

Programme

Day 1 – Monday 27 February

13:30 – 14:00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

14:00 – 14:30 **Welcome by Carlos Segovia, Coordinator, JA-CHRODIS**

14:30 – 15:45 **Parallel sessions (*These sessions will run simultaneously*):**

1. How can decision-makers, professionals, patients and researchers make the best use of the CHRODIS Platform and share valuable knowledge & experiences (WP4)?

Enrique Bernal-Delgado (IACS)

Rogério Tavares Ribeiro (APDP)

Marieke Hendriksen (RIVM)

Tamara Poljicanin (CIPH)

Cristina Blas Miranda, (IACS)

Wil M. de Zwart (Dutch Ministry of Health, *Welfare and Sport*)

2. How can Europe approach the care of persons with multimorbidity? (WP6)?

Graziano Onder (AIFA)

Federica Mammarella (AIFA)

Rokas Navickas (VULSK)

Elena Jureviciene (VULSK)

Mieke Rijken (NIVEL)

Maria João Forjaz (ISCIH)

Valentina Strammiello (EPF)

15:45 – 16:15 **Coffee break**

16:15 – 17:30 **Parallel sessions (*These sessions will run simultaneously*):**

1. What needs to be taken into account for the exchange and transfer of good practices in health promotion and disease prevention (WP5)?

Moderator: Kenneth Eaton, The Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe

Anne Pierson (EuroHealthNet)

Djoeke van Dale (RIVM)

Teresa Bennett (HSE)

Francisco Ruiz (Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health)

Luciana Costa (INSA)

Alexander Haarmann (BZgA)

2. What are the lessons for the prevention and care of chronic diseases, taking diabetes as an example (WP7)?

Marina Maggini (ISS)

Jelka Zaletel (NIJZ)

Jaana Lindström (THL)

Valentina Strammiello (EPF)

Anne-Marie Felton (FEND)

David Somekh (EHFF)

19:15 – 22:00 **Networking event (by invitation only)**

Day 2 – Tuesday 28 February

09:00 – 09:30 **Registration and welcome coffee**

09:30 – 11:00 **Session 1 - Addressing the chronic disease challenge in Europe**
Moderator: Clive Needle, Senior policy advisor, EuroHealthNet

09:30 – 09:45 **Welcome note - How JA-CHRODIS contributed to reducing the burden of chronic diseases across Europe and launch of “12 steps towards implementing practices to reduce the burden of chronic diseases”**
Carlos Segovia, Coordinator, JA-CHRODIS

09:45 – 10:00 **Keynote presentation - How does the Joint Action CHRODIS contribute to the EU work to prevent and address chronic diseases?**
Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner, European Commission

10:00 – 10:15 **Keynote presentation - What is the potential link between JA-CHRODIS and WHO Europe’s Action Plan on NCDs?**
Zsuzsanna Jakab, Regional Director, WHO Europe

10:15 - 10:30 **Keynote presentation**
In which ways can JA-CHRODIS help address the sustainability of our health systems?
Ian Forde, Senior policy analyst in the Health Division, OECD

10:30 - 11:00 **Panel Discussion**

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 – 12:30 **Session 2 - How can policy makers use the JA-CHRODIS results to (plan to) address the chronic disease challenge and ageing society?**
Moderator: Clive Needle, Policy and Advocacy Director, EuroHealthNet

Ranieri Guerra, Director General Prevention, Chief Medical Officer, Italian Ministry of Health

Miroslaw J. Wysocki, Director General, National Institute of Public Health, Poland (NIH)

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Alain Brunot, Medical Inspector for Public Health, French Ministry of Health
Jolyce Bourgeois, Belgian Ministry of Health
Gintarė Šakalytė, Vice Minister of Health, Lithuania
Gabrijela Korže, Attaché for Public Health and Pharmaceuticals, Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the EU

12:30 - 13:30

Lunch

13:30 - 15:00

Session 3 - Making the link: How can we better integrate health promotion in comprehensive healthcare?
Moderator: Anne Hendry, Clinical Lead for Integrated Care, Scottish Government

13:30 - 13:45

Keynote presentation - An external view on ways to move forward the JA-CHRODIS recommendations on comprehensive care in relation with sustainable health systems
Ellen Nolte, Head of London hubs, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

13:45 - 14:00

Keynote presentation - Integrating health promotion in healthcare from different perspectives
Ricardo Baptista Leite, Member, Portuguese Parliament

14:00 - 15:00

Panel Discussion
Ellen Nolte, Head of London hubs, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
Ricardo Baptista Leite, Member, Portuguese Parliament
Annabel Seebohm, Secretary General, CPME
Nicoline Tamsma, President of EuroHealthNet, Co-ordinating Advisor International Affairs at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
Nicola Bedlington, Secretary General, European Patients' Forum

15:00 - 15:30

Coffee break

15:30 - 16:45

Session 4 - How does JA-CHRODIS leave its mark, including examples in practice?
Moderator: Anne Hendry, Clinical Lead for Integrated Care, Scottish Government

