

Curriculum Vitae

Personal details

Name Irena Zakarija-Grković
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Educational background and qualifications

2012 PhD. University of Split School of Medicine. The effect of breastfeeding training on knowledge, attitudes and practices of maternity staff.
2002 IBCLC. International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (current).
2001 FRACGP. Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
1999 DRANZCOG. Diploma of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (expired).
1992 MD. University of Rijeka School of Medicine, Croatia.

Membership of professional bodies

Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine
Croatian Medical Association
Croatian Association of Lactation Consultants (president)
Cochrane (Co-Director Cochrane Croatia)
European Lactation Consultant Alliance
International Lactation Consultant Association

Employment history

2012- Post-doctoral fellow, Departments of Family Medicine and Public Health, University of Split School of Medicine
2009- Visiting breastfeeding consultant, private paediatric clinic, Split
2008- UNICEF Croatia consultant/trainer for BFHI
2006 - 2012 Research Fellow, Department of Family Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine
1998 - 2004 Full time general practice, Melbourne.
1997 Senior medical officer, Mercy Hospital for Women, Melbourne.
1993 – 1996 Resident medical officer, Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

Bibliography

Peer reviewed publications in academic journals

Dobi-Babić R, **Zakarija-Grković I**, Bosnar A, Cuculić D, Grković I. Children war casualties in the district of Rijeka and Senj. *Croat Med J* 1992; 2:36-9.
Zakarija-Grković I, Burmaz T. Effectiveness of the UNICEF/WHO 20-hour Course in Improving Health Professionals' Knowledge, Practices, and Attitudes to Breastfeeding: Before/After Study of 5 Maternity Facilities in Croatia. *CMJ* 2010; 51:396-405.
Zakarija-Grković I. Exclusive Breastfeeding in the Hospital: How Accurate are the Data? *J Hum Lact* 0890334412437764, first published on February 21, 2012
doi:10.1177/0890334412437764.
Zakarija-Grković I, Simunovic V. Introduction and preparation of an objective structured clinical examination in family medicine for undergraduate students at the University of Split. *Acta Medica Academica* 2012;41(1):68-74.
Zakarija-Grković I, Šegvić O, Božinović T, Čuže A, Lozančić T, Vučković A, Burmaz T.

Hospital Practices and Breastfeeding Rates before and after the UNICEF/WHO 20-Hour Course for Maternity Staff. *J Hum Lact.* 0890334412447079, first published on June 6, 2012 as doi: 10.1177/08904412447079.

Lamberti LM, **Zakarija-Grković I***, Fischer Walker CL, et al. Breastfeeding for reducing the risk of pneumonia morbidity and mortality in children under two: a systematic literature review and meta-analysis. *BMC Public Health.* 2013;13 Suppl 3:S18. doi: 10.1186/1471-2458-13-S3-S18. Epub 2013 Sep 17. *equal first author

Peer reviewed poster presentations

Zakarija-Grković I. The Rise and Fall (and Rise Again) of the BFHI in Croatia: A Lesson to be Learnt. Australian Lactation Consultant Association Biennial Conference, Canberra, Australia 2009.

Zakarija-Grković I, Burmaz T. Breastfeeding Attitudes of Maternity Staff in Croatia: A before/after study of five maternity facilities. European Lactation Consultant Association Biennial Conference, Basel, Switzerland, 2010.

Šegvic O, Vuckovic A, Lozancic T, Caran M, Baric A, Bozinovic T, Rumboldt M, **Zakarija-Grković I.** The Effect of In-Patient Breastfeeding Counseling on Exclusive Breastfeeding Rates. 16th WONCA European Conference, Malaga, Spain, 2010.

Ćuže A, **Zakarija-Grković I.** Impact of 'birth' skin-to-skin contact between mother-infant pairs on breastfeeding practices during the first 6 months of life. 4th ABM European Meeting. Trieste: Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, 2012.

Zakarija-Grković I. Exclusive Breastfeeding in the Hospital: How Accurate are the Data? 4th ABM European Meeting. Trieste: Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, 2012.

Invited oral presentations

Zakarija-Grković I. Physicians and Breastfeeding in Croatia. 2nd ABM European Meeting. Vienna: Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, 2008.

Zakarija-Grković I. Hands Off! Teaching mothers to be independent. International symposium on breastfeeding in practice. Laško, Slovenia: Slovenian Association of Lactation Consultants, 2008.

Zakarija-Grković I. Experiences and Challenges in Implementing the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative. 4th ABM European Meeting. Trieste: Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, 2012.

Zakarija-Grković I. Definitions and indicators of breastfeeding. "Breastfeeding days" conference. Sarajevo: Centre for mothers and children "Fenix", 2012.

Zakarija-Grković I. Modern approach to mastitis. "Breastfeeding days" conference. Sarajevo: Centre for mothers and children "Fenix", 2012.

Zakarija-Grković I. Croatia: A Breastfeeding Journey. GOLD Lactation Online Conference: GOLD Conferences International, 2013.

Zakarija-Grković I. The Importance of Breastfeeding in Premature Babies and Children with Developmental Difficulties. 3rd Croatian conference on early interventions in children. Zadar: Croatian Association for early interventions in children, 2013.

Zakarija-Grković I. Breastfeeding in Croatia. ABM Doctors' Day. Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, Melbourne, 2013.

Zakarija-Grković I. The effect of breastfeeding training on maternity staff. Laško, Slovenia: Slovenian Association of Lactation Consultants, 2013.

Zakarija-Grković I. Cochrane Collaboration and breastfeeding. Laško, Slovenia: Slovenian Association of Lactation Consultants, 2013.

Zakarija-Grković I. Social aspects of breastfeeding. Rotary Forum Split "Mother and child": Rotary Club Split, 2014.

Committee membership (current)

2013- Member, Mother-Friendly national project team

2011- Member, Editorial Review Board, *Journal of Human Lactation.*

2011- Member, Multilingual Committee, International Lactation Consultant Association.

2006- UNICEF Croatia. Member, BFHI national project team

2006- Member, National Breastfeeding Committee

Peer reviewing

Journals: *Acta Medica Academica*, *Breastfeeding Review*, *Croatian Medical Journal*, *International Breastfeeding Journal*, *Journal of Human Lactation*, *Paediatrica Croatica*