



High-level Conference

“Making Access to Personalised Medicine a Reality for Patients”

8 July 2015

Luxembourg, Cercle Cité

BIOGRAPHIES

OPENING SESSION

Lydia Mutsch



Following the legislative elections of 20 October 2013, Lydia Mutsch joined the government as Minister of Health, Minister for Equal Opportunities on 4 December 2013. A member of the LSAP since 1987, Lydia Mutsch became a municipal councillor in Esch-sur-Alzette in 1988. In 2000, she was appointed mayor, an office she held until her appointment to the government in December 2013. Lydia Mutsch was elected to Parliament for the first time in 1989 at the age of 27 while standing for the LSAP in the constituency of the South. She was re-elected in 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2013. From 2009 to 2013, Lydia Mutsch assumed the role of vice-president of Parliament. As a member of Parliament, she assumed among others the role of chairwoman of the Committee for Health and Social Security from 2004 to 2013.

Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis



Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis is the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety (2014-2019). His main responsibilities include building up knowledge on the performance of national health systems to shape national and EU policies, and helping address the challenge of increased calls on national health services at a time of intense pressure on public finances. Vytenis Andriukaitis served as a Member of the Lithuanian Parliament during several years and was the Minister of Health from 2012 to 2014. He worked as a cardiac surgeon, and is the co-author of 44 books and author of 616 press articles on the history of medicine, surgery, political science a.o.. He also received the Award of the WHO for his merits in tobacco control (2014).



Maggie De Block



Maggie De Block is a Belgian politician and holds currently the portfolio of Minister of Social Affairs and Public Health in the Michel Government. She studied medicine at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) after which she became a general practitioner. The main stages of her political career include having been a Member of the Belgian Chamber of Representatives for the electoral district Brussels-Halle-Vilvoorde from 1999 to 2011. In December 2011 she became the Secretary of State for Asylum, Immigration and Social Integration in the Di Rupo Government, before being appointed as Minister of Justice charged with Asylum, Immigration, Social Integration and Poverty Reduction in July 2014.

Mary Baker (chair)



Mary Baker, is immediate past President of the European Brain Council and President of their ‘Year of the Brain’ project. She is consultant to the World Health Organisation (WHO), Chair of the Working Group on Parkinson’s Disease and a member of the Commission’s CONNECT Advisory Forum. Academic appointments include Associate Membership of the Health Services Research Unit, University of Oxford and Visiting Fellow within the London School of Economics (LSE) Health Centre. In 2009, Dr Baker received the prestigious British Neuroscience Association Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Neuroscience and for Public Service, and in 2014, she received the Dana/EDAB Lifetime Achievement Award for Outreach on Behalf of Brain Research.

Helmut Brand (moderator)



Helmut Brand is Jean Monnet Professor of European Public Health and Head of the Department of International Health at Maastricht University. He is a specialist in public health medicine and worked in several health authorities and Ministries of Health in Germany before he became Director of the Public Health Institute of North Rhine Westphalia. Since then, European integration in health is the main topic of his work. Brand is also President of the European Health Forum Gastein (EHFG) and co-chair of the European Alliance for Personalised Medicine (EAPM). As policy advisor he serves e.g. on the European Advisory Committee on Health Research (EACHR) of WHO Europe and on the expert panel on “Investing in Health” for the European Commission.



SESSION 1: The voice of patients: a patient oriented healthcare

Anna Chioti (chair)



Anna Chioti is Head of Unit, Clinical and Epidemiological Investigation Center at the Luxembourg Institute of Health (LIH). Since 2012, she is the chair of the ECRIN Network Committee and Board Member of EFGCP. After her studies at Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, she worked as a medical doctor until 2003 after which she held various positions with the industry before joining the LIH. In 2014, she received both the Award for Advancing Public Awareness in Clinical Research from the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP), Texas, USA as well as the Outstanding Contribution to Luxembourg Healthcare and Life Sciences Community, Luxembourg. She has also been active as Chair at The European Society for Translational Medicine (EUSTM).

Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous



Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous has a Master's degree in International Relations and is Senior Policy Adviser at the European Patients' Forum (EPF) since 2010. She is responsible for the overall lead of EPF's policy and advocacy work at EU level, including policy analysis, liaising with the EU institutions and stakeholders. Specific areas of responsibility include patient empowerment and patient-centred chronic disease care; quality and safety of healthcare; health literacy; clinical trials; pharmaceuticals regulation; and cross-border healthcare. Kaisa is a member of the European Commission's Expert Group on Patient Safety and Quality of Care, the European Medicines Agency's Working Party with Patients and Consumers, and the PISCE Platform of Experts on Self-Care.