Mieke Rijken, NIVEL, The Netherlands: *Dutch implementation of the JA-CHRODIS multimorbidity care model*
Helen McAvoy, Director of Policy, Institute of Public Health in Ireland: *Opportunities and challenges to implement health promotion practices from Ireland's perspective*
Vesna Knjeginjic, Assistant Minister, Serbian Ministry of Health: *Setting up a pilot national chronic disease plan using the tools prepared in JA-CHRODIS*
Antonio Sarría-Santamera, Coordinator of CHRODIS PLUS, **Rokas Navickas**, Scientific Coordinator of CHRODIS PLUS: *Presentation of the next Joint Action*

16:45 - 17:00

Concluding remarks
Moderator: Anne Hendry, Clinical Lead for Integrated Care, Scottish Government
Xavier Prats Monné, Director General for Health and Food Safety, (DG Sante) European Commission
Paloma Casado Duráñez, Ministry of Health Spain

Speaker Biographies



Carlos Segovia, Coordinator, JA-CHRODIS

Carlos Segovia is the coordinator of the Joint Action-CHRODIS. He is Head of the unit of Accreditation of Health Research Institutes at the national Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII), Spain. He is also Chair of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance. He was Deputy Director for International Research Programmes from 2009 to 2013, being involved in several European and international health research initiatives. Carlos Segovia is primary care physician and master of public health from Harvard University. Before joining ISCIII, Carlos has been coordinator of a primary care centre for two years, deputy director for primary care quality and research of a province for ten years, and expert for social and health care coordination at a Regional Department of Health for two years.



Enrique Bernal-Delgado, Senior Scientist, Instituto Argonés de Ciencias de la Salud (IACS)

Enrique Bernal-Delgado is senior health services and policy researcher at the Institute for Health Sciences in Aragon, and principal investigator of the Atlas of Variations in Medical Practice in the Spanish National Health System (www.atlasvpm.org) and the European Collaborative for Healthcare Optimization -ECHO (www.echo-health.eu). Both projects have raised his interest on the use of Real World Data to inform policy making. As a consequence, he is currently co-leading a European initiative, BRIDGEHEALTH (www.bridge-health.eu). Particularly interested in Chronic Care, he is actively participating in REDISECC - Spanish Network for Health Services Research in Chronic Care (www.redisec.com) and JA-CHRODIS JA - Joint Action on Chronic Diseases (www.chrodis.eu).

Currently, he is editor-in-chief of the Spanish Atlas of Variations and associate editor of BMC Health Services Research.

He graduated as a Medical Doctor in 1988, serving as primary care practitioner for five years; afterwards, he specialized in Public Health and Preventive Medicine. He holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Zaragoza, Spain and a Master Degree in Health Economics from the Universities of Barcelona and Pompeu Fabra, Spain. In 2003, he was visiting scholar at the CECS, currently The Dartmouth Institute.



Rogério Tavares Ribeiro, Researcher, Diabetes Portugal (APDP)

Rogério Tavares Ribeiro has a degree in Biology, from the Faculty of Sciences of Lisbon, and a PhD in Biomedicine, from NOVA Medical School, Portugal. Currently, he is an invited assistant professor at the University of Aveiro, and a senior researcher at the Centre for the Study of Chronic Diseases (CEDOC) - NOVA Medical School, and at the Education and Research Department of APDP (the Portuguese Diabetes Association). Since 1999, he pursues research in the field of Diabetes, first in animal models, and currently in clinical studies and implementation research regarding diverse aspects of Diabetes prevention and management. Rogério participates in several national and European research projects in these areas, from basic research to patient empowerment.



Marieke Hendriksen, Scientist, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)

Marieke Hendriksen works as a nutritionist at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment. She specialized in public health nutrition and epidemiology and her main work focuses on the monitoring and evaluation of policy measures and interventions, with a particular focus on salt reduction strategies in the Netherlands. She is involved in several European projects, such as the DEDIPAC project (part of the joint programming initiative 'A healthy diet for a healthy living') and Joint Action CHRODIS. In addition, she is one of the coordinators of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nutrition of the RIVM. Marieke successfully defended her PhD thesis entitled 'Public Health Impact of Salt Reduction' in October 2015.



Tamara Poljicanin, Head of Biostatistics Department, Croatian Institute of Public Health (CIPH)

Tamara Poljicanin is a medical doctor, specialist in epidemiology experienced in diabetes epidemiology, epidemiological research and statistical analysis, and author of more than 100 publications in the field of diabetes and non-communicable diseases. She has managed the development and implementation of the CroDiab National Diabetes Registry and the National Diabetes Programme since 2000; held the post of Director-General of the Croatian Institute of Public Health 2012-2015, and of Head of the CIPH Biostatistics Department since 2015. She lectures at the Medical Faculty in Zagreb, and is actively involved in the national and international education and research projects, including EUBIROD and Patient Registries Initiative PARENT JA. Dr. Poljicanin is a member of the JA-CHRODIS Governing Board.



