

MEETING VENUES

The OPERA Workshop will take place at two attractive venues in the city of Pforzheim, Germany.

This workshop is sponsored by the City of Pforzheim, Germany and its NFH with the intention of attracting health researchers internationally to become involved in *Die Pforzheim Studie*.



HELIOS HOSPITAL

Meeting venue, December 11
7th Floor conference room, Helios
Hospital
0800-1700 h



NEW CITY HALL

Meeting venue, December 12
Council Chambers, New City Hall of
Pforzheim
0830-1700 h



PARKHOTEL PFORZHEIM

Accommodations have been organized
for conference delegates at Parkhotel
Pforzheim from December 10-12.
Cost: 90 euros/night.



CONFERENCE DINNER

OPERA restaurant, Stadttheater
6:00 pm, December 11
Cost: 35 euros/person

OPERA Europe Workshop

Pforzheim, Germany

December 11-12, 2018



OBJECTIVES OF OPERA EUROPE WORKSHOP

OPERA is an international, interdisciplinary program of researchers, care providers, foundations and agencies dedicated to discovering and disseminating inexpensive and accessible tools to diagnose those women and their newborns at risk for preterm birth or other adverse pregnancy or newborn health outcomes as early as possible in pregnancy and to promoting effective interventions to mitigate these risks. OPERA promotes prediction projects in local jurisdictions and connects teams and jurisdictions via a website and meetings.

Starting in 2005, an important change occurred in Germany whereby targeted policies against child abuse and neglect, together with a change in policies addressing the spectrum of children's diseases (or a 'new morbidity') were developed. A national study by the National Centre on Early Prevention in 2007 showed that earlier intervention could be more cost-effective by a factor of 1:13. Since then, collaborative multi-sector early childhood intervention networks or *Netzwerk Frühe Hilfen* (Early Support Network, NFH) have been formed in 98.4% of local authorities (over 600) across all 16 federal states. These networks aim to identify and support at-risk families in a systematic manner. In the city of Pforzheim and the surrounding district of Enzkreis (Pop. 300,000), the NFH network (formed in 2006, one of the oldest and most established in Germany) is successfully serving the area's large migrant/refugee and family-welfare population. The health sector, in particular obstetricians-gynecologists, pediatricians, midwives and maternity clinics, provide the main entry points of individuals into the network in close cooperation with the youth welfare sector.

In Pforzheim the NFH is a multidisciplinary family perinatal support network promoted by the city's health and social care professional community that supports *Die Pforzheim Studie*, an OPERA-affiliated project. The Studie examines the effects of ancestral trauma on pregnancy and newborn risk since Pforzheim was the German city most severely harmed by World War II allied bombings that killed one-third of the population and destroyed 80% of the buildings. Additionally, the population of Pforzheim has one of the largest migrant ratios in Germany. Currently about 53% of the population are migrants or have a migration background beginning with an influx of Turks in the 1960's and '70's, and more recently individuals from the Middle East. As a consequence, the City of Pforzheim in comparison to the surrounding district of Enzkreis, has slightly higher low birth weight, very low birth weight, and child (age 4-5) overweight. However, the rate of inadequate school entrance language skills at age 5 is double, male suicide rates are triple, joblessness <25 years is double, the debt quotient is double, and 50% more people are receiving welfare. Hence the local population is uniquely suited for a study addressing both risk assessment and interventions to mitigate the risks; have been established in *Die Pforzheim Studie*.

DAY ONE

08:00-08:30 Welcoming Addresses

08:30-10:00 Session I- Die Pforzheim Studies

Rupert Linder, Brigitte Joggerst, Thomas Bernar, Doris Winter

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-12:00 Session II- Transgenerational stress

Barbara Verstraeten, Yesim Erim, David Olson, Richard Saffery

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:10 Session III- Environment and lifestyle stresses

Angela Venturache, John Gullver, Bee Tan

14:10-15:20 Session IV- Pregnancy cohorts

Craig Pennell, Eero Kajantie, Katri Raikonen

15:20-15:40 Coffee Break

15:50-17:00 Session V- Predicting risk

Larry Rand, Laura Jelliffe, Robin Tuytten

18:00 Conference Dinner

Evening- Pforzheim Christmas Market

DAY TWO

08:30-10:00 Session VI- Childhood and brain development

Gerlinde Metz, Matthias Schwab, Bea van den Bergh, Binu Singh

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-12:00 Session VII- Screening and interventions

Jonathan Fuchs, Ashley Hyde, Rita van Damme, Suzette Bremault-Phillips

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:00 Session VIII- Workshops A1 and B1

A1. Predicting Risk (Mothers): L Rand, L Jelliffe

B1. Establishing cohorts: E Kajantie, K Raikonen

14:00-15:00 Session IX- Workshops A2 and B2

A2. Predicting Risk (Newborns): G Metz, M Schwab

B2. Studying migrant populations: Y Erim, B Tan, D Winter

15:00-15:30 Coffee Break

15:30-16:30 Session X- Establishing interventions

A Hyde, S Bremault-Phillips, B Singh, J Fuchs

16:30-16:50 Moving forward and next steps: *R Linder, G Metz*

16:50-17:00 Conference conclusion