EULAR Brussels Conference 2016

Reducing the burden of chronic diseases in the workplace
New policies for better working conditions and the retention of ill people at work

Brussels, Thon Hotel EU
12 October 2016
#EULARbrussels2016

Agenda

8:15 – 09:15  Registration

9:15 – 10:00  Opening session – Live streamed
♦ Prof. Gerd R. Burmester, EULAR President
♦ Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility (video-message)
♦ Roberta Metsola, Member of the European Parliament
♦ Marios Kouloumas, EULAR Vice-President representing People with Arthritis/Rheumatism in Europe (PARE)

10:00 – 11:00 How well is Europe doing in preventing musculoskeletal diseases in the workplace and facilitating people with RMDs to stay at work? What else needs to be done? – Live streamed
♦ Main challenges in health and safety at work for people with chronic conditions
  Laurène Souchet, Policy Officer, European Patients’ Forum (EPF)
♦ Work is good - RMDs, clinical impact and preventive strategies
  Dr. Rikke Helene Moe, Physical Therapist and Researcher, National Advisory Unit on Rehabilitation in Rheumatology (Norway)
How does the EU intend to contribute to reducing the burden of RMDs and other chronic diseases in the workplace? Legislation and policy initiatives developments
Antonio Cammarota, Head of the OSH Committees and International Relations Team, DG Employment and Social Affairs, European Commission

Preventing RMDs and including people with RMDs in the workplace: The experience and views of the RMD community
Marios Kouloumas, EULAR Vice-President representing People with Arthritis / Rheumatism in Europe (PARE)

Q&A

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:10 Workshops

Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of RMDs in the workplace: What legislation and policy initiatives do we need?
Co-organiser: European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)
Chairs: Prof. Hans Bijlsma (EULAR) & Mathias Maucher (EPSU)

Dealing with RMDs in the workplace: How to improve access to occupational health professionals and therapists?
Co-organiser: European Social Insurance Platform (ESIP)
Chairs: Annette Ladefoged de Thurah (EULAR) and Dr. Franz Terwey (ESIP)

How to facilitate the retention of people with RMDs in the workplace as well as the return to work after sick leave?
Co-organiser: European Agency for Safety and Health at Work- EU-OSHA
Chairs: Ailsa Bosworth (EULAR & NRAS) & Brenda O’Brien (EU-OSHA)

13:10 – 14:20 Lunch

14:20 – 14:55 Report of workshops – Live streamed

Report of workshops
Q&A
14:55 – 16:10 Panel debate: Do we need better EU legislation to reduce the burden of RMDs in the workplace? – Live streamed

- Heinz K. Becker (Member of the European Parliament) | Antonio Cammarota (Head of the OSH Committees and International Relations Team, DG Employment and Social Affairs, European Commission) | William Cockburn (Head of the Prevention and Research Unit, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work) | Esther Lynch (Confederal Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation) | Ber Oomen (Executive Secretary, European Specialist Nurses Organisation) | Prof. Anthony Woolf (Universities of Exeter and Plymouth & EULAR); Moderator: Cathy Smith (Journalist)

16:10 – 16:45 Closing session – Live streamed

Chair: Prof. Gerd R. Burmester, EULAR President

- Takis Hadjigeorgiou, Member of the European Parliament
- Ricardo Baptista Leite, Member of Parliament, Portugal
- Leen Meulenbergs, WHO Representative to the European Union

16:45 – 17:30 Cocktail