Cristina Blas Miranda, Help Desk Manager, Institute of Health Sciences in Aragon (IACS)

Cristina Blas Miranda is Help Desk Manager in the CHRODIS Platform for knowledge exchange of good practices in chronic diseases and healthy ageing, within JA-CHRODIS (WP4), managed by the Aragon Health Research Institute. Cristina is a journalist and has over 18 years of experience in media and communication, specialized in International Affairs and Digital Marketing. Before joining JA-CHRODIS, Cristina worked as Communication Officer for the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism in Spain, in charge of developing the communication strategy and digital profile of the EEA Grants. Cristina holds a BA in Information Sciences by the University Complutense of Madrid (Spain), an MA in Economic and Stock Market News and an MA in Advertising and Corporate Communication, and several postgraduate courses in Digital Marketing.



Wil M. de Zwart, Senior Policy Officer, Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

Educated as a psychologist, Wil worked for many years as a social scientist in the field of substance abuse and addiction, among others at the Netherlands Institute for Mental Health and Addiction. Since 2001 she has been working as a senior policy officer at the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, Department of Nutrition, Health Protection and Prevention. Her portfolio includes mainly the coordination of monitoring activities in relation to life style policy, the national best practice portal of interventions, illegal drug policy and (international) research. In these domains she is the representative of the ministry in several national and international platforms.

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Dr. Graziano Onder, Assistant Professor, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Graziano Onder, M.D., Ph.D. is a Geriatrician working as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Geriatrics of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy. Dr. Onder has previously worked as Research Associate at the J. Paul Sticht Center on Aging, WakeForestUniversity, Winston Salem, NC, USA (2001-2002). He is Fellow of the European Academy for Medicine of Ageing. The main focuses of his research are pharmacoepidemiology in the elderly, multimorbidity, chronic diseases, and organizational characteristics of health care systems. He received grants from public and private institutions including the Italian Ministry of Health and the European Commission through the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). He is author of more than 250 publications in peer-reviewed journals.



Federica Mammarella, MD, PHD Consultant, Italian Medicines Agency, (AIFA)

Dr. Federica Mammarella, M.D., Ph.D., is a specialist in geriatric medicine. She's working on multimorbidity in the context of JA-CHRODIS. She has developed valuable duties and experience in both clinical and research field with particular on frail elderly patients. She is an active member of the European Academy for Medicine of Ageing. The main fields of scientific interest include pharmaco-epidemiology in the elderly with particular focus on adverse drug reactions and inappropriate prescribing, frailty, multimorbidity, integrated care for elderly. She is specifically trained in Health Technology Assessment. She has a consolidated experience in coordinating clinical research projects having participated to numerous international, pharmacological and non-pharmacological, observational and intervention studies such as the following EU funded international projects: Frailclinic Project on preventing and detecting frailty in elderly population and PACE project (Palliative Care for Older People in care and nursing homes in Europe).



Dr. Rokas Navickas, Co-leader, Principal Researcher, Vilnius University Hospital Santariskiu klinikos (VULSK)

Rokas Navickas holds a Ph.D in Medical Sciences and is currently undergoing M.Sc. in Health Economics. He completed his core medical training in the UK, later completed his specialty training in cardiology and is currently a practising cardiologist at the VULSK. He is co-leading principal researcher at the JA-CHRODIS Multimorbidity work package and scientific coordinator of the planned CHRODIS plus, which is due to be launched later this year. His published scientific papers include risk predicting models, epigenetic biomarkers, health economics and management related questions.



Elena Jurevičienė, Director of Management, Vilnius University Hospital Santariskiu klinikos (VULSK)

Elena Jurevičienė, MD, works as pulmonologist and director of management in Vilnius University Hospital Santariskiu klinikos. She studied medicine in Medical Faculty of Vilnius University, since 1998 works as practicing pulmonologist. In 2004 she acquired a Master's degree in management and business administration in Vilnius University. Since 2012 she works as director of management in Vilnius University Hospital Santariskiu klinikos. Since 2014 she is an Executive Board member in EU Joint Action on Chronic Diseases and Promoting Healthy Aging across the Life Cycle, WP of Multimorbidity. Since 2015 she is a country coordinator in EU Joint Actions on E-Health and Rare Diseases. She is a member of European Respiratory Society. She participated in European Health Forum 2014 and 2015, EC conference on Multimorbidity in 2015. In 2015 she started PhD in Vilnius University. She is co-author of several publications on multimorbidity.

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Mieke Rijken, Research Coordinator, Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research (NIVEL)

MIEKE RIJKEN, PhD, is working as a Senior Researcher at NIVEL, the Netherlands institute for health services research. Mieke has been involved in many research projects over the last 20 years, with a focus on person-centered care for people with chronic illness and their needs for health and social care. She has coordinated the EU funded 'Innovating care for people with multiple chronic conditions in Europe' project (ICARE4EU), which aimed to contribute to the innovation of care for European citizens with multiple chronic conditions. She has been an active participant in JA-CHRODIS, and contributed to the work package on multimorbidity care in particular. Mieke is also involved in the International Expert Working group on care for complex patients (coordinated by the Commonwealth Fund), which has formulated recommendations to policy makers and care providers in OECD countries on ways of providing the most appropriate care for patients with complex needs.



M. João Forjaz, Researcher, Spanish Health Institute Carlos III (ISCIII)

Dr. M. João Forjaz is a research scientist at the Spanish Health Institute Carlos III since 2008. She graduated in Psychology at the University of Lisbon, Portugal, and obtained her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of North Texas, as a Fulbright scholar. She did her Clinical Psychology internship at Rush Medical Center, Chicago, in 2000.

