

# 2019 Annual Report

## EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (EUPHA\_CHR)



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### 1. Section in brief

The EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (EUPHA\_CHR) was formally established at the 14th EUPHA annual conference in Montreux, Switzerland in 2006 and currently lists 2,173 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. For more information please visit: <https://eupha.org/chronic-diseases>

### 2. Conferences | Pre-conferences | Workshops

During the 12th European Public Health (EPH) conference, 20-23 November 2019, Marseille, France we (co)organized 3 workshops in collaboration with the EUPHA section on Food and Nutrition, the WHO/Europe Division of Information, Evidence, Research, and Innovation in Copenhagen; the Scottish Government, the International Behavioural Trials Network (IBTN), and the SCIROCCO Exchange project consortium.

**WORKSHOPS: 12<sup>th</sup> EPH conference, 20-23 November 2019, Marseille, France**

Title	3.G. - Workshop: <b>Impact of nutrition on non-communicable chronic diseases: a global perspective</b>
Date and place	Thursday 21 Nov 14:50-16:20, Room Endoume 4
Organizers	EUPHA sections: Food and Nutrition (FN); Chronic Diseases (CHR)
Aims	The objectives of the workshop were: To quantify the burden and temporal trends of non-communicable chronic diseases risk factors (such as obesity, elevated blood pressure and diabetes) all around the globe, with a focus on European countries; To assess the impact of nutrition-related risk factors on non-communicable chronic diseases; To explore socio-economic and cultural correlates to dietary changes in developed and developing countries; To discuss the usage of instruments aimed to identify best practices in food policies to prevent junk food consumption.
Participants	Approximately 67 participants attended the workshop.

Title	9.G. - Skills building seminar: <b>Capacity-building for implementing integrated care</b>
Date and place	Saturday 23 Nov 11:10-12:40, Room Endoume 4
Organizers	Scottish Government, EUPHA section on Chronic diseases (CHR), SCIROCCO Exchange project consortium
Aims	The aim of skills building seminar was to explore different levels of local maturity and capacity to implement integrated care in four European regions: Basque Country, Flanders, Scotland, and Poland. The workshop provided an opportunity to dispute what actions and activities should be prioritised in these regions in order to improve their capacities for the adoption and scaling-up of integrated care. The workshop also aimed to raise awareness about different levels and mechanisms of capacity-building support for integrated care that exists at European level. In particular, the workshop featured SCIROCCO Exchange Knowledge Management Hub as one of the capacity-building tools and its application in the real-life settings.
Participants	Approximately 36 participants attended the workshop.

Title	10.M. - Workshop: <b>Behaviour change and knowledge translation: The unlocked potential to improve people's health</b>
Date and place	Saturday 23 Nov 13:40-15:10, Room Marseilleveyre
Organizers	EUPHA section on Chronic diseases (CHR), WHO Europe - Division of Information, Evidence, Research and Innovation; and the International Behavioural Trials Network (IBTN)
Aims	The aim of this workshop was to broaden our understanding of measures that have originated from behavioural sciences and have a lot to offer to public health. This workshop sought to contribute to capacity building in knowledge translation (KT) and evidence-informed decision-making in public health. It also sought to provide public health and healthcare professionals with both theory regarding effective KT skills and best practice examples enhancing knowledge translation.
Participants	Approximately 58 participants attended the workshop.

## CONFERENCES

Title	International conference on chronic diseases & 6 <sup>th</sup> SAVEZ conference <b>“Chronic Diseases and Integrated Care: Rethinking Health and Welfare Systems”</b>
Date and place	24 - 25 October 2019, Kosice, Slovakia
Organizers	EUPHA section on Chronic diseases (EUPHA_CHR); PJ Safarik University Kosice (UPJS), Faculty of Medicine; Slovak Public Health Association (SAVEZ); Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic (MoH SR); WHO country office in Slovakia (WHO SR); & SCIROCCO Exchange consortium. Collaborating partners: national public health associations of V4 countries - Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia & Poland.
Aims	The EUPHA section on chronic diseases in collaboration with the local partners have co-organized a satellite EUPHA conference. The main aim of the conference was to provide a multi-stakeholder platform bringing together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and interest groups to explore ways to tackle chronic non-communicable diseases effectively in the European region. The conference participants discussed the current health challenges in European regions and shared experience related to sustainable healthcare systems in Europe.
Participants	The conference was attended by 150 participants from 26 countries.
Web-site	<a href="https://conference2019.mc3.sk/">https://conference2019.mc3.sk/</a>

### 3. Representation on behalf of the EUPHA / CHR

In 2019 Dr Iveta Nagyova, president of the EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases was the formal representation of EUPHA / EUPHA\_CHR at the following events:

#### **4rd V4 Conference on Public Health, 25-26 April 2019, Debrecen, Hungary**

The V4 countries - Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Poland - have common history, common challenges, common public health problems and we have to find common solutions together. Prof Roza Adany, president of the Hungarian Public Health Association, was the main organiser of the 4<sup>th</sup> V4 Public Health Conference in Debrecen in collaboration with national public health associations of V4 countries. Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, EUPHA Executive Director and Prof. Martin McKee EUPHA, Immediate Past President, joined the conference as well discussing the current public health challenges. Dr. Iveta Nagyova in her speech “Knowledge to Action? Evidence-Informed Public Health” shared her vision on knowledge translation challenges in V4 countries.

