

European Patients' Forum Newsletter

A strong patients' voice to drive better health in Europe



Follow us



// NOVEMBER 2015 ISSUE

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND OUR SECRETARY GENERAL

Welcome to the November issue of the EPF newsletter.

As we reach the half way mark of our Patient Empowerment Campaign, we are delighted to share with you the tangible impact of this campaign across the EU. With your help, we are able to deliver our messages to EU and national level and raise awareness about the campaign and patient empowerment. In this issue of our newsletter, we share with you simple ways to further support and engage in this campaign – you can start by supporting our online pledge [here!](#)

We are proud to feature our fourth and last special patient safety feature for 2015, dedicated to the use of medicines and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), on the occasion of the European Antibiotic Awareness Day, an initiative that EPF supports fully.

We also share with you EPF's detailed recommendations on the Council position on medical devices that we published this month, which aims to ensure that all EU patients have access to high quality and safe devices.

In this issue you will also find important information on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) and the outcomes of six major HTA projects that are coming to an end in 2015 as well as updates from two projects in which EPF is partner: the Joint Action on Chronic Diseases and Promoting Healthy Ageing across the Life Cycle (CHRODIS) and the SmartCare project.

Last but not least, Lembe Kullamaa, a member of the EPF Youth Group shares her personal experience on what it means to be a young person living with a chronic disease on our blog. Enjoy the reading!

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 - YOUR VITAL ROLE!



We can make patient empowerment a reality only if we work together. You are the voice of the campaign in your disease specific environment and with your help, we can communicate the campaign messages and actively get involved at an EU and national level. To ensure that YOU have everything you need to campaign for patient empowerment, we have summarised in this article 5 easy ways you can get involved!

[READ MORE »](#)

EPF ADOPTS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRILOGUE ON MEDICAL DEVICES REGULATION



In November, EPF published detailed recommendations on the Council position on medical devices. The trilogue which started in October, is the final negotiation phase between the Council of the European Union the European Parliament and the Commission to adopt the new Regulation on Medical Devices. There are still important gaps to be addressed by the EU institutions in order to ensure EU patients have access to high quality safe devices.

[READ MORE »](#)

WATCH OUR PATIENT EMPOWERMENT CAMPAIGN VIDEO!

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 -2/12/2015 | [Alzheimer's Association Academy](#)

Brussels, Belgium

This event organised by our member Alzheimer Europe aims to provide background information on key ongoing research projects in the Alzheimer's field and discuss the policy and ethical issues that are raised by these projects.

EPF speaker:
Laurène Souchet

5/12/2015 | [Patient Solidarity Day](#)

Worldwide

On 5 December 2015, patients around the world will raise awareness on a pressing healthcare issue to mark Patient Solidarity Day. This year's theme is "Healthcare is a human right". EPF supports the International Alliance of Patients Organisations (IAPO) and patient communities worldwide in their efforts - click on the title to see how you can show your support.

14/12/2015 | ["Strengthening the \(ex\)user/survivor voice in Europe"](#)

Brussels, Belgium

This event organised by our member the European Network of (ex-)users and survivors of psychiatry (ENUSP) aims on strengthening the voice of (ex-)users and survivors of psychiatry and will bring together twenty-five ENUSP members from 18 different countries.

EPF speaker:
Camille Bullot

18/12/2015 | ["Continuous Professional Development - Improving Healthcare"](#)

Luxembourg

The aim of this conference organised by the European Medical Organisations (EMO's) is to discuss the importance of continuing professional development (CPD) for doctors in improving healthcare.

EPF speaker:
Nicola Bedlington

PATIENT SAFETY FOCUS

USE OF MEDICINES AND ANTI-MICROBIAL RESISTANCE



Our fourth and last special patient safety focus for 2015 is dedicated to the use of medicines and anti-microbial resistance. Use of medicines, including antibiotics, is an important aspect of self-management, but may contribute to anti-microbial

SELF-MEDICATION AND ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY



EPF fully supports European Centre for Prevention and Control of Diseases (ECDC) efforts to raise awareness on anti-microbial resistance as a result of antibiotic misuse. Dominique L. Monnet, Head of the Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections

resistance. We want to raise awareness among our members on the importance of this topic which, if not properly addressed, can affect the lives of millions of people.

[READ MORE »](#)

(ARHAI) Disease Programme at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) explains why this is an important public health problem and what can we do to prevent this on our blog.

[READ MORE »](#)

HOW CHRONIC CONDITIONS COMPLICATE MY SOCIAL VENTURES



Lembe Kullamaa, a member of the EPF Youth Group, was diagnosed with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) when she was 7. In our blog, she describes how living with a chronic disease can affect a young person's social life.

[READ MORE »](#)

UPDATES ON THE JOINT ACTION CHRODIS



The Joint Action on Chronic Diseases (CHRODIS), a project where EPF is a partner, is really moving ahead. Its recently launched video "Chronic Diseases are Everyone's Business", describes how this Joint Action paves the way for better health policies across Europe and show what we can do to reduce the burden of chronic diseases.

[READ MORE »](#)

SMARTCARE PROJECT VISITS SCOTLAND AND GREECE



As a member of the SmartCare project's User Advisory Board (UAB), we took part in two site visits in Scotland and Greece in October. These site visits aim to give an in-depth understanding of how

HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT SANS FRONTIÈRES



Health technology (including both pharmaceutical products, medical devices and procedures) is dramatically evolving which leads to increasing requests for assessments on the effectiveness and

integrated care services are delivered locally, get feedback from all actors involved including patients, family carers, health professionals and social workers, and provide concrete recommendations to the local teams on how to improve the service from the view point of the users.

[READ MORE »](#)

appropriateness of new products available on the market. On 30 October EPF attended the Health Technology Assessment sans frontières conference to discuss updates in this field.

[READ MORE »](#)

EPF PARTICIPATES IN EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S WORKSHOP ON BIOSIMILARS



The European Commission DG GROWTH organised a workshop on the access and uptake of bio-similar medicines on 6 October in Brussels. This workshop was a follow-up to the activities of the Platform on Access to Medicines in Europe (2010-2013), under the so-called Tajani Initiative on corporate responsibility in the field of pharmaceuticals, in which EPF participated.

[READ MORE »](#)

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

Follow us →



CONTACT US

EUROPEAN PATIENTS' FORUM

Rue du commerce 31
1000 Brussels
BELGIUM

Phone : +32 (0)2 280 23 34

Email : info@eu-patient.eu

www.eu-patient.eu | eu-patient.org/blog





This e-newsletter arises from the 2015 Health programme, which has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Health Programme.

Disclaimer: The content of this e-newsletter reflects only the author's views and the Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

If you no longer wish to receive emails from EPF, simply send an email to mailing@eu-patient.eu to unsubscribe.

Please note that some links may not work anymore because the articles have moved, do therefore not hesitate to look at the news section where all the articles are archived or contact communications@eu-patient.eu for more information.