

European Patients' Forum eNewsletter

A strong patient's voice to drive better health in Europe



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// FEBRUARY ISSUE

A WORD FROM THE EPF PRESIDENT AND EPF DIRECTOR

Welcome in the February issue of our newsletter. This month we introduce you to a new European project to be launched in March entitled *SmartCare* in which EPF will have an advisory role.

We look at both the past and the future in this issue. We look back to our main 2012 achievements as well as the report of our successful fifth Regional Advocacy Seminar that took place in October, in Lisbon, on how to resource patient groups in times of austerity on fundraising. As for the future we are delighted to share with you more details about the three events we are organising in May around our tenth anniversary and under the Irish EU Presidency.

In this issue, we include important updates in areas such as clinical trials, Health Technology Assessment, eHealth and Public Health Research. We also look at health through a gender lens thanks to a new blog entry from the European Men's Health Forum. We hope you enjoy this, and encourage other EPF members to contribute to our blog as well!

Warmest greetings,
Anders Olauson, EPF President and Nicola Bedlington, EPF Executive Director

“ A STRONG
PATIENTS' VOICE
TO DRIVE BETTER
HEALTH IN
EUROPE ”

EPF'S ADVISORY ROLE IN A NEW INTEGRATED CARE EUROPEAN PROJECT



SmartCare will take the deployment of integrated health and social care for older patients and supported by Information Communication technology (ICT) to an unprecedented level. This new European project will officially kick-off on 4-7 March in Trieste, Italy for a three-year term. The idea is to build evidence from pioneer regions and to scale these up

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY!



2013 is the 10 year anniversary of EPF, and we will mark this milestone in Dublin, Ireland. On 22 May our Annual General Meeting will precede the 10th Anniversary Conference of 23 May, and gala dinner that evening, followed by a conference on nutrition. It's time to register already!

UPCOMING EVENTS

28/02/2013 | [GSMA Mobile World Congress](#)

Barcelona, Spain

The GSMA represents the interests of mobile operators worldwide. The focus of this congress will be on mobile health making a positive difference on end users

EPF speaker & attendance:
Liuska Sanna

28/02 to 01/03/2013 | [European Union regulatory workshop on medication errors](#)

London, UK

Our Senior Policy Adviser Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous co-chairs a session on guidance to patients and consumers on medication-error reporting to encourage reporting at healthcare professional and patient levels.

EPF speaker:
Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous

04 to 05/03/2013 | [InterQuality Project](#)

elsewhere.

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EPF WELCOMES WILMOTT REPORT ON CLINICAL TRIALS



EPF warmly welcomes the [draft report of Glenis Willmott MEP](#) (S&D, UK) and the [European Commission's legislative proposal](#) for a clinical trial published on 31 January 2013. It is in our view very positive and we can broadly support it.

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FIFTH EPF REGIONAL ADVOCACY SEMINAR REPORT OUT!



The [fifth EPF regional Advocacy Seminar](#) report is available now. This is the result of extensive discussions and skills- sharing on fundraising that took place in Lisbon, Spain on 25-26 October. This event organised by EPF brought some answers to the core question on "How to resource patient groups in times of austerity?"

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AN UPDATE ON EHEALTH WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

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EPF PUBLISHES A POSITION STATEMENT ON CLINICAL TRIALS



EPF formally published its position paper on the European commission's legislative proposal for a regulation on clinical trials on 25 February. Our position paper contains EPF's views and the key aspects of the legislative proposal, building on the work done during the last years, and two recent rounds of member consultation.

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A NEW STEP FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT



EPF took part in the first Stakeholder Forum meeting under the [EUnetHTA Joint Action 2 \(JA2\)](#) on 5 February. They defined the work plan and identified areas of work of this second phase running until 2015 after the completion of first part in 2012. This joint action aims to strengthen the practical application of tools and approaches to cross-border HealthTechnology Assessment (HTA) healthcare.

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A GLIMPSE OF OUR 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

[Consortium Meeting](#)

Odense, Denmark

The consortium will meet to discuss the latest updates of this three-year project on the effects of financing systems on the quality of healthcare

EPF speaker:
Liuska Sanna

04 to 05/03/2013 | [DIA EuroMeeting 2012](#)

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The DIA's Annual EuroMeeting is global in scope and affords participants the opportunity to network with professional colleagues from around the world.

