

## **Approach to early detection, follow up and intervention of the high risk and disabled children**

Dvojakov Ivan, Zisovska Elizabeta

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The early detection is the basis of the system. Here is the point of the beginning of the multidisciplinary approach to the high risk newborns. The high risk children could be detected different stages of their regular check ups, home visits, outpatient clinics for healthy children.

Registering and reporting is the other important issue in early intervention. It is not just simply “database”, but it gives plenty of important information about: health, social and educational, aspects of the disabled children, epidemiological evaluation of the problem and evidence based support to the improvement and maintenance of the system for care and treatment of disabled children.

It is important to establish partnership with the parents. It gives a positive evaluation of the family, expecting positive input to the problem, focuses towards the total biological potentials and possibilities to raise them on the best optimal level and the early building the basis for the child’s future within the strategy for successful integration.

The situation in Macedonia is not completely settled. It works fragmented.

Summary: the problems are in insufficient coordination of the activities between involved institutions, insufficient coordination between the experts within the same institution and the insufficient registering and reporting of high risk newborns/infants

Possibilities to resolve the problems:

Strengthening and revitalization of the connecting line between the relevant institution within the global national system (health-social care and policy-education)

Continuous education of the professionals within these systems

Special education for integrated interdisciplinary teams for care and treatment of disabled children

The end-effect expected:

- ▶ Timely reached and rational accessibility of the institutions and centers
- ▶ Early coordination of the earliest possible age
- ▶ Network of regional developmental counseling centers in the country
- ▶ Alternative forms of early intervention (in future)

Key words: children, disability, early detection