

Report to the EOA congress in Lviv, Ukraine, 5-8 May 2011

Organization: Czech ILCO, Czech Republic

Number of members: **495** ≈ 5% of about 8000 Ostomates in Czech Republic

Number of employees: **0**

Appliance-situation: Very good - eight companies supply with appliances

Type of reimbursement: Reasonable limit is fully reimbursed by insurance companies

Contact: info@ilco.cz www.ILCO.cz

Czech ILCO was founded in 1993 after the formation of the Czech Republic as an association of existing regional Ostomate clubs that started in the former Czechoslovakia. At present Czech ILCO includes 17 clubs. In addition, there exist 6 regional organizations in the Czech Republic, which are not associated in Czech ILCO.



Stoma groups in Czech Republic.

General Assembly of Czech ILCO meets twice a year. In 2009 new officers of the Czech ILCO Executive board were elected: Ing. Marie Ředinová - Chairman, Dr. Pavel Kreml - 1st. Vice Chairman, Karel Tyrpekl, M.D., - 2nd. Vice Chairman, Lenka Čermáková - Secretary and Alice Křepínská - member of the Board. All members of EC are ostomates except Mr. Tyrpekl. Czech ILCO co-operates closely with other organizations of disabled citizens.

The Newsletter of Czech ILCO is published twice a year. The members of regional ostomy groups are regularly informed by regional bulletins and periodicals published by ConvaTec, Coloplast and B|Braun.

Eight manufacturers (ConvaTec, Coloplast, B|Braun, Dansac, Welland, For Life, Eakin and Salts) supply the appliances in the Czech Republic. Reasonable limit is fully reimbursed by insurance companies. If necessary, the limit may be increased on the recommendation of the insurance control physician. The appliances are available in most pharmacies and in specialised distribution centres. All manufacturers organise a mail delivery service.

Problems with social rehabilitation of stoma patients still exist. The activities of our association are aimed at improving this situation, in particular by visitor advice service.

In the last six years Czech ILCO has trained 19 visitors and others are being trained. Other visitors have been trained since that time as Czech ILCO finds the visitors service very helpful for every new ostomist and his or her families. Unluckily in some of hospitals the visitor service is not well accepted. Its success depends on good cooperation between physicians or nurses and ostomates of the visitor service.

Czech ILCO provides the information for public to inform about ostomists' activities. The leaflets are distributed to hospitals. This year Czech ILCO takes part in NGO Market – fair of patients' organizations. NGO Market is organised by FORUM 2000 (Vaclav Havel Foundation). The Czech ostomates showed that they take the WOD motto "Living life to the full" rather seriously and prepare meetings, rehabilitation courses, seminars and trips. In 2010 the Silesian ostomy group organized and international meeting, which was attended by 180 ostomates from 3 countries.

One of the activities of Czech ILCO is organisation of rehabilitation courses for ostomates. In addition, larger local clubs prepare rehabilitation courses for their members. These courses are connected with lectures of physicians and stoma therapists and with presentations of distributors of stoma appliances. The courses are financed partly by aid grants on a basis of a project, partly from contributions of distributors of ostomy appliances.

From January 2008 each insured person has been obliged to pay the regulation charge to the health care provider for the medical treatment provided by him.

The greatest event of Czech ILCO last year was the International meeting of more than 170 Czech, Polish and Slovak ostomates in Ostrava held on 19th Juni 2010. The same international meeting of Czech, Polish and Slovak ostomates will be held this year in Slovakia.

The future: There are discussed additional changes of health care in Czech Republic. Czech ILCO collaborates with organizations of disabled citizens and distributors to put over reasonable limits of stoma appliances. The latest available proposal is sympathetic to ostomates.

Czech ILCO wants to continue in education and training of visitors.



Meeting of Czech, Polish and Slovak Ostomates in Ostrava