

# 2016 Annual Report: EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (ESCD)

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## 1. ESCD in brief

The EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (ESCD) was formally established at the 14<sup>th</sup> EUPHA annual conference in Montreux, Switzerland in 2006 and currently has over 1500 members.

The **aim** of the section is to increase and spread knowledge on chronic disease control and management. The section seeks to identify common approaches to develop the evidence and information base needed to guide policy and identify best practices for combating chronic diseases, and thus contributing to a sustainable and significant reduction of illness, disability and premature death. Furthermore, the section aims to lead efforts that help eliminate health disparities and negative socioeconomic consequences caused by chronic diseases and that promote health and well-being.

## 2. Conferences | Pre-conferences | Workshops

During the 9<sup>th</sup> European Public Health (EPH) conference, 09-12 November 2016, Vienna, Austria we (co)organized 4 workshops together with EUPHA sections (Public Mental Health; Infectious diseases control), World Health Organization - Regional Office for Europe, as well as consortia of several currently running European projects: JA CHRODIS, ICARE4EU, SELFIE, and SCIROCCO.

### WORKSHOPS

#### **5.F. Skills building seminar: “Comprehensive strategies to tackle diabetes and chronic diseases: The Joint Action CHRODIS”**

- Date and place: Friday, 11 Nov 2016, 11:10-12:40, Room 0.49
- Organizers: JA-CHRODIS consortium and EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (ESCD)
- Aims: The aim of this workshop was to share with the audience, in a participatory way, the main messages from the policy brief on NDPs and from the SWOT analysis. The lessons learnt from these experiences may support countries’ efforts to build a successful and comprehensive strategy for the prevention and care of diabetes and, more broadly, chronic diseases.
- Approximately 32 participants attended the workshop.

#### **9.B. Workshop: “Ageing and Health”**

- Date and place: Saturday, 12 Nov 2016, 9:40-10:40, Room L8
- Organizers: EUPHA Sections on Public Mental Health; Infectious diseases control, and EUPHA Chronic Diseases (ESCD)
- Aims: The aim of this workshop was to discuss about the aging as an opportunity rather than a burden. In addition, the workshop dealt with caring for older individuals that must consider

added levels of complexity and opportunity that incorporate culture, place, resource availability and individual life events.

- Approximately 30 participants attended the workshop.

**10.N. Workshop: “Multimorbidity and integrated care: which priorities for European and national policies?”**

- Date and place: Saturday, 12 Nov 2016, 11:10-12:40, Room L5
- Organizers: EUPHA Sections on Chronic Diseases (ESCD) in collaboration with consortia of several currently running EU projects: JA CHRODIS, ICARE4EU, SELFIE, and SCIROCCO.
- Aims: The aim of this workshop was to contribute to the acceleration of improvements in care and support for people with multimorbidity by fostering effective transfer of research knowledge into healthcare practice and policy. The workshop delineated what topics, actions and activities should be prioritised in addressing the challenges of multimorbidity at the European, but also national and regional levels.
- Approximately 45 participants attended the workshop.

**10.P. Skills building seminar: “Knowledge translation in public health: Moving from evidence to policy and practice”**

- Date and place: Friday, 11 Nov 2016, 11:10-12:40, Room L1
- Organizers: WHO-Europe, and EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (ESCD)
- Aims: The aim of this workshop was to share with the audience, in a participatory way, the main messages from the policy brief on NDPs and from the SWOT analysis. The lessons learnt from these experiences may support countries’ efforts to build a successful and comprehensive strategy for the prevention and care of diabetes and, more broadly, chronic diseases.
- Approximately 109 participants attended the workshop.

### **3. Representation on behalf of the EUPHA / ESCD**

In 2016 Dr Iveta Nagyova, president of the EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases was the formal representation of EUPHA/ESCD at the following events:

**ICARE4EU symposium, EC conference "Which priorities for a European policy on multimorbidity?"  
22 March 2016, Brussels, Belgium**

On 22 March 2016, the EU funded project 'Innovating Care for people with multiple chronic conditions in Europe' (ICARE4EU) was organizing a symposium on European perspectives on care for people with multiple chronic conditions. The symposium was structured around presentations on insights from the ICARE4EU project, plenary sessions and panel discussions. The symposium provided a great opportunity to meet with policy-makers, researchers and health-care professionals from all over Europe and to discuss the challenge of developing and providing patient-centered integrated care to people with multimorbidity. Read more | Final symposium: <http://www.icare4eu.org/>

**Council of the European Commission, Research Working Party (RWP) Meeting,  
23 September 2016, Brussels, Belgium**

Invited speech ‘The European Public Health & the European Public Health Association-EUPHA’. In the second half of 2016 Slovak Republic was hosting a Presidency of the Council of European Union (SK PRESS). Slovakia was leading the negotiations within the process on new European legislations and current policy and research issues, guiding the process of deepening the European integration. It was also an opportunity to show country’s qualities and skills at European level. Within the RWP meeting three organizations active in the field of research were presented; namely the EUPHA-European Public Health Association, the EBR-European Brain Council, and the Slovak Academy of Sciences – Institute of Neuroimmunology. At this meeting diplomats from the EU28 and project

officers of the EU28 from the ministries for the research were present. Read more | Press release EURACTIVE: <http://pr.euractiv.com/pr/achievements-slovak-scientists-presented-brussels-146448>

