Center is co-implementer; Carrier: Zagreb Association Sports for All.

4. The health program “Through Education to Health and Quality of Life” (lectures and workshops on the role of physical activity in the prevention and treatment of overweight and obesity) in partnership with the Association for Prevention of Obesity and the City of Zagreb.
Department of School and Adolescent Medicine

Department of School and Adolescent Medicine provides preventive health care measures for primary and secondary school students, as well as full-time university students in Zagreb, including medical check-ups, screening, specific examinations, determining appropriate forms and programs of education, examinations to assess health status and ability for teaching physical education, examinations and interventions during the epidemic of disease outbreak in school, counseling children, youth, parents and teaching staff, active care of children with disabilities during training, educational and professional orientation of school children and students with health problems.

Department of School and Adolescent Medicine dealing with children and youth meets the WHO criteria and requirements, and is open, accessible, available, effective and working on the principles of justice with guaranteed confidentiality. Department of School and Adolescent Medicine has 37 teams dispersed over 15 locations in Zagreb.

The service catchment population includes 169,664 users or 4585 users per team. Preventive health care of school children and youth is provided by educated medical staff with special competencies, consisting of medical doctors – school medicine specialists and college trained nurses.
Department is organized into three divisions: Growth and Development Monitoring Division, Youth Unit, Division for Monitoring Schoolchildren and Adolescents with Health Problems in Educational System. The principal tasks of Department of School Medicine are early identification and recognition of diseases and disorders, prevention of risky and socially unacceptable behavior, development of responsibility for their own health, adopting healthy lifestyles, mental health, particularly related to school and school environment, protection of reproductive health including responsible sexual behavior, and preparation for parenthood.

Counseling work in the Department of School and Adolescent Medicine takes place as individual counseling with the use psychotherapeutic techniques and procedures, or as advisory work. Counseling goal is to resolve the fundamental problems faced by children, adolescents, their parents, guardians, and teachers, as well as adjustment to school, school failure, problems of development and maturation, behavioral disorders, chronic medical conditions, protection of reproductive health, and mental health problems. Youth Unit offers specific counseling covering three problem areas as required by youth – reproductive health, nutrition, and mental health. In addition to regular work, Department provides other prevention programs such as Prevention of Diseases Caused by HPV. Also, Department is active partner in the Appearance Matters COST project.
Department of Public Health Gerontology

Department of Public Health Gerontology performs gerontologic public health activities. For already three consecutive terms, this service also acts as a Reference Center for Health Care of the Elderly of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia, Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health, under permission of the Ministry of Health, Republic of Croatia (Reg. No.: 534-10-1-1-2/5-13-12, Class: UP/I-510-01/13-01/13).

Reference Center for Health Care of the Elderly of the Ministry of Health of Republic of Croatia provides gerontologic public health activities in four regular domains:

1. Monitoring, investigating, evaluating, reporting and planning the projection of health care needs and functional ability of the elderly across all elderly age groups; the GeroS/CEZIH project, keeping registry of health care needs and functional ability of the elderly with sub-registry of centenarians.

2. Professional methodological support, coordination, continuing education of health care providers and co-providers for the elderly in institutional and out-institutional health care for the elderly.

3. Making, planning, evaluating and issuing legislative proposal of programs/norms of health care measures and actions with the goal to protect health of the elderly and to provide geroprophylactic measures of primary,
secondary, tertiary and quaternary prevention for the elderly. Furthermore, the Service provides programs/norms and algorithms of geriatric health care and supports developing gerontologic public health guidelines.

4. Active support and participation in scientific-research-publishing-gerontologic public health activities.

Department of Public Health Gerontology encompasses Center of Health Gerontology that consists of 4 Divisions: Division for Registry of Health Care Needs and Functional Ability of the Elderly; Division of Geriatric Health Care; Division of Geroprophylaxis and Promotion of Active and Healthy Ageing; and Division of Gerontologic Public Health Management.