Read more | <https://konferencia.unideb.hu/en/4thV4PHC>

#### **CHRODIS PLUS General Assembly; 14-15 May 2019, Budapest, Hungary**

Dr Iveta Nagyova was invited to have Closing words on behalf of the EUPHA at the CHRODIS PLUS General Assembly meeting. CHRODIS PLUS is a high level response by the EU to support member states by stepping up together and sharing best practices to alleviate the burden of chronic diseases. This three-year initiative (2017-2020) under the third health programme (2014-2020) is funded by the European Commission and the participating partner organisations. In CHRODIS PLUS, 42 partners, representing 21 European countries, collaborate to implement pilot projects and generate practical lessons in the field of chronic diseases. Read more | <http://chrodis.eu/event/budapest-general-assembly/> & <http://chrodis.eu/event/budapest-conference/>

#### **Consensus Conference for Establishing a European Level Migration Health Database, 7-8 October, 2019, Pecs, Hungary**

The main aim of the conference was to discuss the possibilities of improving the collection of and access to information on the health status of refugees and migrants. The event was co-organized by the WHO collaborating Center for Migration Health Training and Research, University of Pecs, and Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Dr. Nagyova’s keynote lecture dealt with “Tackling chronic diseases in migrants and refugees: Bridging the evidence policy gap”. Apart from I. Nagyova also Alan Krasnik and Maria Luisa Vázquez from the EUPHA section on Migrant and Ethnic Minority Health represented EUPHA at the conference.

Read more | <https://www.mighealth-unipecs.hu/news>

#### **XX SEMPSPH Preventive Medicine and Public Health Congress; 16-18 October, Madrid, Spain**

The Spanish Society of Preventive Medicine, Public Health, and Hygiene (SEMPSPH) is a professional association for physicians specializing in Preventive Medicine, nursing professionals and other related professionals. Dr Iveta Nagyova was invited to give a speech at the XX SEMPSPH conference entitled “Chronic Disease Prevention Strategies and Innovations in Europe”.

Read more | <http://www.sempsph2019.com/28265/section/16160/xx-congreso-nacional-y-ix-internacional-sempsph-2019.html>

#### **First Efficient Health Promotion Conference 29-30 November 2019, Budapest, Hungary**

The two-day event hosting a professional symposium and an NGO expo gave the opportunity to the leaders of medical and health sciences universities to discuss possibilities to harmonize education and research focusing on prevention. The possibilities were presented from the perspective of the government, the population and health care in the plenary sessions and workshops. The conference

was attended by over 300 participants. Dr Iveta Nagyova gave a speech on “Innovative and targeted approaches to disease prevention in Europe”.

Read more | <http://semmelweis.hu/english/2019/12/first-efficient-health-promotion-conference-held-at-semmelweis-university/>

#### 4. Advocacy | Statements | Strategic policy documents

##### Health and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), WHO Europe

The EUPHA\_CHR via its president has joined the WHO Advisory Group on Health and SDGs. The mission of the Advisory group is to contribute to the development of a guide to resources to implement health-related SDGs. The Advisory group meeting took place on 18-19 June 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

#### 5. Projects

Operational grant / EPHW

In 2019 EUPHA\_CHR have been involved in preparation of the European Public Health Week (#EUPHW), which was one of the activities within the EUPHA’s EU funded Operational Grant. Within the EUPHW we specifically contributed to the activities of Day 3 #Care4Care.

Read more | [https://eupha.org/European Public Health WEEK 2019](https://eupha.org/European_Public_Health_WEEK_2019)

#### 6. Collaboration

EUPHA\_CHR’s strategy is to promote collaboration and strategic partnerships with stakeholders in the field of chronic diseases. With regard to **EUPHA sections**, in 2019 we co-organized a workshops in collaboration with the EUPHA section on Food and nutrition. To our main strategic non-EUPHA collaborating partners belongs the **WHO/Europe**, especially its two divisions: **Division on Noncommunicable Diseases and Life Course**; so far we organized together 5 workshops at the European Public Health Conferences (2011, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2017); and the **Division of Information, Evidence, Research and Innovation** (so far 3 joint workshops were organized: 2017 and 2018, 2019). A new experience has been a collaboration with the **IBTN – International Behavioural Trials Network** on a workshop dealing with **behaviour change and knowledge translation**. Another group of collaborating partners include the **Scottish Government** and **consortium of a EU-funded project SCIROCCO Exchange**.

EUPHA\_CHR has a special focus on future public health professionals via its collaboration with **EUPHANxt**, which 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. In 2019 EUPHA\_CHR contributed together with the EUPHANxt to the **Abstract Mentor Programme**, which provides an opportunity for young and/or less experienced abstract submitters to receive feedback from experts before submitting their abstract for EPH conference.

#### 7. Communication

##### 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 EUPHA\_CHR publications such as texts from the EUPHA

conference proceedings and short reports from the European Journal of Public Health. For section web page please visit: <http://www.eupha.org/chronic-diseases>

#### **EUPHA mailman system**

The EUPHA\_CHR 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 EUPHA\_CHR has no Twitter account established yet, but the section's president Dr I. Nagyova (@IvetaNagyova) share topical information on chronic diseases via her account.

### **8. Administrative updates**

Following the completion of the mandate by the EUPHA\_CHR president Dr Iveta Nagyova the EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases announced the start of the election procedure for new section president on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 with detailed description of requirements as well as future responsibilities (deadline 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019). The section president's tasks include supervising the section's affairs, reviews existing activities, monitoring scientific and policy developments in the field and contributing to EUPHA advocacy, education, and research activities. During the JTN meeting at the 12<sup>th</sup> EPH conference in Marseille the candidate for presidency - Prof. Julian Mamo, Head of Department of Public Health, University of Malta and Mater Dei Hospital, Malta - was officially elected as new section president for the period of next 3 years. The new vice-president became Prof. Saverio Stranges from Western University Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, London, Ontario, Canada.

20 December 2019

#### **EUPHA Section on Chronic Diseases**

Dr Iveta Nagyova, former section president

Prof Julian Mamo, new president

Prof Saverio Stranges, new vice-president