#### **Plenary Meeting of the European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer (ECIBC) ‘When Science and Policy collaborate for Health’, Ville Ponti, Varese, Italy, 24-25 November 2016**

The ECIBC plenary dealt with the transfer of science into policy and relates to the preparation for the implementation of the European QA scheme. The plenary elaborated on the relation of ECIBC to national and European policies on breast cancer screening and care. Acknowledging the importance of developing scientifically sound and implementable deliverables, ECIBC aims at impacting on the health of women. Dr I Nagyova has been invited to contribute to a Plenary Round Table Discussion: “What needs to be done at European and national levels to implement the European QA scheme”, as one of the speakers. Read more: <http://ecibc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/ecibc-plenary-2016>

### **4. Commenting strategic policy documents | Reports | Statements**

Previous years the section provided input to several public consultation documents in the field of prevention, control, and management of chronic diseases for the European Commission and the WHO Europe. In 2016 Dr Iveta Nagyova on behalf of section contributed to the discussions on ECIBC policy documents during the Plenary Meeting of the European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer (ECIBC) ‘When Science and Policy collaborate for Health’, Ville Ponti, Varese, Italy, 24-25 November 2016. ECIBC covers all processes of breast cancer care and for all of them competence of involved professionals is the key to provide appropriate care to persons and patients. ECIBC is developing a template for training on digital breast screening. It will contain minimum training requirements for radiologists and radiographers. The survey, that was launched to collect information about the content of the trainings applied in countries and also the legislations in place, was evaluated during the meeting in Varese, Italy.

### **5. Projects**

Previous years we have been involved in the preparation of several EC H2020 project proposals, but none of them were supported. In 2016 we did not collaborate on any project proposal on behalf of EUPHA/ESCD.

Membership in Scientific Advisory Board of European projects, Dr Iveta Nagyova:

- Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the SCIROSSO project: ‘Scaling Integrated Care in Context’, funded by EU DG SANTE / CHAFEA under EU Health Programme, Project No. 710033 (2016-2018); <http://www.scirocco-project.eu>
- Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the project ‘Ageing at home: Innovation in home-based elderly care in rural parts of Northern Norway’. The Research Council of Norway, Project No.257019 (2016-2018)

### **6. Collaboration**

Our main strategic collaborating non-EUPHA partner is the **WHO-EURO Division on Noncommunicable Diseases and Life Course**. So far we organized together 4 workshops at the European Public Health Conferences (2011, 2012, 2014, and 2016). Moreover, in years 2014 and 2015 Prof D. Stuckler and Dr I. Nagyova were members of the WHO Senior Advisory Group for strategic WHO document ‘Roadmap of actions to fully implement the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in Europe 2015–2020’.

With regard to **EUPHA sections**, in 2016 we organized 2 workshops in collaboration with EUPHA section on Public Mental Health; and section on Infectious Disease Control.

**EUPHANxt** is a free and open initiative that aims to collect the active contribution of students, young researchers, practitioners and policymakers interested in European public health issues, in order to sensitize and involve them into the European and multidisciplinary network of public health associations. Within the framework of collaboration between EUPHANxt and ESCD, Ms Aline Irihamye, a young public health professional from the University of Notre Dame, United States, took part in an internship at the Department of Social and Behavioural Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, PJ Safarik University in Kosice, Slovakia, between May-July 2016.

Other organisations, institutions

In addition, in 2016 we collaborated on 2 other workshops with consortia of several currently running European projects in the field of chronic diseases, multi-morbidity and integrated care; namely the JA CHRODIS, ICARE4EU, SELFIE and SCIROCCO.

## 7. Communication

### ESCD website

The section's website is regularly updated. It contains information on activities organized by the section since its establishment; such as workshops and preconference organized during the annual EUPHA conferences. It also contains ESCD publications such as texts from the EUPHA conference proceedings and short reports from the European Journal of Public Health. For section web pages at the EUPHA website see: <http://www.eupha.org/chronic-diseases>

### EUPHA mailman system

The ESCD has been using the EUPHA mailman system for distributing information among its members. This mainly concerned up-to-date information on conferences, workshops, initiatives, projects or strategic documents.

### Twitter

The ESCD for time being has no Twitter account, but the section's president Dr I. Nagyova (@IvetaNagyova) and vice-president Prof. D. Stuckler (@davidstuckler) are they regularly sharing topical information on chronic diseases via their accounts.

31 January 2017

### EUPHA Section on Chronic Diseases

Dr Iveta Nagyova, president

Prof David Stuckler, vice-president

Dr Julian Mamo, vice-president