Pascal Niemeyer



Pascal Niemeyer is a member of the EUPATI (European Patients' Academy on Therapeutic Innovation) Luxembourg national liaison team. The aim of EUPATI is to provide scientifically reliable, objective, comprehensive information to patients on medicines research and development in order to promote patient's empowerment. Furthermore, Pascal is the Director of the European Gaucher Alliance (EGA), President of the executive board of the Gaucher Gesellschaft Deutschland e.V., and member of the Luxembourgish umbrella patient organisation for patients with rare and neuromuscular diseases, called ALAN.



Peter Kapitein



Peter Kapitein is a board member and Patient Advocate of Inspire2Live, an international patient advocacy organization. As a Patient Advocate he connects patients, researchers and clinicians to further research, treatments and care. His tasks include organizing congresses, lobbying the matrix of public authorities, health care organizations, insurance companies as well as health research institutes, and deliver lectures and talks. Peter is also co-founder of the annual cycling event on Alp d'Huez fundraising for cancer. He works at the Central Bank of the Netherlands as a program manager and advisor. In October 2012, Peter was honoured with a doctorate at the Free University of Amsterdam.

Joseph Even



Joseph Even holds a number of medical degrees and postgraduate training a.o. in molecular biology, microbiology and immunology. Between 1985 and 2004 he held permanent positions at CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research) and was a staff member (group leader or assistant group leader) in different Inserm (National Institute for Medical Research) units in Paris. He occupied the position of Joint Head Microbiology and Head Virology and Serology at the National health Laboratory, Luxembourg between 2005 and 2012 when he retired. He has been Vice-President of ALAN Rare Diseases, Luxembourg since 2013.



SESSION 2: Addressing known obstacles to integrating PM into health systems

Emmanuelle Benzimra (chair)



Emmanuelle Benzimra was appointed in 2012 General Delegate of EPEMED, the European PERSONALISED MEDICINE association, a pioneer organisation based in Luxembourg and acting to make personalised medicine and diagnostics a reality for European patients. She is also board member of PM Connective, an international non-profit in the making aimed at generating a new collaborative model that maximizes the value of personalised medicine for all involved. Before that she collaborated with different non-profit start-ups, supporting them from creation, to business development and general management, more especially, Bench2Cures, a foundation dedicated to support biomedical research in Luxembourg. This is when she realised the socio-economic impact of personalised medicine and how developing a unique treatment for each individual should dominate more than ever the medical approach of today and build tomorrow's. It is to defend this principle that she forged a career change on a personal and professional engagement, and yearned to make the best use of her senior experience in business and relationship management acquired along 14 years in international investment banks.

Tapani Piha



Tapani Piha works as Head of Unit in the European Commission since 2004. His current Unit on eHealth & Health Technology Assessment deals also with data handling and protection in healthcare. A physician and specialist in community medicine and public health by training, he started his career in epidemiological and intervention research on health behaviours and cardiovascular disease. He held positions at the Finnish Ministry of Health working on health promotion and tobacco control. He coordinated Finland's EU policies in health in 1995-2001, based first in Helsinki and later in Brussels. At the WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, in 1989-94 he was responsible for the Action Plan for a Tobacco-free Europe.

Guido Rasi



Guido Rasi is Principal Adviser in Charge of Strategy at the European Medicines Agency (EMA) after having been his Executive Director (2011-2014) and a member of its Management Board. He was Director-General of the Italian Medicines from 2008 to 2011 and member of the Management Board from 2004 and 2008. He was made full professor of microbiology at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" in 2008. From 2005 to 2008, he was Director of the Institute of Molecular Medicine of the National Research Council in Rome. Professor Rasi holds a degree in medicine and surgery, with specialisations in internal medicine, allergology and clinical immunology from the University of Rome. From 1978 to 1990, he worked as a physician in hospital, research and private practice. He is author of more than 100 scientific publications.



