



European Alliance for Personalised Medicine

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Summer School great success, next stop HTA...

Welcome to our July newsletter, and a great deal for those intending to join us for our second annual Congress coming up in November (26-28).

The first 350 non-industry registrants will be admitted to the Milan event for free, as a reflection of EAPM's multi-stakeholder and inclusive nature.

Be sure to move quickly to book your spot in the capital of the Lombardy region.

More Congress details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, and the free link will be distributed in due course.

Third Summer School hits the spot in Warsaw

Our latest Summer School to bring young healthcare professionals up to speed in the fast-changing world of personalised medicine was once again a great success, following on from previous events in Cascais, Portugal, (2016) and Bucharest, Romania, last year.

More than 100 young HCPs and faculty members gathered in Warsaw for a highly interactive event run by EAPM and our partner, the Polish Alliance for Personalized Medicine, and also in cooperation with the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Centre and Institute of Oncology in the Polish capital.

There were high temperatures in Warsaw matched by heated but valuable discussions in the Summer School, which centred around the concept of personalised medicine and was tailored to the specific needs of individual patients, with a view to providing better treatment and preventing undesirable adverse reactions while fostering a more efficient and cost-effective healthcare system.

Titled "*New Horizons in Personalised Medicine*" it once again came under our TEACH banner (Training and Education for Advanced Clinicians and HCPs).

The Alliance and faculty believe that, if personalised medicine is to be in line with the EU and Member State principle of universal and equal access to high quality healthcare, then clearly it must be made available to many more citizens.

Part of what is required is a long-term approach to education, as we have often said, to ensure the translation of new therapies from laboratories to patients.

This means that all HCPs in close contact with patients or their

In the pipeline:

• **4 July: HTA meeting, European Parliament, Strasbourg**

• **26-28 November: Second Annual EAPM Congress, Milan**

patients' families need to be up-to-date with the current aspects of personalised medicine and its latest breakthroughs in order to better understand their patients' concerns.

Part of the aim of the third summer school was to support the endeavours of EAPM to set up a Continuous Educational Programme on personalised medicine.

Beata Jagielska, the president of the Polish Alliance, and EAPM's executive director Denis Horgan said in a joint statement: "The Summer School has been, yet again, a great success. The discussions and the interaction between the faculty and these young healthcare professionals, who represent the future of medicine, has been lively, stimulating and, at times, contentious, and that's all to the good."

"It has been wonderful to have these young experts here in Warsaw. Experts, yes, but still learning as they go along and benefitting from up-to-the-minute knowledge about a rapidly moving sector.

"Our aim is to reach ever-more HCPs and we hope that the EU will come up with a continuous education framework across all Member States to keep Europe's HCPs well-and-truly in the vanguard of personalised medicine."

Topics discussed included standardisation of the quality process of genetic and pathomorphological diagnostics, registers as an element of value-based healthcare, data safety and optimisation of diagnostic and therapeutic processes.

Also in the spotlight were limited financial resources, current diagnostic and therapeutic priorities, financing methods and quality objectives, good practice in healthcare systems and patient ideas of what constitutes value.

Among the participants were Dr Zeljko Plazinic, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Health in Croatia, Prof Piotr Czauderna - a member of the National Development Council under the

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Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

President of the Republic of Poland, Marcin Czech, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Health, Andrzej Jacyna, President of the National Health Fund, and Dr Jasmina Koeva-Balabanova, President of the Bulgarian Alliance for Precision and Personalized Medicine, Sofia.

They were joined by Marius Geanta, Co-founder of Center for Innovation in Medicine in Bucharest, Barbara Kutryba from the Center for Quality Monitoring in Health Care, Jarosław Pinkas, Head of the Department of Health Care Organization and Medical Declaration of the CMKP, among many others.

Plans are already in the pipeline for a fourth Summer School in 2019, with the venue to be announced in due course.

HTA proposal

France and Germany on Monday 25 June published their views on the European Commission's controversial proposals for mandatory joint clinical assessment (JCA) on HTA. The latter were widely rejected by the larger Member States at a meeting of EU health ministers in Brussels the previous Friday.

The two big nations have rejected the mandatory option, although they do say that, in principle, they support a more profound, voluntary cooperation at EU level in the area of Health Technology Assessment.

