

PRESENTATION 37: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2008  
11.10 - 12.40 h.

POSTER  
Ongoing study with preliminary results

TITLE: French Consensus about Gut Feelings in general Practice.

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Background:

General practitioners sometimes base their clinical decisions on gut feelings alone, even though there is little evidence of their diagnostic and prognostic value in daily practice. Research into the significance of this phenomenon with focus groups in the Netherlands provided a concept of gut feelings in general practice: a sense of alarm, a sense of reassurance and several determinants. A description of these two types of gut feelings was obtained with a Delphi consensus procedure with a heterogeneous sample of 27 Dutch and Belgian GPs or ex-GPs involved in academic programmes. A survey among members of the EGPRN show that the sense of alarm is a familiar phenomenon in general practices in Europe. To validate this concept in Europe we need comparable descriptions of gut feelings.

Research question:

Which consensus on gut feelings in general practice in France can be obtained, using the Dutch results and the same methods?

Method:

Translation of the 7 Dutch defining statements about gut feelings conducted as forward-backward translation. Qualitative research including a Delphi consensus procedure with a heterogeneous sample of 30 French GPs involved in university educational or research programmes, included by a randomised selection of the associated teachers' list of General practice in France.

Results:

The first two translations were done by a Dutch speaking GP working in France and by the first author and adjusted by a French speaking native, interpreter at a Dutch university. The backward translation was performed by a Flemish GP. Two Dutch GPs, authors of the original research, compared this text with the original statements. After some final corrections the French text was accepted. We already recruited 25 GPs and will soon start the consensus procedure.

Conclusions:

The translation problems were solvable. It is an ongoing study. We will present the first results at the congress.