Christine Chomienne



Dr Christine Chomienne is Professor of Cellular Biology at the University Paris Diderot and Head of the Cell Biology Department at the Hôpital Saint Louis in Paris. She is also Director of the University Inserm Research Laboratory at the Institut Universitaire d'Hématologie. She was a pioneer researcher in differentiation therapy and translated ATRA therapy in APL in 1987 and coordinated the European Biomed I network on APL from 1991 to 1995. Dr Chomienne has since devoted her time in translational research in myeloid malignancies and coordinating internal conferences and networks for dissemination and training in novel concepts and technologies in France and Europe. She was President of the European Hematology Association from 2013 to 2015. Furthermore, she is author/co-author of more than 250 peer-reviewed publications and has received several scientific awards.

Catherine Larue



Catherine Larue is CEO of Integrated Biobank of Luxembourg (IBBL), a not-for-profit and independent biobank designed to facilitate medical research in Luxembourg. Her main expertise relies in the cardiovascular and diabetes areas. She participated in the discovery of several innovative biomarkers and in the market launch of dozens of diagnostic products. In her most recent position at Genfit, she led the biomarkers branch (strategy and discovery) in order to answer personalised medicine needs within a translational approach. Catherine Larue is an author of 85 publications and filed 13 patents. She holds a Ph.D. in Experimental Biology (Rouen University), a University degree in Clinical Cancer Biology (Paris VI University), and an Executive MBA (St. John's Univ, NY).

Valérie Paris



Valérie Paris works as an Economist at the Health Division of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Valérie joined the OECD Secretariat in September 2005 and since then, she has contributed to several projects on health systems' characteristics and performance and on pharmaceutical policies. Previously, she was researcher at the French Institute of Research and Information on Health Economics (IRDES), a non-profit organization. She participated in research projects on pharmaceutical policies, physicians' payment schemes, health accounts and comparative analysis of health systems. Valérie holds a master's degree in Economics, statistics and econometrics from the University of Paris 1-Sorbonne.

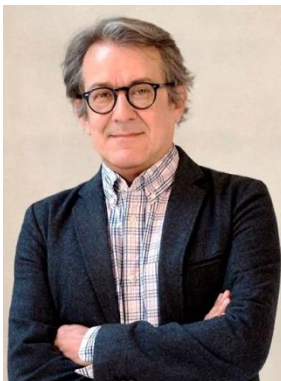


SESSION 3: Best practices: Learning and Sharing



Mary Baker (chair)

Mary Baker, is immediate past President of the European Brain Council and President of their ‘Year of the Brain’ project. She is consultant to the World Health Organisation (WHO), Chair of the Working Group on Parkinson’s Disease and a member of the Commission’s CONNECT Advisory Forum. Academic appointments include Associate Membership of the Health Services Research Unit, University of Oxford and Visiting Fellow within the London School of Economics (LSE) Health Centre. In 2009, Dr Baker received the prestigious British Neuroscience Association Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Neuroscience and for Public Service, and in 2014, she received the Dana/EDAB Lifetime Achievement Award for Outreach on Behalf of Brain Research.



François Sigaux

François Sigaux has been appointed Director of the “Cancer” Multi-Organisation Thematic Institute (ITMO) which brings together all research teams working on this disease. A university professor and hospital practitioner (PU-PH) at Université Paris Diderot, François is Head of the Department of Biological Haematology at Saint Louis Hospital. A former President of the French Society of Haematology, he has directed the Doctoral School of Biology and Biotechnology, and occupied the positions of Director of the University Institute of Haematology, Inserm Unit Director, Vice-President of the Institut Curie and President of the Cancéropôle Île-de-France. He is also Director of Research and Innovation at the French National Cancer Institute (INCa).



Katherine Payne

Katherine Payne was awarded a personal Chair in Health Economics at the University of Manchester in 2010. Between 1990 and 1993, she also worked as a hospital pharmacist and has since maintained links with the pharmacy profession to understand the training needs in health economics, in general, and the evaluation of genomic technologies specifically. She has extensive experience working as an academic health economist with different clinical research groups. In 2007, she was awarded an RCUK Academic Fellowship to focus on the evaluation and valuation of genomic technologies including genomic-based diagnostics and pharmacogenetic tests. Based in the Manchester Centre for Health Economics, established in 2012, she is now leading a research group that focuses on the evaluation and valuation of genomic technologies and stratified medicine.



