



MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS INFORMATION DIVIDEND

EMSP Conference 29th & 30th May 2007, Belgium

Hotel & Conference Centre Dolce La Hulpe Brussels

Under the patronage of



**Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the European Parliament
and**

**Ulla Schmidt, Minister for Health of the Federal Republic of Germany
and Chairwoman of the EU Health Council**

Jointly organised with the European Commission's DG SANCO



Facilitator	Richard Sterneberg, Belgium
Scientific Chairs	Prof. Hans Peter Hartung, Germany Prof. Krzysztof Selmaj, Poland Prof. Xavier Montalban, Spain Prof. Jan Hillert, Sweden
Press Meeting	Tuesday 29th of May 2007 11:00 – 12:30

About The Conference

With this conference, we continue our strong tradition of gathering key-opinion leaders, health providers, policy makers, patients and patient organisations at the conference, sharing experiences and best practices in a vivid debate.

We are very pleased by the fact that her Excellency Ulla Schmidt, Minister for Health of the Federal Republic of Germany and Chairwoman of the EU Health Council, honours us by addressing the participants on day two of the conference.

european multiple sclerosis platform aisbl

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With this conference we wish to ensure that

- awareness and understanding is build up on political level regardig the **importance and positive impact of early diagnosis and the best available and suitable therapy at the earliest possible stage of the disease**
- the **“European Code of Good Practice in MS”** representing the current “state of the art” in relation to all aspects of MS will be understood and accepted as one major guidance tool for more equity on high level in the management of MS throughout Europe
- the **transition** of the Code of Good Practice **from the (“theoretical”) European level to the (“practical”) national and/or regional level** is started
- the **2007 – 2009 EU project of EMSP on the evaluation of the existing national and transnational MS registries** and other MS data collection systems will be introduced to potential supporters and interested parties

Who Should Attend?

We propose a well balanced program to the participants. Therefore we are honoured to invite participants from the following sectors:

- Health policymakers of all kind, be it from the European Institutions, from National Ministries (Health, Social Welfare, Labour), Health policy advisory Groups (e.g. NICE in the UK or IQUIK in Germany)
- National Sick Funds
- Private Health Insurance companies
- Neurologists and other medical experts
- Paramedics
- Researchers and academics
- MS related Industry
- Multiple Sclerosis Patient Organisations

Conference Venue

Dolce La Hulpe Brussels
Chaussée de Bruxelles 135 / Brusselsesteenweg 135
1310 La Hulpe / Terhulpen
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For further information, registration and hotel reservation, please contact the Organising Secretariat:

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Conference Programme

Tuesday 29th of May 2007

Scientific Chairs: Prof. H.P. Hartung, Germany
Prof. K. Selmaj, Poland

13:00	- Registration		
14:00	- Welcome and Introduction	Dorothea Pitschnau-Michel President EMSP	5 min
	- European Commission	DG SANCO (tbc)	10 min
	- Need for equal treatment and rights in Europe : a patients view	Aliki Vrienniou, Greece Member of ExCom EMSP Uma Aaltonen former MEP	5 min 7 min
	- The MS-ID Project co-funded by the European Commission: an overview	Christoph Thalheim, EMSP	8 min
14:35	I Existing data of MS in Europe		
	- Prevalence & incidence of MS - What do the figures tell us ?	Prof. Christian Confavreux, France	15 min
	- Current and future therapeutic options	Prof. David Bates, UK	35 min
15:25	Coffee break		
15:55	II Data collection and methodology		
	- Overview of existing MS data collection systems in Europe	Dr. Peter Flachenecker, Germany	20 min
16:15	III Cost of illness		
	- Latest studies – cost of MS	Prof. Gisela Kobelt, Sweden	25 min
	- Evaluation Schemes in Europe - Perspective of health insurers	Mag. Peter Wieninger, Austria	20 min
17:00	IV MS Research in progress		
	- Neuro stemcells in MS	Dr. Gianvito Martino, Italy	25 min
	- NeuroproMISe Project	Dr. Francesca Aloisi, Italy	25 min
19:30	Reception and social programme		



