Editorial. “Globesity”: A new epidemic

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Epidemiology is the description of the different factors determining the distribution and periodicity of a disease in a community. Morbi-mortality are the main end points.

The WHO declared that Obesity is a global epidemic and the new term of “Globesity” created to describe the increase of excess weight and obesity in the world population.

More than 1.7 billion adults [1] have excess weight and at least 315 millions are clinically obese as declared by the WHO.

To complicate more the problem the International Obesity Task Force estimate than 222 millions of children over 5 years old are obese or overweight.

Children who suffer diabetes mellitus Type II (DM2) are 85% obese. More than 70% of the DM2 patients also suffer cardiovascular disease, and 42% them colon and breast cancer are related to obesity. 30% of biliary tract surgery and 26% of high blood pressure complications.

In Portugal all this number are alarming. A paper published in 2007 [2], 45.2% of males are overweight and 15% obese, 34.4% of the females are also overweight and 13.4% obese.

Bariatric surgery give the best results in this unequal fight against this disease, since other managements are comdem to fail.

More important than data, tables and figures we should establish the solutions to fight Globesity.

Last September 20, 2011 after 2 days on the Conference of Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) they reached a Consensus. NCD are a direct and growing impairment to the economic growth of the median and low development countries.

This debate was promoted by the Conflict of Interest Coalition [3], one association of more than 140 Non-gubernamental Organizations and Institutions of Public Health to make the food and beverages products industry responsible of “products that are responsible of near 36 millions of deaths a year”

“The administration and the political decisions are invariably losing against the powerful corporations...As a consequence Public Health, the working producing class and the economy are lessen, and the priority of the interet of the food and beverages industries as much as the pharmaceutica technology and the companies of medical management or public wellness, the coalition have declared,This “Statement of Concern” was published on “Lancet” [4] , on September 16,2011.

We have to get associated with these organizations for a better common ideal; or a tentative of global action to modify the systems conditioning to the decrease of the quality of life that the progress ought to give if the international large corporations, moved by profit and forgetting any social actions which only contribute to the degradation of our weak equilibrium for a cooperative ecosystem.

In this way, as President of Portugueses Society of bariatric Surgery and Metabolic diseases (SPCODM) call upon our society members and the members of other International Societies to debate tho the IFSO to get working with Coalition that has been set already.

No matter how many patients are treated the problem is collective affair with a change in the mentality and life-style, to intervene to modify the actual paradigm that give the strenght to profit.

It is Man in his Globesity who have to find the equilibrium to cooperate, working the actual dangers of a self-satisfying society that is very inhuman.

References:

3.-http://coicoalition.blogspot.com/