THE DEVELOPMENT OF CROATIAN STRATEGY FOR FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (2015 - 2020)

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Introduction:
The Croatian Society for Alzheimer's Disease and Old Age Psychiatry of Croatian Medical Association and Alzheimer Croatia gave themselves a task, following the guidelines of the World Health Organization, to develop a national strategy / plan to combat Alzheimer's disease (AD).

Methods & Results:
For this purpose, Croatian Alzheimer Alliance (CAA), or in Croatian language Hrvatska Alzheimer alijansa / HAA, was established with the desire to bring together as many people, professional societies and associations to join their forces to lobby for the implementation of the national strategy to fight against AD. In parallel, a draft text of the proposal entitled "Croatia strategy for fight against Alzheimer's disease (2015 – 2020)" was prepared and for the first time has been presented and discussed in public in Brela, during Croatian Congress on Alzheimer's Disease (CROCAD-14) with International Participation. The text of the draft strategy, together with the adopted additions from the preceding discussion, was presented at the 6th Croatian Psychiatric Congress in Zagreb. Then text of the strategy was sent to all members of the CAA for review and comments. At the end of the year 2014, an expert meeting of the Croatian Society for Alzheimer's Disease and Old Age Psychiatry, CroMA, discus about the text of the final version of national strategy for the fight against AD. When obtained the final version of the strategy will be published in Croatian and English language available on the Internet, for the purpose of encouraging others, but also for the possibility to make comparisons with others in the region, regarding the quality of life of people with dementia and their careers. Croatia, as part of the EU, should be in this segment of caring for the vulnerable population.

Conclusion:
We are aware that it will take some time for Croatia to catch a European port in the level of care for people with dementia, but without the initial concrete steps, such as an adoption of national strategy against AD, we cannot move forward.