Title: The evaluation of knowledge of primary care paediatricians (PCP) into social paediatrics (SP).

Method: 168 PCP. Mean age (±SD): 46 ± 8 years; 16.7% male, 83.3% female.

Phase1: self-assessments by paediatricians of their baseline knowledge in SP (baseline survey). Phase2: social paediatrics elective (4 hours) was introduced to respondents and focus groups discussion were conducted. Phase3: paediatricians were asked to reevaluate their baseline knowledge in SP (“how would you assess your previous knowledge in Phase1 after taking this SP elective ”).

Results: 80.3% of paediatricians considered that they had sufficient knowledge in SP in Phase1, and only 11.3% * continued to assert it in Phase 3; 89.9% were skilled in maintaining the social determinants of child’s health (Phase1), and only 30.3% * after reevaluation (Phase3); 76.8% (Phase1) and 24.4% * (Phase3) were skilled in multi-professional care (with non-medical professionals); 80.3% believed that they could identify child abuse in Phase 1 and 25.6%* in Phase3; 78% respondents assumed that they were familiar with child right issues, and only 19.6%* remained convinced of this in Phase3 . Necessity of SP training accepted 54.2% (Phase1), and 96.4%* PCP (Phase3) . * p <0.05

Discussion: The views and knowledge of PCP about SP are at a low level. PCP did not realize their incompetence. The great changes in assessment of their basic knowledge took place after SP elective introduction. Thus, short-term social paediatrics elective led to a significant adjustment of the beliefs of pediatricians.