The most important projects in which Department of Public Health Gerontology is partner and/or coordinator are:

1. Alma Mater Europaea with Erasmus (agreement on scientific and professional cooperation between Alma Mater Europae – European Center Maribor (ECM) and Reference Center for Health Care of the Elderly of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia – Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health, March 13, 2014)

2. GeroS/CEZIH (GeroS – integral part of CEZIH that encompasses monitoring and evaluation of health care needs and functional ability of gerontologic and geriatric insurees)

3. Program Four Levels of Geriatric Health Care with documentation for nurses and procedure guide for general/family medicine practitioners in the elderly care homes

4. European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA) – reference site, Zagreb


6. Drafting and implementation of project web service NRS 2002 – nutritional screening in panels, monitoring of family medicine doctors/CEZIH

7. Drafting of the project model Nutritional-Gerontologic Norms (GeroS/CEZIH) for food menus in old people’s homes and gerontologic centers

8. WIDER (EU project) – Eco-Smart Housing for Elderly, Trieste (2015-2017)

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Prevention

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Prevention continuously implements measures of mental health protection and addiction prevention in accordance with the provisions of the Croatian Health Care Act (Official Gazette 150/2008) and the National Anti-Drug Strategy, Anti-Drug Abuse Action Plan, Anti-Alcohol Abuse National Strategy and Mental Health Care National Strategy.

Protection of mental health covers behavioral problems, experimentation and abuse of drugs and alcohol, Internet addiction, gambling, eating and mood disorders, family problems and problems of elderly people (psychogeriatrics).

Prevention and treatment of addiction covers problems caused by the consumption of psychoactive substances (illegal: drugs and legal: alcohol, nicotine, drugs), problems caused by other addictions (gambling, Internet), urine testing for the presence of metabolites of drugs and saliva testing for the presence of antibodies to HIV virus and hepatitis C.
Our Department gathers top experts including psychiatrists, psychologists, social educators, social workers and medical technicians. Adolescents, school children (12 years) accompanied by a parent or guardian, students, adult working people, older age groups and family members who care for the elderly and families of people with mental disorders. It is possible to come without doctor’s referral, with prior telephone announcement and with personal documents.

Programs:

1. Online support in addiction for family practitioners
2. Psychotherapeutic group - “I grew up and now what?”
3. Evening school for parents
4. “Strengthening competence in working with young”
5. “No smoking school”
6. Other psychotherapeutic groups
7. Prevention and treatment of “new addictions”
Research and Teaching Department

Research and Teaching Department promotes, organizes and coordinates scientific and research work and educational activities which are held at the Institute, encourages interdisciplinary scientific projects from public health, healthcare and related areas, the aim of which is to investigate factors of health prevention based on population characteristics, as well as individual characteristics and environmental factors. Department coordinates planning and implementation of projects that are managed by the Institute or other institutions (schools of medicine, institutes, etc.). Department helps in planning and implementing projects with either choosing methodology or searching for resources (financial and material).

The Department publishes the results of scientific researches and promotes application of the results by organizing scientific meetings and expert lectures in order to present the results achieved. It publishes books, books of abstracts and papers in domestic and international publications.

Department consists of the following: Unit for Interdisciplinary Counseling and Interventions, Education Division, Division of Research and Reference Centers Coordination, Pharmacoeconomics Division and Pharmacoepidemiology Unit – Reference Center of the Ministry of Health for Pharmacoepidemiology.
Unit for Interdisciplinary Counseling and Interventions – gathers experts from different Institute departments and experts outside the Institute, depending on the particular project needs.

Education Division – organizes and coordinates teaching activities in the Institute. It also encourages publication activities and publishes annual reports with professional and scientific articles of Institute employees.

Division of Research and Reference Centers Coordination – coordinates planning and implementation of projects that are managed by the Institute or other institutions (schools of medicine, institutes, etc.). Department helps in planning and implementing projects with either choosing methodology or searching for resources (financial and material). Department publishes results of scientific research and promotes application of the results by organizing scientific meetings and expert lectures in order to present the results achieved. It publishes books, books of abstracts and papers in domestic and international publications. Department coordinates the activities of the Reference Center for Health Protection of Elderly People, Reference Center for Rabies, Reference Center for Pharmacoepidemiology and Reference Center for Food Safety Examination.

Pharmacoeconomics Division - conducts pharmacoeconomic analysis of certain drugs and medical products, which is the criterion for placing them on the Croatian Institute of Health Insurance (CIHI) basic drug reimbursement list or supplementary list.