Wednesday 30th of May 2007

Scientific Chairs: Prof. Xavier Montalban, Spain
Prof. Jan Hillert, Sweden

9:30	Welcome & Keynote adress	D. Pitschnau-Michel, President EMSP Ulla Schmidt, German Health Minister	
9:50	V MS Barometer based on the European Code of Good Practice - a tool to ensure a brighter future for EU citizens with MS		
	- A snapshot of the present situation of persons with MS in Europe	Mairead O'Leary, EMSP D. Pitschnau-Michel, EMSP	15 min
10:05	VI Presentation of the European Code of Good Practice and its various contents to improve the quality of life of people with MS		
	- The rationale behind the "Code"	Nicola Bedlington, Switzerland	5 min
	- Consensus: Immunomodulating Therapy	Prof. Peter Rieckmann, Germany	15 min
	- Consensus: Symptomatic Treatment	Prof. Thomas Henze, Germany	15 min
	- Rehabilitation Guidelines	Prof. Alan Thompson, UK	15 min
	- Palliative Care	Prof. Raymond Voltz, Germany	15 min
	- Pathways to implementation	Laurentiu Lazar, Romania	5 min
11:15	Coffee break		
11:40	VII Working Groups		80 min
	- Therapeutic options	Prof. Christian Confavreux, France Prof. Xavier Montalban, Spain	
	- Cost of illness	Prof. Gisela Kobelt, France Dr. Marc Suhrcke, WHO	
	- Code of Good Practice: From theory to practice – the role of MS Societies in implementing and monitoring the "Code"	Prof. Peter Rieckmann, Germany Izabella Odrobinska, Poland	
	- International Principles to Promote Quality of Life for People with MS	Prof. Krzyztof Selmaj, Poland Paul Rompani, UK Allen O'Connor, Ireland	
13:00	VIII Summary Eight Key Action Points – Where to next ?	Richard Sterneberg, Belgium Working group facilitators and Scientific Chairs	25 min
13:30	End of Conference		



Who are the Speakers? (in alphabetical order)

- Uma **Aaltonen**, former Member of the European Parliament, Person with MS, Finland
- Francesca **Aloisi**, MD, Department of Cell Biology & Neuroscience, Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Italy
- David **Bates**, MD, Head of Clinical Neurology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- Nicola **Bedlington**, CEO of the European Patients Forum, Switzerland
- Christian **Confavreux**, MD, Head of Service de Neurologie A, Hôpital Neurologique Pierre Wertheimer, France
- Peter **Flachenecker**, MD, Medical Director, Neurological Rehabilitation Center Quellenhof, Germany
- Hans-Peter **Hartung**, MD, Head of Department of Neurology, Heinrich-Heine-University, Germany, and President of the European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis (ECTRIMS)
- Thomas **Henze**, MD, Head of Klinik am Regenbogen, Fachklinik für Neurologische Rehabilitation, Nittenau Germany
- Jan **Hillert**, MD, Head of Division of Neurology Neurotec, Karolinska Institutet. Huddinge University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden
- Gisela **Kobelt**, MBA, PhD, European Health Economics SAS, France
- Laurentiu **Lazar**, Romanian MS Society, Romania
- Gianvito **Martino**, MD, Head of Neuroimmunology Unit, Dept of Neuroscience DIBIT – San Raffaele Hospital, Italy
- Xavier **Montalban**, M.D., Head of Unitat de Neuroimmunologia Clínica Vall d'Hebron Hospital, Barcelona, Spain
- Allen **O'Connor**, Member of the Board of Multiple Sclerosis international Federation (MSIF), Ireland
- Mairead **O'Leary**, European Project Coordinator MS ID, EMSP, Belgium
- Izabella **Odrobinska**, President Polish MS Society (PTSR), Poland
- Dorothea **Pitschnau-Michel**, President of EMSP and Secretary General of German MS Society (DMSG), Germany
- Peter **Rieckmann**, MD, Dep. of Neurology, MS Research Group, Neurologische Universitätsklinik Würzburg, Germany
- Paul **Rompani**, Deputy Chief Executive, Multiple Sclerosis International Federation, (MSIF), UK
- Ulla **Schmidt**, Minister for Health of the Federal Republic of Germany and Chairwoman of the EU Health Council, Germany
- Krzysztof **Selmaj**, MD, Head of Dep. of Neurology, Medical Academy of Łódź, Poland



- Richard **Sterneberg**, Communication Strategies, Belgium
- Marc **Suhrcke**, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Italy
- Alan J. **Thompson**, MD, Head of Institute of Neurology, University of London, UK
- Christoph **Thalheim**, Secretary General EMSP, Belgium
- Prof. Raymond **Voltz**, MD, Palliative Medicine, Neurologist, Med Director, Department of Palliative Medicine University of Cologne, Germany
- Aiki **Vrienniou**, Member of the Executive Committee of EMSP and member of the Board of the Greek MS Society, Greece
- Peter **Wieninger**, Magister, Hauptverband der Oesterreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger (Social Insurances), Austria