She was the leader of several research grants on quality of life of older adults and she belongs to a multidisciplinary Spanish Research Group of Quality of Life and Aging. She is an associate member of the JA-CHRODIS (WP6, multimorbidity) funded by the European Union, and the Spanish Research Network on Health services and Comorbidity (REDISSEC). Her research interests are also centered in patient-reported outcomes (scale development and validation) as well as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, disability, and comorbidity. Dr. Forjaz is the author of over 80 articles in peer-review journal as well as several book chapters.



Valentina Strammiello, Programme Officer, European Patients' Forum (EPF)

Valentina Strammiello is an Italian national and has been working as a Programme Officer since January 2013. She holds a Master Degree in International Relations from the University of Bologna. In 2007, Valentina was awarded a MA in European Studies with majors on Regionalism, Social Cohesion and Minority Rights from the University of Graz. In her experience at EPF as Programme Officer, Valentina has managed a wide range of projects and activities. Her main areas of expertise include HTA, sustainability of healthcare systems (FP7- InterQuality We Care), Joint Actions with a focus on Chronic Diseases, their prevention and management and health promotion, and tender studies on empowerment and self-management. In 2005-2006 Ms Strammiello was enrolled in a traineeship at the Apulia Region Representation Office in Brussels and then worked on gender equality at the European Commission, DG Employment.

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Prof. Kenneth Eaton, Past Chair and Representative to JA-CHRODIS, The Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe)

Professor Kenneth Eaton PhD, MSc, BDS, FFGDP(UK), MGDS RCS (Eng), LDS RCS (Eng), FFPH, FHEA, FICD, DHC. is listed by the UK General Dental Council as a specialist in Periodontics and in Dental Public Health. He has held visiting chairs at a number of European universities and is currently a Visiting Professor at the University of Leeds and an Honorary Professor at the University of Kent. He has advised several national Ministries of Health, the Council of European Chief Dental Officers and WHO. He has been Chair or President of a number of European organisations including the Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe and the European Association of Dental Public Health. He has given conference presentations in more than 35 countries and has published over 300 academic papers and other scientific publications.



Anne Pierson, Health Promotion Europe Manager, EuroHealthNet

Anne Pierson is managing the Health Promotion Europe work at EuroHealthNet. Activities include facilitating capacity building for EuroHealthNet members (through information and communications, study visits, etc.) and (co)-leading project work strands (JA-CHRODIS, Pilot Project on reducing health inequalities for LGBTI people, etc.). Anne has considerable experience in communications, projects and events management and worked for various European and international organisations before joining EuroHealthNet in 2015. She coordinated EU-funded projects related to anti-discrimination and social inclusion, international campaigns to prevent diabetes or its complications, and activities to fight against fraud and corruption in the healthcare sector. Anne's background is in languages and management.



Dr. Djoeke van Dale, Senior Advisor, Institute for Public Health and Environment (RIVM)

Djoeke van Dale is based at the National Institute of Public Health and Environment (RIVM) in the Netherlands where she manages the Quality of Interventions Programme at the Centre for Healthy Living. She has a background in health sciences and obtained her PhD studying the interaction between diet, physical activity and obesity. Ms Van Dale developed the Dutch national quality assessment ('Recognition') system for health promotion interventions.

In JA CHRODIS she contributed to Work Package 5 on Health Promotion (country review, identification of best practices, and transferability report) and to Work Package 4 (Platform) as expert for the Delphi panel in developing criteria to evaluate best practices.

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Dr. Teresa Bennett, Senior Health Promotion Officer and Project Manager, Health Service Executive (HSE)

Teresa has over 15 years experience working in the areas of health promotion and improvement and project management in the HSE with a further 3 years experience as a Senior Research Scientist at University College Cork, Ireland. Teresa has received a Ph.D in Nutritional Sciences from University College Cork and more recently a postgraduate diploma in Healthcare Leadership & Management from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Current interests include evaluation and assessment of effectiveness of health promotion interventions and public health nutrition and has co-led the development of a National Policy on Vitamin D supplementation for infants in Ireland. She has contributed to and participated in WP5 JA CHRODIS on behalf of the HSE since September 2014.



Francisco Ruiz, Scientific Adviser, Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health

Francisco Ruiz earned his Ph.D. in Social Psychology at Okayama University (Japan) For the last 12 years he has worked as a scientific adviser at the Health Promotion Department of the Regional Ministry of Health in Andalusia -Spain's most populated region. In 2005 he co-authored the Andalusian Comprehensive Tobacco Action Plan, a leading action plan in the Spanish scenario, and coordinated for more than 5 years some of the strands of action it encompassed. He has actively been participating in JA CHRODIS since its launch, and he is a strong advocate for projects promoting health and innovation in healthcare.



Prof. Luciana Costa, Researcher, Portuguese National Institute of Health Dr Ricardo Jorge (INSA)

At present, Luciana Costa is a Researcher in the Department of Health Promotion and Prevention of Noncommunicable diseases at the Portuguese National Institute of Health.