Rudi Balling



Rudi Balling is Director of the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (LCSB) since 2009. His research topics include systems biomedicine, pathophysiology of Parkinson, bioinformatics, metabolomics, systems biology, comparative genomics and gene regulation. Balling holds a PhD in Reproductive Biology from the University of Aachen. After his habilitation in 1991, he carried out research in the Mount Sinai Research Hospital, Toronto, and in the Max Planck Institutes.. In 2001, he took over the position as Scientific Director of the Helmholtz Center in Braunschweig. January-July 2009, Prof. Balling was a guest professor at the Broad Institute of MIT/Harvard University.

Denis Lacombe



Dr Denis Lacombe is the Director General of the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC). He has worked as a Clinical Research Advisor in charge of the development of a new drug in oncology in the pharmaceutical industry before joining the EORTC in 1993 as a research fellow. In his current position, Denis Lacombe is involved in the coordination and administration of all EORTC activities in order to promote the EORTC as a major European organization in Cancer Clinical and Translational Research and is responsible for the organization of scientific activities, public relations and medium term strategies as well as for internal and external communications.



SESSION 4: The value of PM for Public Health, its impact on EU Health Policy and its global dimension

John Bowis (chair)



John Bowis joined Finsbury International Policy & Regulatory Advisers (FIPRA), as Special Adviser for Health and Environmental Policy in June 2009. John is a former MEP (1999-09) and Member of British Parliament (1987-97). He served two terms in the UK Government as Minister for Health (1992-1996) and Minister for Transport (1996-1997), after which he worked as international policy adviser for the WHO, before being elected to the European Parliament. In the EP, he was spokesman for the EPP Group on the environment and health, and led for the Parliament on a range of reports, including establishing the ECDC, neglected diseases, food safety, mental health and cross border healthcare, and for his Group on the environmental issues of climate change, chemicals and cosmetics.

Ulrike Bußhoff



Ulrike Bußhoff is a senior scientific officer at the Project Management Agency at German Aerospace Centre (PT DLR), which is a service organisation engaging in the promotion of research, education and science, and supporting the Federal Ministry of Education and Research with the implementation of research programmes. Bußhoff is also responsible for the coordination of the Coordination & Support Action (CSA) PerMed, an initiative to step up coordination efforts between European key stakeholders in the area of Personalized Medicine.

Angela Brand



Angela Brand is Founding Director and Full Professor of the Institute for Public Health Genomics (IPHG) at Maastricht University, as well as Dr. T.M.Pai Endowed Chair on Public Health Genomics and Adjunct Professor at the Manipal Life Sciences Centre of Manipal University, India. She is a paediatrician and specialist in public health medicine. She has been the pioneer of public health genomics in Europe and established successfully this field in more than 15 European Member States within the last years. Among others, Prof. Brand is a coordinator of the Public Health Genomics European Network, full partner of the FP7 CSA PerMed on Personalised Healthcare and serves as expert for the WHO or the European Commission.



Andrzej Rys



Andrzej Rys is Director in Directorate D, Health System and Products, at DG Sante, European Commission. Andrzej Rys is a medical doctor who specialized in radiology and public health. In 1991, he established the School of Public Health (SPH) at Jagiellonian University (Poland) and was the SPH's Director until 1997. After that, he became the Director of the “Harvard-Jagiellonian Consortium for Health” care and took up the post of Director of Krakow’s city health department. In 1999 – 2002, Rys was the deputy Minister of Health in Poland and developed a new system of emergency medicine and a new education system for nurses. In 2003, he established and ran as a Director the Center for Innovation and Technology Transfer at Jagiellonian University. He was also Director for development of Diagnostic Ltd. before joining the Commission in June 2006.

Stephen H. Friend



Stephen Friend is the President, Co-Founder and Director of Sage Bionetworks, a non-profit organization that provides the tools and environment to conduct dynamic, large-scale collaborative biomedical research. He is an authority in the field of cancer biology and a pioneer in the field of the genetics of gene expression. Under his leadership, Sage Bionetworks has developed an open-source technology platform, called Synapse, for data-intensive analysis, sharing and reuse, enabling researchers to perform cutting edge computational biology and research. Previously, Friend was Senior Vice President and Franchise Head for Oncology Research at Merck & Co. Along with Dr Hartwell, He also founded and co-led the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center’s “Seattle Project”. His faculty positions include Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts General Hospital.

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