Pharmacoepidemiology Unit – Ministry of Health Reference Center for Pharmacoepidemiology

The Institute was appointed the Reference Center for Pharmacoepidemiology of the Ministry of Health on June 20, 2008. The main tasks of the Reference Center are to promote safe and effective drug therapy, encourage patients to take medication properly, consulting services for citizens and institutions regarding pharmacoepidemiology, pharmacotherapy and pharmacoeconomics, observational studies and planning clinical trials. This Unit publishes the results of scientific research and organizes meetings and expert lectures in order to present the results achieved. It publishes books, books of abstracts and papers in domestic and international publications. Every second Wednesday per month, the Unit organizes expert meetings.

Referral Center established a new method for measuring adherence, the Culig Scale Measurement Adherence to Medication (Culig scale), now a world-wide recognized tool and scale for adherence measurement.
Experts from Department are involved in a number of international scientific projects:

1. Joint Action addressing chronic disease and promoting healthy aging across the life cycle (CHRODIS-I) Institute of Health Carlos III, Madrid, Spain

2. JPI Project: More Years Better Lives - Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research, Austria

3. CA COST Action CA15208 Rationing Missed Nursing care: an international and multidimensional problem, Cyprus University of Technology, Limassol, Cyprus

4. ISCH COST Action IS1211 Cancer and Work Network (CANWON), Academic Medical Center (AMC), Amsterdam, The Netherlands

5. ISCH COST Action IS1402 ageism - a multi-national, interdisciplinary perspective, Bar-Ilan University, School of Social Work, Ramat-Gan, Israel
Department of Integrated Management System

Department of Integrated Management System plans, implements, monitors and continually improves a number of activities to meet the demands of five international management system standards according to which the Teaching Institute is certified and accredited, i.e. ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189.

Teaching Institute is the only institution in Croatia that has established such a management system and we present our system to public as Stampar Model.

Department coordinates the work of the representatives of quality services and teams for improvement, continuously carries out internal training for certification and accreditation, plans and carries out internal audits per standard requirements.

Adherence to prescribed documentation is the basis to develop awareness of the importance of the role for all employees in business processes to achieve customer satisfaction with the services provided, as well as of the employees themselves.

Department ensures performance of the general business objectives of the Teaching Institute, as follows:
• to be the leader in the Republic of Croatia in developing an integrated quality management system, environmental management system, system for health protection and safety at work in public health institutions, according to the international standards ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001; and

• to promote excellence in the application of good professional practice in testing and medical laboratories of the Teaching Institute, accredited by the Croatian Accreditation Agency (HAA) according to standards ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189.

Department of Integrated Management System was developed from the independent functions of quality assurance in testing laboratories at Department of Environmental Protection and Health Ecology, which exists in the Institute since 2000. The Institute is among the first ones in the Republic of Croatia that is proficient according to ISO/IEC 17025: 2007 since 2003.

The quality management system was introduced in testing laboratories and the integrated quality and environmental management system according to ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 14001:2004 was certified in 2014. Having acquired due experience in testing laboratories, medical Laboratory for Molecular Microbiology was established and accredited according to ISO 15189:2012 in 2016. The current system has been upgraded with the system for Occupational Health and Safety at Work, which was certified in 2016.

The environmental management system has been implemented in eco-schools according to presentation of an international eco-schools program developed by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).

Today, eco-schools have been organized in 60 countries, linking more than 46,000 schools. National coordinator of the eco-schools in Croatia is the Lijepa naša Association. The environmental management system is implemented through the eco-school program to present international eco-schools.
Information about certificates and official documents of quality:

- OHSAS18001 Certificate - Management System of Health and Safety at Work, valid until July 3, 2019;
- Certificate of Accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025:2007 - General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, certificate no. HAA1040, valid until November 26, 2018;
- Certificate of Accreditation for EN ISO 15189:2012, Medical laboratories - Requirements for quality and competence (CAA - Croatian Accreditation Agency); Department of Clinical Microbiology; certificate no. HAA 7484, valid until April 9, 2020;

Andrija Stampar Teaching Institute of Public Health continuously seeks to improve the efficiency of employees, with maximum consideration for service users. It organizes and encourages multidisciplinary teams to improve the quality of operations in order to establish TQM, the Stampar Model.

This working method of the Institute opens the possibilities for more efficient connections with institutions in Croatia and the region.

The motto of the Institute is: “Quality education begins and ends in a systematic way of working. All employees in our Institute are involved in the education of quality”.


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