They add that "well-organised and high-quality cooperation can assist Member States in preparing their healthcare decisions, in particular regarding pricing and reimbursement".

But they say that conditions must be right and retain the room for manoeuvre at national level, in implementing healthcare decisions, as well as in pricing and reimbursement.

"It should only be required that EU-level clinical assessments be taken into consideration at national level, instead of having them obligatorily applied," the two countries say.

They suggest other amendments to the Commission proposal, arguing that the summary assessment of the existing scientific analysis must continue to be a task incumbent on Member States.

The Commission says that the proposal is aimed at improving the functioning of the internal market by harmonising the Member States' rules on carrying out clinical assessments for health technologies at national level.

EAPM will soon be engaging with individual countries, the Commission and Members of the European Parliament under the incoming Austrian rotating presidency.

The Alliance will host a two-hour meeting at the Strasbourg seat of Parliament on 4 July. This will involve MEPs and key stakeholders on the subject of cooperation in HTA, and will address the potential impact of the various options.

That meeting will take place a few days before the Parliament's ENVI committee, under rapporteur Soledad Cabezon Ruiz, also meets (9-10 July) and EAPM aims to discuss the best possible amendments to the proposed legislation in advance of that gathering. There are already around 200 suggested amendments and that number is likely to grow.

November Congress heading for Milan

The second annual EAPM-run Congress will take place in Milan from 26-28 November, and we hope to see you all there. The report from last year's Congress in Belfast is available [here](#).

More than 1000 Life Sciences thought leaders are expected to convene at the Congress and, as it did last year in Northern Ireland the event will bring together key audiences who contribute to the vast programme content, themed tracks, and vital knowledge exchange. Learn more, [here](#)

This second annual Congress will, like the first edition in Belfast and six Presidency conferences, pull together leading experts in the arena drawn from patient groups, payers, healthcare professionals plus industry, science, academic and research representatives.

The event, under the title '*Forward as One: Integrating Innovation into Europe's Healthcare Systems*', will take place in association and partnership with the Lombardy Region, of which Milan is the capital. Register [here](#)

The event will provide the ideal space to allow for a meeting of minds and expertise and represent a vital opportunity for top-level discussion and the formulation of real action plans.

The Congress will amount to an ideal 'one-stop shop' with the aim of bringing innovation into the EU's healthcare systems.

The choice of late November for this second Congress dovetails with the beginning of the run-in to the 2019 EU parliamentary elections and new Commission. This will allow for a bridge to national representatives in various policy areas.



The planned format for this year's event will see one-day parallel conferences held on behalf of stakeholders, allowing those of the same or interlocking disciplines to have a day focused on their needs. And each day will showcase four rapid sessions of 75 minutes featuring key knowledge leaders as well as policy makers.

In the news

As ever, the Alliance has been busy engaging with the media. Below you can find links to recent articles.

[#EAPM – EU heavyweights show Commission #HTA proposal yellow card](#)

[#EAPM – Mandatory HTA proposal a work in progress, but DG SANTE safe](#)

[#EAPM – Health-care training comes to the fore in Warsaw](#)

[#EAPM – Moving forward with health care in Europe](#)

[#EAPM – Urgent action needed to train young professionals as health-care systems creak](#)

[#EAPM- Commission's HTA proposals need level playing field](#)

[#EAPM – Commission acts to lift burdensome rules on health-care](#)

[#EAPM – Pulling the #HTA strands together](#)

[#EAPM – Summer school aims to boost health-care education](#)

[#EAPM: Building consensus is way forward in health care](#)



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About EAPM

The European Alliance for Personalised Medicine (EAPM) , launched in March 2012, brings together European healthcare experts and patient advocates involved with major chronic diseases. The aim is to improve patient care by accelerating the development, delivery and uptake of personalised medicine and diagnostics, through consensus.

As the European discussion on personalised medicine gathers pace. EAPM is a response to the need for wider understanding of priorities and a more integrated approach among distinct lay and professional stakeholders.

The mix of EAPM members provides extensive scientific, clinical, caring and training expertise in personalised medicine and diagnostics, across patient groups, academia, health professionals and industry. Relevant departments of the European Commission have observer status, as does the EMA. EAPM is funded by its members.

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