

# European Patients' Forum Newsletter

A strong patients' voice to drive better health in Europe



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// SEPTEMBER 2015 ISSUE

## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND OUR SECRETARY GENERAL

*A very warm welcome to the September issue of the EPF Newsletter.*

*Our Patient Empowerment Campaign 'Patients Prescribe' is really moving forward!*

*We had the opportunity to highlight the campaign during the WHO Ministerial Regional Committee in Vilnius, September 2014 - 2017, in discussions to advance on priorities for health systems strengthening 2015 -2020 – walking the talk on people centredness. More on this in future issues of the newsletter!*

*We are delighted to share our Patient Empowerment Campaign [leaflet](#) in several languages with you! EPF will translate the leaflet into all EU languages to ensure maximum outreach at national and regional level, and allies throughout the EU can see how they can contribute to the campaign. We encourage you to use the leaflet and share it with your network to help make this campaign a success and let us know how you are doing!*

*Patient empowerment also featured strongly at the EU Conference under the Latvian EU Presidency on Universal Health Coverage, back in June: We are pleased to share with you the "Riga roadmap" which includes recommendations to develop a European strategy on patient empowerment. In a blog, Pascal Nohl-Deryk from the European Medical Students' Association shares his views on why empowerment matters from a medical student's perspective.*

*In this issue you will also find two important updates from our project portfolio: the results from the WE CARE project which ended earlier this year and information on the new ADAPT SMART project that was launched this month. We are also proud to feature our third "patient safety focus" of the year. It is dedicated to the prevention of medication errors.*

*As always, two of our members are in the spotlight this month: Isabella Haaf from EFCCA, provides an overview of the organisation in five short answers and the European Haemophilia Consortium shares with us the results of their 2014 survey.*

*Warmest greetings,*

Anders Olauson, EPF President and Nicola Bedlington, EPF Secretary General

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Olauson'.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. Bedlington'.



## THE PATIENT EMPOWERMENT CAMPAIGN: MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



We can only make patient empowerment a reality if we all work together and keep the momentum of the campaign going. To help you do this, EPF has developed tools to ensure that you have everything you need to take part! We invite you to share these tools with your network to help us reach the widest audience possible.

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## WHY EMPOWERMENT MATTERS - A MEDICAL STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Pascal Nohl-Deryk is a fifth year German medical student and currently the Policy Officer of the European Medical Students' Association. In our blog, he shares his views on patient empowerment, and why it matters, from a medical student's perspective.

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PATIENT  
SAFETY FOCUS

## RIGA ROADMAP PUBLISHED - KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION



The Riga Roadmap for action on sustainable, equitable and participatory health systems was published on 31 August 2015. This roadmap is a result of the high-level conference "Universal health: Investing in Health and Wellbeing for All", which took place in Riga under the Latvian EU presidency on 29-30 June.

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## ADAPT SMART PROJECT KICKS OFF



ADAPT SMART, a coordination and support project funded under the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), kicked off on 4 September 2015 at the European Medicines Agency (EMA) in London. Its aim is to establish a platform for the coordination of adaptive pathways (MAPPs) related activities.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**30/9/2015 - 2/10/2015** | [18th European Health Forum Gastein](#)

### Gastein Valley, Austria

The European Health Forum Gastein (EHFG) is the leading annual health policy event in the EU and it offers a platform for discussion for decision-makers in the fields of public health & healthcare.

*EPF speaker:*  
*Anders Olauson*

**3/10/2015** | ["Hundred Cities against pain"](#)

### Worldwide

Since 2011, the ISAL Foundation organises in Italy the national day against pain and since 2013, this event has reached a continental dimension with important cities of the UK, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, Australia and USA who have joined the movement to become the International Day against pain.

**6/10/2015** | [Smartcare site visit](#)

### Scotland, UK

As part of the SmartCare program on the deployment of integrated health and social care for older patients supported by Information Communication technology (ICT), EPF will attend the site visit to Ayrshire and Clyde Valley regions.

*EPF attendance:*  
*Walter Atzori*

**6/10/2015** | ["Access to and Uptake of Biosimilars" workshop](#)

### Brussels, Belgium

This workshop is a follow-up to the biosimilars-related activities under the Process on Corporate Responsibility organised in 2010-2013.

*EPF attendance:*  
*Marco Greco*

**6-7/10/2015** | [The Centre for Innovation in Regulatory Science \(CIRS\) workshop](#)

### London, UK

The aim of the workshop "Patient's role in informing the decision process for approval and reimbursement of new medicines" organised by the CIRS is to improve understanding of the importance and value of patient involvement in the the decision-making process.

## INFORMED PATIENTS CAN HELP PREVENT MEDICATION ERRORS



Patient Safety will be the focus in four issues of our newsletter this year. We want to raise awareness on the importance of this topic which, if not properly addressed, can affect the lives of millions of people. This month, we focus on the prevention of medication errors.

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## RESULTS OF THE WE-CARE PROJECT



After two years of research, the WE-CARE project has come to an end. We are proud to share with you the project results on how we could achieve more sustainable and high-quality healthcare for all EU-citizens.

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*EPF speaker:*  
*Nicola Bedlington*

**12-13/10/2015** | [3rd International PPRI Conference](#)

### Vienna, Austria

The 'Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Policies: Challenges Beyond the Financial Crisis' conference organised by the Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Information (PPRI) will bring together leaders from around the globe to discuss issues in pricing and reimbursement policies of pharmaceuticals.

*EPF speaker:*  
*Nicola Bedlington*

**22-23/10/2015** | [Conference "Combined solutions for patients"](#)

### Zurich, Switzerland

The international Medtech & Pharma Platform organises this conference to provide opportunities to participate in the dissemination of cutting edge knowledge on the symbiosis of medtech and pharma industry.

*EPF speaker:*  
*Nicola Bedlington*

**27/10/2015** | [Conference 'Which priorities for a European policy on multimorbidity?'](#)

### Brussels, Belgium

This conference organised by the European Commission will provide a unique opportunity for healthcare professionals, policy-makers, patient representatives and other professionals to share experiences and existing knowledge on multimorbidity.

*EPF speaker:*  
*Nicola Bedlington*

**28-29/10/2015** | [EFPIA Health Collaboration Summit](#)

### Brussels, Belgium

The event organised by the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) will cover topics such as the use of big data to improve health outcomes, global and local perspectives and sustainability in healthcare.

*EPF speaker:*  
*Nicola Bedlington*

## MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### EFCCA IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Our membership is our compass. We are delighted to feature one of our 65 member organisations every month on our blog. This time, we interviewed Isabella Haaf, Communications and International Affairs Manager of The European Federation of Crohn's & Ulcerative Colitis Associations (EFCCA), who provides an overview of the

### PATIENT INVOLVEMENT IMPROVES THE OUTCOME OF A PROCUREMENT PROCESS



The European Haemophilia Consortium (EHC) represents people with bleeding disorders in Europe. In 2014, the EHC carried out a survey on how coagulation factor concentrates are purchased (the medicines used by people affected by bleeding disorders) and whether patients and physicians are involved in this process, which revealed strong and surprising results.

organisation in five short answers.

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TO DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE**

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## CONTACT US

### EUROPEAN PATIENTS' FORUM

Rue du commerce 31  
1000 Brussels  
BELGIUM

**Phone :** +32 (0)2 280 23 34

**Email :** [info@eu-patient.eu](mailto:info@eu-patient.eu)

[www.eu-patient.eu](http://www.eu-patient.eu) | [eu-patient.org/blog](http://eu-patient.org/blog)



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