Since 2000, she has a PhD in Biomedical Sciences (specialization is Immunology) by the Abel Salazar Institute for Biomedical Sciences from University of Oporto. She has a Master in Biophysics (Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon) in the Area of Medical Physics Specialization. She graduated in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the Faculty of Pharmacy University of Lisbon in 1991.

Her main research interest has been focused in the study of immunologic determinants of non-communicable diseases.

Currently she participates in the JA-CHRODIS (Work Packages 4 and 5) on the selection of criteria to identify Good Practices in the area of Health Promotion and Prevention of Chronic Diseases and its dissemination by the development of the CHRODIS platform.

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Dr. Alexander Haarmann, Scientific Officer, German Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA)

Alexander Haarmann (PhD) has a background in sociology and political sciences and has analysed health from different perspectives: Different research projects incorporated topics such as health inequalities, health and migration, healthcare systems and countries' attempt to reform them, healthcare provision research, and patient involvement in a comparative perspective. In collaboration with colleagues from EuroHealthNet he is currently leading the work package on Health Promotion and Prevention of Chronic Diseases in the JA-CHRODIS at the German Federal Centre for Health Education and working with members from all across Europe.



Dr. Marina Maggini, WorkPackage 7 Leader, Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS)

Marina Maggini, Senior epidemiologist at Italian National Institute of Health. She led the National diabetes disease management project (IGEA), and the National project on chronic diseases in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Health. From 2014, she leads the work package "Diabetes: a case study on strengthening health care for people with chronic diseases" within the European Joint Action on Chronic Diseases (JA-CHRODIS).



Dr. Jelka Zaletel, Work Package 7 coleader, National Institute of Public Health, Slovenia (NIJZ)

Jelka Zaletel, MD, PhD, diabetologist, senior expert at National Institute of Public Health Slovenia. She is vice-president of National Diabetes Plan steering group and president of national association of diabetologists. From 2014, she is co-leading the work package "Diabetes: a case study on strengthening health care for people with chronic diseases" within the European Joint Action on Chronic Diseases (JA-CHRODIS) and leading the task on National Diabetes Plans.



Dr. Jaana Lindström, Research Manager, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland (THL)

Jaana Lindström, PhD, Adjunct Professor works as a Research Manager in the National Institute for Health and Welfare in Finland. She has over 20 years of experience in research related to prediction and prevention of type 2 diabetes, with special emphasis on lifestyle factors. She is the developer of the Finnish Diabetes Risk Score FINDRISC. She has participated in several national and international projects, e.g. the Finnish Diabetes Prevention Study (DPS) and the Finnish Geriatric Intervention Study to Prevent Cognitive Impairment and Disability (FINGER), Stop Diabetes - Knowledge-based solutions (StopDia), Development and Implementation of a European Guideline and Training Standards for Diabetes Prevention (IMAGE), Early Prevention of Diabetes Complications in Europe (ePREDICE), and Families across Europe following a healthy lifestyle for diabetes prevention (Feel4Diabetes). She is also a Task Leader in JA-CHRODIS WP7.

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Anne-Marie Felton, Co-Chair, European Coalition for Diabetes (ECD); President, Foundation of European Nurses in Diabetes (FEND)

Anne-Marie Felton was a diabetes specialist nurse for over 20 years. She is currently working within the voluntary sector pro bono, nationally and internationally. She is President and co-founder of FEND. In 1999 she was appointed as a Vice President of Diabetes UK. In addition, Anne-Marie is an Honorary consultant at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, London, UK; immediate past Vice President IDF and Chair of the IDF Global Advocacy Task Force; a member of the IDF Steering Group for the 'Unite for Diabetes' campaign that resulted in the passage of the United Nations Resolution on diabetes in December 2006; a member of the Alliance for European Diabetes Research (EURADIA); is co-chair of European Coalition for Diabetes 2012 (ECD). In September 2015 she was appointed an Honorary member of the EASD (European Association for the Study of Diabetes). This is the first time EASD has bestowed this honour on a nurse.



Dr. David Somekh, Network Director, European Health Futures Forum (EHFF)

David Somekh M.A., M.B., B.Ch., PhD, FRCPsych. is a forensic psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and experienced clinician in management, retired from the UK NHS. He served as an NGO representative on the Advisory Committee of ISQuA (International Society for Quality Assurance), and on the Advisory Committee of the UK NICE. He was a member of the Executive of the European Society for Quality in Healthcare since it was founded in 1998, was President 2005-7 and Vice-President 2007-9. He was a member of the EC expert group on Patient Safety and Health Quality from 2008-2016. David and three colleagues set up EHFF, the European Health Futures Forum, as a not-for-profit network organisation in 2013 and he is currently Network Director. EHFF has served on the steering groups of both the EMPATHiE and PISCE tenders on patient empowerment. EHFF has been active in the integrated care area of the EIP-AHA, the JA-CHRODIS and was recently involved in a H2020 consortium on ICT enabled empowerment, EMPATICCS.



Clive Needle, Senior policy advisor, EuroHealthNet

Clive Needle is policy advisor for EuroHealthNet, and an independent advisor for numerous national and international organisations.

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Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner for Health & Food Safety, European Commission

Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis was appointed the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety in November 2014.