EPF speaker:
Nicola Bedlington & Anders Olason

05/03/2013 | [EUPATI Executive Committee Meeting](#)

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The first 2013 public meeting of EUPATI will be held during the DIA EuroMeeting for a special satellite session where partners will present their work plan and engage in discussions with the audience.

EPF speaker:
Nicola Bedlington

04 to 07/03/2013 | [Smartcare Project kick off meeting](#)

Trieste, Italy

This new European project will last for a three-year term and is about the deployment of integrated health and social care for older patients and supported by Information Communication technology (ICT) where EPF has an advisory role.

EPF speaker & attendance:
Walter Atzori

08/03/2013 | [European Commission Working Group on Patient Safety and Quality of Care](#)

Brussels, Belgium

The focus will be on Patients safety and quality of care and participants will look at work plans for 2013 and 2014

EPF attendance:
Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous

10/03/2013 | [European Congress of Radiology](#)

Vienna, Austria

The European Congress of Radiology represents the medical specialty of radiology throughout Europe and the Mediterranean.

EPF speaker:
Nicola Bedlington



On 29 January the European Commission eHealth Stakeholder Group (eHSG) held its third meeting. The participants assessed the progress of working groups in advancing some key actions of the [Digital Agenda for Europe](#) and of the [eHealth Action Plan](#), the two policy areas of specific interest for the group.

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THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH



EPF attended a workshop on public health research priorities for HORIZON 2020 in Brussels, on 20 January. This is part of our involvement, through EPF President Anders Olauson, in an independent expert group of the future of European Public Health Research.

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We are currently preparing our 2012 annual report. We share with you here an executive summary of our key 2012 achievements. The year was defined by the preparation of our 2014-2020 strategic plan, efforts to build capacity, consolidation of our policy impact, the collection of evidence through projects and the reinforcement of our communications.

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NEW BLOG ENTRY "LOOKING AT HEALTH THROUGH A GENDER LENS"



The patient has a gender. Men and women's differences go well beyond biology and physical characteristics. The [State of Men's Health report](#) outlines these differences from the male's perspective. Ph.D. Svend Aage Madsen, Vice President of European Men's Health Forum (EMHF) which is associate member of EPF, looks at these differences.

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18 & 19/03/2013 | [Finnish Patients Safety Days](#)

Helsinki, Finland

Our Senior Policy Adviser will introduce the patients' empowerment notion in a presentation on population health and well-being.

EPF speaker:

Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous

19/03/2013 | [Meeting with Men's Health with the EU Commission](#)

Brussels, Belgium

The meeting is entitled "Time to improve men's health: the next step for the EU?"

20/03/2013 | [A strong Patients' Movement in Slovakia](#)

Bratislava, Slovakia

Major patients meeting

EPF speaker:

Nicola Bedlington

22/05/2013 | [EPF Annual General Meeting](#)

Dublin, Ireland

EPF members will elect four new members in the Board and will take important decisions on the budget, on membership requests and on important documents agreements.

EPF attendance:

EPF Secretariat & Board

23/05/2013 | [10th Anniversary Conference Towards active patients' involvement in healthcare](#)

Dublin, Ireland

EPF will celebrate its 10th Anniversary in 2013 and will mark this important milestone with a Conference under the Irish EU Presidency on 23 May featuring the European theme Year of Citizens and the Month of the Brain awareness.

EPF attendance:

EPF Secretariat & Board

24/05/2013 | [Conference on Effective Health Care Requires Good Nutritional Care](#)

Dublin, Ireland

EPF will partner with the Patient Network for Medical Research and Health (EGAN), the Irish Patients' Association in cooperation with the Irish EU Presidency, the European Nutrition for Health Alliance (ENHA) and the Irish Society for Clinical Nutrition & Metabolism (IrSPEN) for the organisation of this conference on the added value of appropriate nutritional care for effective disease pathways.

EPF attendance:

EPF Secretariat & Board

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MEMBERS ?



**A STRONG PATIENTS' VOICE,
TO DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE**

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CONTACT US

EUROPEAN PATIENTS' FORUM

Rue du commerce 31
1000 Brussels
BELGIUM

Phone : + 32 2 280 23 34
Email : info@eu-patient.eu
www.eu-patient.eu



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