

ARCAT : organization dedicated to research, information and campaigns for the access to medical treatment / ARCAT.

Contributors

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Arcat, at the service of the patient

Paris

Groupe SOS



Arcat

*Organisation dedicated
to research, information
and campaigns for the access
to medical treatment.*

► Charity recognized by a prefectural decree
of October 6, 2003

Social aspects

Our day center is called Point Solidarité and is open to any people with a serious and chronic illness (HIV/AIDS, hepatitis...) who has social, medical, psychological difficulties, or who faces legal issues.

Information and support to the individual

In a first contact, the person is received by two members of our team. They will assess the individual's needs and then propose either inhouse support or information regarding the support that can be obtained elsewhere. A member of the team can accompany the person, if necessary.

Legal advice and access to entitlements and health care

In collaboration with the medical and welfare services: drawing up the various administrative documents (family allowance, disability pension, complimentary health care), administrative procedures, help in obtaining legal residence, financial aid, etc.

Housing

Emergency housing hotels.

Counselling and psychological support

in French or in Spanish.

Medical advice

After assessing an individual's medical needs, they are directed to the appropriate health care service and are followed during treatment.

Seeking employment

Assessment of a person's needs. Advice and support in the search for employment.

Prevention and education

Prevention within specific groups

Campaigns of awareness and prevention; buddying and support services for various groups (Asian and Hispanic immigrants, students, gay community), which are adapted to their social, economical and cultural needs.

Prevention programmes for businesses

Networking with professional health and social workers within companies on the risk of exclusion caused by the disease, on prevention of infections: information leaflet, workshops, debates, plays, posters, mouse mats, table sets, "post-its"...

Prevention in the student and the gay community

Prevention in the colleges/universities and their canteens (stands, demonstration of prevention tools). Prevention in the gay community : prevention campaigns in bars and clubs, in collaboration with gay student associations

HIV Training

As an approved training organisation, Arcat organises training programmes (basic and on-going): developing knowledge about HIV, hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Medical programmes

As a member of the associations "TRT-5" and the "Hepatitis Collective", Arcat participates at international scientific seminars, and in themed workshops (ANRS, DGS, INPES...).

HIV campaigns

In 1992 Arcat set up a database on the internet containing information on HIV clinical trials which is kept up-to-date.

Hepatitis campaigns

Promotes access to treatment at hospitals and in the community, publication of the journal "Hépatites actualité".

Communication and information

Relations with the press

When working on inter-organisational committees, Arcat positions itself regularly on issues such as patients' rights.

Publications

We publish various documents aimed at the greater public and at specific groups (students, gay community, migrants) as well as at people living with HIV/AIDS and professionals in health care and social work.

Le Journal de la Démocratie sanitaire

«*Le Journal de la Démocratie sanitaire*», formerly “*the Journal of AIDS*”, explores various aspects of patients' rights, access and quality of care. It also contains new information on the fight against AIDS, hepatitis and related pathologies, in France and the rest of the world.

Web site www.arcat-sante.org

Press releases, petitions, list of clinical trials, Hépatites actualité, Journal de la Démocratie sanitaire, publications...

Fundraising Sales

In order to obtain the necessary funds needed to care for the growing number of infected people, Arcat organises various events, two of which are annual fashion and home-decoration sales.

Support to the individual

- ▶ Outreach
- ▶ Practical help
- ▶ Information
- ▶ Housing

Information

- ▶ Publications
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Prevention campaigns

Current research

- ▶ Regular publication of information about clinical trials on HIV and HVC
- ▶ keeping abreast of current medical news

If the patient gets into difficulties, be they long or short-term, she/he may encounter problems accessing medical care; this can result in a deterioration of their state of health.



Any Arcat campaign is formulated to respect the rights of the individual.



*Arcat advances the development
of equal rights to health care,
the fight against AIDS
and any related pathology.*

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- ▶ Arcat is financed by public funds and private donations.
We are a member organisation of Unals (national union
of HIV/AIDS associations).

▶ ***Arcat is a member organisation
of Group SOS.***

All the member organisations of Group SOS
are involved in the fight against exclusion,
representing 1500 employees and 100 centres
offering support, housing, health care, as well as
programmes focusing on education, job training
and reintegration.

An organisation becomes a member of Group
SOS when it signs up to the Group's charter by
following their principals in respect of medical
ethics, professional conduct and financial
transparency.

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