Vytenis Andriukaitis was born on 9 August 1951 in Kyusyur in Siberia, where his family was deported in 1941 from Lithuania. He returned to Lithuania in 1957 together with his mother and two brothers. His father was permitted to return one year later.

Andriukaitis went on to graduate from medical school in 1975 and has been a practicing surgeon, gaining specialisation in cardiovascular surgery in 1989, for more than 20 years. He also holds a degree in History from Vilnius University acquired in 1984.

From 1969 onwards the Commissioner was active in the anti-Soviet movement, while his political career began already in 1976. In 1990 Andriukaitis was elected to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania which preceded Seimas (Lithuanian Parliament), and was a signatory of the Independence Act of Lithuania on 11 March 1990. Vytenis Andriukaitis was also one of the co-authors of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania adopted in 1992, and one of the founders of the Lithuanian Social Democratic Party. Andriukaitis was a Member of the Lithuanian Parliament for six terms. During that time he served as a Deputy Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and a Vice-President of Social Democratic Party. The Commissioner was also the head of the Lithuanian delegation to the Convention on the Future of Europe. From 2012 to 2014 Vytenis Andriukaitis was a Minister for Health in the Lithuanian Government.



Zsuzsanna Jakab, Regional Director, WHO Europe

Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab is the WHO Regional Director for Europe since February 2010. Prior, Dr Jakab served as the founding Director of the European Union's European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) in Stockholm. Between 2002 and 2005, she was State Secretary at the Hungarian Ministry of Health, Social and Family Affairs, where she managed the country's preparations for European Union accession in the area of public health. Between 1991 and 2002, she worked at the WHO Europe in a range of senior management roles. Dr Jakab holds a PhD degree in Health Sciences from the University of Debrecen; a Master's degree from the Faculty of Humanities, Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest; a postgraduate degree from the University of Political Sciences, Budapest; a diploma in public health from the Nordic School of Public Health, Gothenburg, and a postgraduate diploma from the National Institute of Public Administration and Management, Hungary. She began her career in Hungary's Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in 1975.



Ian Forde, Senior policy analyst in the Health Division, OECD

Ian Forde MD (1998), PhD (2012), British, is a Senior Policy Analyst in the Health Division at the OECD. He has previously worked as a policy advisor in the Ministry of Health, Bogotá, and in the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, London. He also maintains work as a General Practitioner in London. He has a degree in Social and Political Science from Cambridge University, in Medicine from Oxford University and a PhD from University College London, examining the health impacts of welfare reform in Colombia. He was a member of the secretariat of the WHO Global Commission on Social Determinants of Health and has published in the Lancet, the BMJ, the American Journal of Public Health and several other peer-reviewed journals.

At the OECD, he is co-ordinator of a series of reviews of health care quality across OECD countries, has led reviews of health system performance in Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Latvia, and leads the Health Division's work on primary care and in the Latin America region.



Ranieri Guerra, Director General Prevention, Chief Medical Officer, Italian Ministry of Health

Ranieri Guerra is a physician, currently Director General of Preventive Health at the Ministry of Health and Chief Medical Officer of Italy. He is a member of the WHO/EURO SCRC, where he leads the working group on migrants' health, and he is an elected EB member of WHO Geneva to start in 2017. He specialised in public health in Italy and the UK and has practiced in several areas of the world, besides Italy, belonging to the small club of visitors to more than 150 countries. His professional interests and experiences range from emergency and rescue operations (especially in war torn areas) to the design and implementation of health reforms in less developed and in transitional countries, from the climate change's impact on health, to global health and SDGs, with a focus on vaccination and antimicrobial resistance. Before his appointment, he was the Scientific Attaché for life sciences at the Embassy of Italy to the US. He served also in the Technical Review Panel of the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria and has conducted several missions with the EU development aid in many ACP countries. He has dedicated substantial time to creating a national school of public health in Italy, chairing a WHO Collaborating center on human resources for health for more than a decade and training several hundreds of participants with innovative curricula, educational techniques and technologies, introducing postgraduate problem based learning in the country, pioneering distance education for doctors, pharmacists, nurses and other health professionals within the National Health System and overseas. He is adjunct professor of medicine at the G. Washington University in Washington DC and visiting professor at Chengdu University in China. In China, he is also a member of the Lancet Commission on PHC. His scientific production concerns mainly dissemination and focuses on community health issues and controversial aspects of the interaction between the health service providers and the end users.



Prof. Mirosław J. Wysocki, Director General, National Institute of Public Health (NIH), National Consultant in the area of Public Health

Mirosław J. Wysocki is professor of medicine, with a degree from the Warsaw Medical University. In 1971 - 72 he was WHO Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Epidemiology and Social Medicine of St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London, UK. Since 2010 he is Director of the National Institute of Public Health - NIH in Warsaw.

Mirosław holds specialisation degrees in epidemiology, internal medicine and public health. He has been Regional Advisor for Health Situation & Trend Assessment at the WHO/SEARO and WHO/HQ in Geneva from 1988 to 2000, and Chair of the Senior Level Public Health Group of the European Commission during the Polish EU Presidency in 2011.

