

European Patients' Forum & Medicines for Europe Seminar

WHEN: Tuesday 31 May 2016

TIME: 14.00 – 17.00, Cocktail Reception to follow

VENUE: Renaissance Hotel, 1 Rue du Parnasse, 1000 Brussels

Building on increased collaboration and ongoing initiatives over the last several months the European Patients Forum and Medicines for Europe are setting up their first structured dialogue between members.

The objective is to reflect the views of patients and of the generic, biosimilar and value added medicines sectors on how to optimise efforts for better access to high quality medicines.

The innovative step of this initiative is to roll-out similar dialogue settings at national level where both the EPF and Medicines for Europe have national coalitions/ associations. The exercise would be based on learnings from an EU level while being tailored to country context, local requests and needs.

Draft Agenda

14.00 - 14.10	Joint Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nicola Bedlington, EPF Secretary General• Adrian van den Hoven, Medicines for Europe Director General
This introduction will provide both organisations' members with an overview of ongoing synergies with several ongoing collaborations, e.g. PACT, Discussion Platform on Biologicals, including Biosimilars, Riga Roadmap...	
14. 10 -14. 40	Roundtable, All <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Value-add of structured collaboration• Expectations for the day
Participants from both organisations will be invited to share their experience working together and suggestions moving forward This will help develop a common understanding, building on the codes of conduct of both organisations, on how to best structure our collaboration. This exchange should also lead to identifying topics to be discussed in the EPF/ Medicines for Europe dialogue.	

14.40 -15.10	Presentation, EPF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPF (forthcoming) Campaign on Access and how Medicines for Europe can support/ contribute
This session will be dedicated to presentation of EPF campaign on Access and to explore whether synergies could support the initiative's finalisation and roll-out.	
15.10 - 15.40	Roundtable, All The value of generic medicines in healthcare system and patient empowerment
Generic medicines value is wider than ensuring the sustainability of the healthcare system. They lead to better health outcomes for the population, reduce healthcare inequalities and increase access to therapy. This brainstorming should foster an exchange on how patient empowerment contributes to the sustainability of our European value system, defending access for all while preserving high quality standards of medicines and investment in the sector as a whole.	
15.40 - 16.10	Roundtable, All What has been the patient experience with biosimilar medicines?
Our experience to date shows that biosimilar medicines significantly and safely increase patient access to modern therapies. Not only can more patients become eligible for treatment, medicines can also be used earlier in the treatment course, therefore enabling patients to live with better life quality standards. Despite the year of experience in developing, manufacturing and marketing biosimilar medicines, some surveys show that there is still room for improvement to better understand biosimilar medicines and the opportunity they represent for patients and healthcare systems. This discussion will begin to identify these gaps by focusing on the patient experience with biosimilar medicines to date.	
16.10 – 16.40	Presentation, Medicines for Europe Research and development in the off-patent sector
This first introduction of value added medicines will provide an overview of how to push the frontier of innovation though the whole product life-cycle and how off-patent pharmaceutical actors build on molecule knowledge and patient experience to tailor them to specific patient community needs. A case study EU/US will be presented with best practices to explore earlier access to sustainable innovation for patients.	

16.40 – 16.50	Wrap-Up and next steps
<p>Participants will be invited to share their first dialogue experience and if positive, how to best structure the initiative for forthcoming meetings.</p> <p>The idea will also be discussed of replicating this dialogue at national level where both EPF and Medicines for Europe have a national coalitions/ associations. Some dedicated working group could be established for this purpose.</p>	
16.50 – 17.00	A.O.B