
Conference

Analysing how to reduce the Access Barriers to Health Care for People with Chronic Diseases in Europe.

Challenges, good practices and policy options for people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases

European Parliament & Thon Hotel EU, Brussels - 16 October 2014

Agenda

Host: Takis Hadjigeorgiou (MEP)

Chair: Prof. Maurizio Cutolo

■ **VENUE:** European Parliament (room ASP A1G3)

8:30 – 09:30: Registration

9:30 – 10:15: Opening session

- ❖ **Prof. Maurizio Cutolo**, EULAR President & ILAR Chair
- ❖ **Marios Kouloumas**, EULAR Vice-President representing People with Arthritis/Rheumatism in Europe (PARE)
- ❖ **Dr Roberto Bertolini**, Chief Scientist and WHO Representative to the European Union
- ❖ **Dr Antoni Dedeu**, Chair European Regional and Local Health Authorities, EUREGHA
- ❖ **Dr Andrzej Rys**, Director Health Systems and Products, DG SANCO, European Commission

10.15 – 11:15: State of play in access to health care

- ❖ **Financial crisis and the impact on the provision of health care services in Europe**
Willy Palm, Dissemination development Officer, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- ❖ **Burden of RMDs and other chronic diseases**
Prof. Anthony Woolf, Bone and Joint Decade / Global Burden of Disease Study
- ❖ **How does access to health care differ throughout Europe?**
Diana Skingle, Chairperson of EULAR Standing Committee of PARE
- ❖ **Young and older people with chronic diseases: specific needs and costs in access to health care?**
Marja Pijl, AGE Platform
- ❖ **How to optimize the cost/effect ratio when we treat?**
Prof. Annelies Boonen, Academic Hospital Maastricht & EULAR
- ❖ **Q&A**

11.15 – 11:30: Coffee break

11.30 – 12:15: Innovative approaches in health care

- ❖ **Chronic inflammation and pain: a common pathological platform and treatment target in chronic diseases**
Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, EULAR President & ILAR Chair
- ❖ **Care trajectories for chronic diseases**
Prof. Bruno Fautrel, Université Pierre et Marie Curie Paris 6
- ❖ **Towards innovative approaches in patient empowerment: Patient activation**
Ailsa Bosworth, Chief Executive, National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society, NRAS, United Kingdom
- ❖ **Early intervention in Musculoskeletal Disability**
Prof. Juan Jover, Fit for Work Europe and Head Rheumatology Service, Hospital Clínico San Carlos Madrid
- ❖ **Q&A**

■ **VENUE: Thon Hotel EU (Rue de la Loi 75 – 1040 Brussels)**

12:45 – 13:15: Lunch

13:30 – 15:00: Workshops

Workshop 1:

Topic: Health systems responses to financial constraints

Co-organiser: **European Public Health Alliance, EPHA**

Chairs: Prof. Annelies Boonen (Academic Hospital Maastricht & EULAR) and Sascha Marschang (EPHA)

Workshop 2:

Topic: Patient empowerment, health literacy & Information to patients.

Co-organiser: [European Patients' Forum, EPF](#)

Chairs: Maarten de Wit (EULAR) & Robert Johnstone (EPF)

Workshop 3:

Topic: Health professionals: availability/composition, roles, training, mobility, accreditation

Co-organiser: [Standing Committee of European Doctors, CPME](#)

Chairs: Prof. Thea Vliet Vlieland (Leiden University Medical Center & EULAR) and Dr. Katrín Fjeldsted (CPME)

Workshop 4:

Topic: Access to treatments and medicines: availability, pricing and reimbursement

Co-organiser: [European Hospital and Healthcare Federation, HOPE](#)

Chairs: Prof. Loreto Carmona (Instituto de Salud Musculoesquelética & EULAR) and Silvia Bottaro (HOPE)

15:00 – 15:20: Coffee break

15:20 – 15:45: Report of workshops

15:45 – 17:00: Panel discussion: The role of EU, Member States/Regions and stakeholders in tackling access barriers to health care for people with RMDs and other chronic diseases.

- ❖ Dr Andrzej Rys (European Commission, DG SANCO); Ingrid Kössler (Member of the European Economic and Social Committee); Prof. Anthony Woolf (Bone and Joint Decade / Global Burden of Disease Study); Rita Baeten (European Social Observatory); Dr Imre Rurik (European Forum for Primary Care). Moderator: Geoff Meade (Journalist)

17:00 – 17:30: Closing session

Chair: Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, EULAR President

- ❖ **MEP Takis Hadjigeorgiou**
- ❖ **Marios Kouloumas**, EULAR Vice-President representing People with Arthritis/Rheumatism in Europe (PARE)
- ❖ **Prof. Maurizio Cutolo**, EULAR President & ILAR Chair