He represented Poland at WHO World Health Assemblies, Executive Boards and Regional Committees and was a member of the WHO/EURO Standing Committee from 2010-2013, and of the Independent Expert Group of DG Research and Innovations of the European Commission (2012-2013) on the priority of public health research in HORIZON 2020. He is National Public Health Consultant and has authored and co-authored more than 170 publications and chapters on epidemiology of NCDs and public health.



Alain Brunot, Medical Inspector for Public Health, French Ministry of Health

MD (Dijon university, 1989)

Master of Public health (Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, USA, 2000)

Dr Brunot is medical officer at the Ministry of social affairs and health, department of population health and prevention of chronic diseases, direction générale de la santé (General directorate of health). He is working on non- communicable disease prevention, with focus on CV disease and diabetes, patient education. He has worked within the health administration since 2003, at local level (office for département de Paris) in HIV prevention, detainee health care, then as head of the department of prevention and health promotion for the Département de Paris, within the regional health authority.

Previously , Dr Brunot had a long-term experience in Vietnam, coordinating bilateral medical cooperation programs : training programs for junior health care professionals, technical assistance programs for hospitals, and support for public health projects. After graduating the MPH, he worked in health economic research units in Paris and Lille, with focus in pharmaco-epidemiology.



Jolyce Bourgeois, Belgian Ministry of Health

Jolyce Bourgeois, born in 1987 is a pharmacist with a PhD in medical sciences. The focus of the research was the utilization of sleep medication in nursing home residents and investigating whether discontinuation is possible in this elderly, often frail population. At the moment, she is still involved in projects tackling psychotropic use in the nursing home population. Currently, she is policy advisor for the organization of acute, chronic care at the federal service for Health in Belgium, and more specifically she is a member of the coordination team for the national plan for integrated care for persons with a chronic disease. Hence, international development concerning integrated and chronic care is a special interest.



Gintarė Šakalytė, Vice Minister of Health, Lithuania

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Gabrijela Korže, Attaché for Public Health and Pharmaceuticals, Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the EU

Gabrijela Korže, LL.M., has completed graduate studies in law and postgraduate studies in Labour, Social and Economic Law. She has rich working experiences in the field of Human Resources Management, Public Health, Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices, Social Issues, Foodstuffs, coupled with the experiences in the multicultural environment. She was an Adviser for Human Resources, Budgetary and Administration Issues to the Director at the Customs Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (2000-2006). Later on she was Head of the Human Resources Management Sector at the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Slovenia (2006-2007). In international field she started with the position of a Health Attaché at the Slovenian Mission at the UN in Geneva during the Slovenian Presidency to the Council of EU (2007-2008). Currently she works as a Health Attaché at the Permanent Representation of Slovenia to the EU in Brussels. She covers several topics such as Public Health, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices where her main tasks are coordination and presentation the positions of Slovenia in the EU Council.



Prof. Anne Hendry, Clinical Lead for Integrated Care, Scottish Government

Anne, a geriatrician, stroke physician and clinical lead for Integrated Care, has extensive experience of improving integrated health and social care for adults with long term conditions in Scotland. As a Senior Associate with the International Foundation for Integrated Care, Anne promotes the adoption and spread of innovation and good practice on population based, people centred and integrated care. She supports a number of regional, national and international knowledge exchange, leadership development and policy and practice initiatives including the new European Joint Action on Frailty.

Anne is honorary professor at the University of the West of Scotland, holds honorary appointments with the University of Glasgow and the University of Edinburgh's Global Health Academy, and is a Board member of the ALLIANCE Health and Social Care Academy that uses the lens of lived experience to focus on the relational and human aspects of change.



Ellen Nolte, Head of London hubs, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Dr Ellen Nolte, MPH, PhD, heads the two London offices of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies at the London School of Economics and Political Science and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, where she is also Honorary Professor. Her expertise is in health systems research, integrated and chronic care, international healthcare comparisons and performance assessment. She combines this expertise with experience in the systematic analysis of population health indicators across European countries, including the application of demographic and epidemiological approaches to understanding factors contributing to population health outcomes. She has published widely in both the international peer-reviewed literature and the wider literature, including 4 books and numerous scientific papers on chronic disease and integrated care. Ellen was previously Director of the Health and Healthcare Policy programme at RAND Europe, Cambridge, UK.



Ricardo Baptista Leite, Member, Portuguese Parliament

Ricardo Baptista Leite, is a Medical Doctor and Member of the Portuguese Parliament in the Health and Foreign Affairs Committees, as well as City Councillor of Cascais. He is also Head of Public Health at the Catholic University of Portugal, Coordinator of the Sustainable Healthcare Unit at NOVA Information Management School and guest lecturer at NOVA Medical School. He is a PHD candidate in Public Health at Maastricht University and completed his post-graduate studies in, amongst other institutions, Johns Hopkins University (MD, USA), Harvard Medical School (MA, USA), Harvard Kennedy School of Government/IESE (Madrid, Spain) and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (NY, USA).



Annabel Seebohm, Secretary General, CPME

Annabel Seebohm is the Secretary General of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME). Prior to joining CPME in May 2016, Annabel worked as head of the Brussels office and legal advisor of the German Medical Association (GMA). From 2007 to 2016 she was also legal advisor of the World Medical Association (WMA). Annabel studied law at the University of Bonn, undertook her judicial service training in Hamburg and holds a Masters degree from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. She is admitted to the Berlin Bar.



