

Feasibility & Effectiveness of Eurocare Recommendations

on

Drinking and Driving

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Presentation

- EUROCARE endorsed these recommendations, proposed by its alcohol policy working group, in May 2003.
- The recommendations are based on:
 - ✓ the epidemiological data on alcohol-related traffic events
 - ✓ the international data bases for evidence-based preventive strategies.

The report was written by Dr P. Anderson



EUROCARE Recommendations

Main Aim

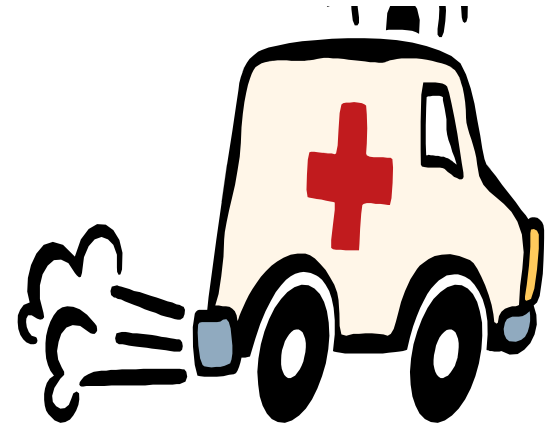
- To achieve a target of *halving the number deaths and disability adjusted life years* due to drinking and driving between 2000 and 2010
 - to provide European road users with *a consistent European platform on drinking and driving*
 - to make *European roads alcohol free*



Aims of this workshop

- Analyse the **feasibility** of Eurocare recommendations on D&D
- Analyse the **effectiveness** of some measures
- To draw up some **conclusions** for the further development and implementation of the recommendations

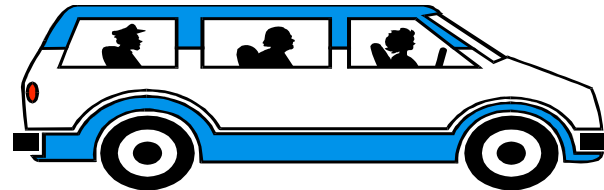
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- 42,000 people die yearly in Europe because of alcohol-related MVCs (= 1 aircraft crash/day)
- Around 25% fatal casualties are alcohol-related
- EU states haven't agreed yet on common norms (e.g. BAC 0.5, speed limits), in spite of Commission's recommendations (2001)

Eurocare Recommendations 1

- A maximum blood alcohol concentration limit of 0.5 g/l should be introduced throughout Europe with immediate effect;
- A lower limit of 0.2 g/l should be introduced for novice drivers and drivers of public service and heavy goods vehicles, with immediate effect; **countries with existing lower levels should not increase them.**



Eurocare Recommendations 2

- By the year 2010, the maximum blood alcohol concentration limit should be reduced to 0.2g/l for all drivers.



Eurocare Recommendations 3

- Unrestricted powers to breath test, using breathalysers of equivalent and agreed standard, should be implemented throughout Europe; 50% of all European drivers should have been stopped and breath tested at some time by the year 2010.





Eurocare Recommendations 4

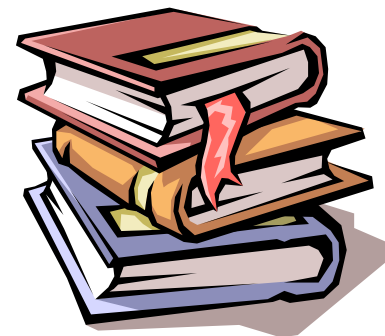
Common penalties for drinking and

driving...need to be introduced throughout Europe; penalties should be graded depending at least on the BAC level, and should include license suspensions, fines, prison sentences, ignition locks and vehicle impoundment; all drivers on European roads with a BAC level **greater than 0.5 g/l** should have an unconditional license suspension...

Eurocare suggests a minimum suspension period of 6 months.

EUROCARE Recommendations 5

- Driver education, rehabilitation and treatment schemes, linked to penalties, including the return of suspended licenses, need to be strengthened and implemented throughout Europe for drinking and driving offenders...





EUROCARE Recommendations 6

- Because of limited evidence for their effectiveness in reducing drinking and driving, public education efforts..., programmes to encourage servers to prevent intoxicated individuals from driving, and organized efforts ...for alternative transportation should not be the main corner-stones of drinking and driving policy.

EUROCARE Recommendations 7

- ... Drink driving laws and regulations and public education campaigns should be set and implemented throughout Europe independent of the beverage alcohol industry.





EUROCARE Recommendations 8

- Lowered blood alcohol concentration limits, the introduction of unrestricted powers to breath test and the introduction of common penalties, such as automatic license suspension when over a limit of 0.5 g/l should be supported by major publicity campaigns to inform the drivers of Europe of the new measures.



Eurocare Recommendations 9

- A monitoring system, with common and standardised measures across European countries should be put in place to produce annual reports on:

β drinking and driving in Europe

β the implementation of these recommendations,

β the progress to achieving a target of halving deaths and disability adjusted life years due to drinking and driving between 2000 and 2010.



Consistency of every recommendation is described on Eurocare's report, but we'll discuss their feasibility & effectiveness,



according to experts' experience, in 2 blocks:

1. Legal measures
2. Educational & remedial measures

Your turn, please...

