

## EDITORIAL

# The National Register for Monitoring the Biometric Potential of the School Population

## Registrul național de monitorizare a potențialului biometric al populației școlare

**Traian Bocu**

*”Iuliu Hațieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca*

*Editor-in-Chief of the Palestrica Mileniului III journal*

*Vice-President of the Romanian Medical Society of Physical Education and Sport*

*traian\_bocu@yahoo.com*

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A few months ago, the *Strategy of the Ministry of Youth and Sport for 2013-2020* was posted on the MTS website (1). The document includes several objectives which, implemented in current legislation, might contribute to optimizing the promotion and maintenance of health, as well as to modernizing the selection methods for high performance sport. The legislation to which we refer is mainly part of the fields of physical education and sport (the MEN network) and health (the MS network). It is noteworthy that the basic pillars of the national sport strategy for 2013-2020 include the creation of a National Register for monitoring the biometric potential of the school population, the extension of the selection basis for high performance sport, the creation of a Sport Database Register in Romania. We have approached the importance of extending the selection basis and creating a Sport Database Register on previous occasions, both in personal researches and previous editorials, so we will not address these topics here.

A register as a general term should be seen as a database in a certain field. As a term of comparison, we mention that there are registers in various activity areas. The closest area to sport that uses a National Register is health. We can give the example of the National Cancer Register, the National Diabetes Mellitus Register, the National Vaccination Register, which are databases that include patients from regional areas that are centralized at national level in order to provide the incidence of these diseases.

From discussions with specialist doctors, we have concluded that these Registers in the field of health are far from succeeding in providing a complete list of patients by disease categories. Because the National Register for monitoring the biometric potential of the school population is mainly aimed at an inventory of healthy people, it would be even more difficult to create such a register. However, the creation of such a register would be extremely useful and not impossible to achieve. To begin with, the foundations of this register should be established. In order to have a national inventory accessible at any time, the monitored indicators should be accurately registered, first at the level

of institutions, counties and regions. Which could be the institutions designed to contribute to the creation of the National Register for monitoring the biometric potential of school children? Where should be the county or regional monitoring centers? How would data be transmitted to Bucharest in order to be introduced in the National Register?

The results that will be introduced annually in the Register should serve general common interests. The registered indicators will be subordinated to two main objectives: determining the annual level of the young people's biometric potential; using the results obtained for scientific selection in sport, which will allow for the performance of studies in the field. Because the registration and transfer of the results will be digital, adequate software will be needed, which will include the main required morphofunctional and biometric indicators, for the equipment of all territorial units.

The first *Register* to be created will be at institution level, in *schools*. At school level, relying on school doctors (\*\*\*, 2012) and on physical education teachers is compulsory. School doctors perform annual evaluations, documents from which the biomedical indicators required for the register can be extracted. The evaluation of the classes is scheduled over the entire duration of the school year. Physical education teachers conduct control tests with their pupils throughout the school year. These results can also be used for the register. The register should not be complicated by additional tests.

The next step will be the transfer of the results obtained at school level to the databases of the County School Inspectorates, which will send the entire database to central level (regional or national).

The National Register for monitoring the biometric potential of the school population can use the model of registers in the health care system and could be created by the order of MTS in collaboration with MS (1).

Examples: a) By Order no. 1014/2011 published in Monitorul Oficial no. 415/14.6.2011, the Ministry of Health approved the creation of the National Diabetes Mellitus

Register within the National Public Health Institute; b) Order of MS no. 2027/2007 regarding the population-based registration of cancer patient data and the creation of Regional Cancer Registers. A minimum number of staff will be necessary for the creation of Institutional Registers, as well as for the collection of results at the level of County School Inspectorates; c) The creation of the National Cardiovascular Disease Register was approved by the Order of the Ministry of Health no. 1293/2012, the Register being created through the centralization of the data of the Subprogram for the invasive treatment of acute myocardial infarction.

Finally, the financing of the activities carried out for the registration-transfer of the results will be mentioned in the Order for the creation of registers, but we consider that expenses might be covered by the institution budget and by some sport and health related National Programs.

#### References

\*\*\*. Ordinul 5298/2011 pentru aprobarea Metodologiei privind examinarea stării de sănătate a preșcolarilor și elevilor din

unitățile de învățământ de stat și particulare autorizate/acreditate, privind acordarea asistenței medicale gratuite și pentru promovarea unui stil de viață sănătos. MO Nr. 25 din 12 ianuarie 2012 (Order 5298/2011 for the approval of the Methodology regarding the examination of the health of preschool and school children in authorized/accredited state and private education institutions, regarding free health care provision, and for the promotion of a healthy lifestyle. MO no. 25 of 12 January 2012).

\*\*\*. Ordinul nr. 1014/2011 publicat în MO nr. 415/14.6.2011 privind înființarea Registrului național de diabet zaharat în cadrul Institutului Național de Sănătate Publică (Order no. 1014/2011 published in MO no. 415/14.6.2011 regarding the creation of the National Diabetes Mellitus Register within the National Public Health Institute).

\*\*\*. Ordinul ministrului Sănătății nr. 1293/2012 privind înființarea și funcționarea Registrului național de boli cardiovasculare MO, Partea I nr. 873 din 20.12.2012 (Order of the Ministry of Health no. 1293/2012 regarding the creation and functioning of the National Cardiovascular Disease Register, MO, Part I, no. 873 of 20.12.2012).

#### Websites

(1) <http://mts.ro/> Visited on 17.11.2013