Nicoline Tamsma, President of EuroHealthNet, Co-ordinating Advisor International Affairs at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)

Nicoline Tamsma is President of EuroHealthNet and Co-ordinating Advisor International Affairs at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), the Netherlands. At RIVM, her main responsibility is to advise the institute's Board of Directors on international policy and strategy with a specific remit for public health, health services research and health promotion. Previous posts included a focus on European policy and health systems research at the Nuffield Institute for Health in Leeds (UK), the co-ordination of cross-national efforts on integrated local HIV/AIDS policies for WHO Europe, and international affairs at the Netherlands Institute for Care and Welfare.



Nicola Bedlington, Secretary General, European Patients' Forum

Nicola Bedlington is British and was born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland. Nicola studied business and human resource management in the UK and France. She lived for almost 10 years in Brussels, Geneva for 12 years, moving to Vienna in 2011. Nicola was the founding Director of the European Disability Forum, an umbrella organisation uniting over 70 European disability NGOs and National Councils of Disabled People to advocate for the human rights and inclusion of disabled citizens in Europe (1996 to 1999). Prior to this she worked as an external expert for the European Commission, heading the NGO unit within the HELIOS Programme (1991-1996). From 2004 to 2006, she worked for the Swiss Government, leading the Environment and Schools Initiatives Secretariat (ENSI). Whilst in Switzerland, she has also worked as an independent consultant/evaluator, specialising in European social and development policy and health advocacy. Nicola joined the European Patients' Forum as its first Executive Director in June 2006. In this capacity, she is the Co-ordinator of the European Patient Academy on Therapeutic Innovation (EUPATI).



Dr. Helen McAvoy, Director of Policy, Institute of Public Health in Ireland

Dr. Helen McAvoy graduated from Trinity College Dublin with a primary medical degree in 1997 and worked for several years in clinical practice. She completed her MD in 2000 as part of the NUIG Masters in Health Promotion. She had a lead role in the government's first health promotion strategy for older people. She is now working as Director of Policy with the Institute of Public Health in Ireland aiming to support policy and programmes relevant to the government's health inequality agenda in Ireland and Northern Ireland. In this role, she contributes to policy development, implementation and review on a broad range of public health priorities including tobacco, obesity, alcohol as well as evaluation of health promoting interventions.



Dr. Vesna Knjeginjic, Assistant Minister, Serbian Ministry of Health

Vesna Knjeginjic, MD, was born in Novi Sad. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad and holds a Master in public health from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, which she ended with great success. After finishing medical studies she worked as a general practitioner in primary healthcare centre. Working in institutions of social protection enabled her to gain a wealth of experience in health care protection. Since 2015 she has been appointed as assistant minister in the Ministry of Health, Republic of Serbia, in charge of the Sector for public health and programming health care. Her main tasks include monitoring the implementation of projects and programs, as well as the effects and results of programs and projects in the field of health care; monitoring and assessment of the social needs of the population and the establishment of cooperation between organizations and service users.



Antonio Sarria-Santamera, Professor of Health Services Management, Spanish National School of Public Health

Antonio Sarria-Santamera, MD PhD is Professor of Health Services Management at the National School of Public Health and of Public Health Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Alcalá. He has been a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Health Carlos III since 1996. From 2006-2015 he was the Director of the Spanish Agency for Health Technology Assessment and member of the Spanish Committee of Benefits, Insurance and Financing of the National Health System.

His main areas of research are the development of methods to evaluate the effectiveness of health interventions, with a special interest in chronic conditions, and investigating the relationship between the development of scientific evidence and clinical and health policy decision-making as well as the conditions that facilitate the uptake of knowledge for the improvement of quality of care. Antonio is a member of the Steering Committee of the Spanish Network of Health Services Research and Chronic Disease.

As well as being Principal Investigator of numerous national research projects, he has been actively involved in EUnetHTA since 2006, as well as in several other EU-funded projects like TANDEM, EUSANH, DISMEVAL, FOCUS, EUPRIMECARE and recently BRIDGE-HEALTH.



Xavier Prats Monné, Director General for Health and Food Safety, (DG Sante) European Commission

Xavier Prats Monné is the Director-General for Health and Food Safety at the European Commission. He is responsible for EU policies and programmes in health and food safety, including the promotion of public health, the assessment of national healthcare systems' performance, pharmaceutical legislation, animal health and welfare, as well as the strengthening of Europe's capacity to deal with crisis situations in human health and the food sector.

Prior to this position, he was the Director-General for Education and Culture at the European Commission and Director for Employment policy, Europe 2020 strategy and international relations in the field of employment. He previously served as Director for the European Social Fund, as Deputy Chief of Staff of the European Commission Vice President for external relations, and as Advisor of the Commissioner for Regional policy. He holds degrees in Social Anthropology from the Central University of Madrid, in Development Economics from the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies in France, and in European Affairs from the College of Europe in Belgium.



Paloma Casado Durández, Ministry of Health Spain



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