

# Minutes – 2019 Join the Network Meeting: EUPHA section on Chronic Diseases (EUPHA\_CHR)

## AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Activity report 2019
3. Reflections on the 2019 conference
4. Co/organisation of regional or thematic conferences on NCDs
5. Administrative update and elections of section president
6. Suggestions for collaborations, work groups
7. Suggestions for workshops for 2020 EPH conference
8. Any other business



## Minutes

### 1. Welcome

Dr Iveta Nagyova, section president, welcomed all present at the “Join the Network” (JTN) meeting of the EUPHA section on Chronic disease (EUPHA\_CHR). The meeting took place on Friday, 22 November 2019, 12:30-13:30, Room: Endoume and 11 persons were present. The meeting participants were public health professionals, researchers and representatives of patient organisations coming from Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Turkey, Canada, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

### 2. Activity report 2019

At the beginning of the meeting the president gave a short presentation delineating the mission of the section, its roles and activities with a special focus on 2019 activities as compared with plans.

A short summary of 2019 main activities: the section (co)organized 3 workshops in collaboration with EUPHA section on Food & Nutrition; the WHO/Europe; IBTN-International Behavioural Trials Network; and the SCIROCCO Exchange consortium. The section president officially represented EUPHA at 5 strategic European meetings in the field of chronic diseases or public health. The section was also co-organizing the International conference on Chronic Diseases held on 24 - 25 October 2019, Kosice, Slovakia.

For more information see the section's 2019 Annual report | <https://eupha.org/chronic-diseases>

### 3. Reflections on the 2019 conference

The main section’s activities during the 12<sup>th</sup> EPH conference in Marseille involved (co)organisation of 3 workshops. All workshops were well attended, with around 35-80 participants present at all the workshops. The discussions during the workshops were very vivid and we received a lot of following positive feedback.

In addition, the section members contributed to the EPH conference Abstract Mentor Programme with providing feedback to young and/or less experienced abstract submitters before submitting their abstracts for EPH conference. Also, several section members served as chairs for oral or poster sessions during the conference within the track “Chronic Diseases”.

#### 4. Co/organisation of regional or thematic conferences on NCDs

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; with main aim 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>

#### 5. Administrative update and elections of section president

Following the completion of the mandate by the current 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. 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 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 3 years (for short CV please see Appendix 1). During the JTN meeting the need for new vice-presidents were announced as well. Prof. Saverio Stranges from Western University Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, London, Ontario, Canada expressed his interest to take over this position. In next weeks the call for section's Steering Committee will be launched too.

#### Ad points 6-9

In the second half of the JTN meeting a very fruitful discussion among participants was going on with suggestions for future activities and workshops for the 2020 EPH conference. With regard to specific topics these included:

- i) multimorbidities with special emphasis on patient-centered care, primary care, studies on multimorbidity methodologies, surveillance system for multimorbidity;
- ii) commercial determinants of health and impact on chronic diseases – with reasoning that industry is an expert how to change people's behaviour; social mastery, environmental factors;
- iii) health equity, solidarity;
- iv) carbon footprint of the healthcare sector; caring for diabetes has big footprint on environment, looking for more services, chronic disease patients are never 'satisfied' with healthcare;
- v) climate change and NCDs;
- vi) ageism - stigmatizing issues, disability burden, quality of life;
- vii) tackling diversity, we need global perspectives;
- viii) sustainability aspects, SDGs;

- ix) digital health in prevention and management of chronic diseases;
- x) knowledge translation with concrete example how to deal with policy makers and practitioners

The JTN meeting participants exchanged their e-mail addresses for further communication and organisation of joint activities.

20 December 2019

Dr Iveta Nagyova, former section president  
Prof Julian Mamo, new president  
Prof Saverio Stranges, new vice-president

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## **Attachment 01**

### **SHORT BIOGRAPHY**



#### **Prof. Julian Mamo**

M.D.,M.Sc.,Ph.D.,M.F.P.H.(UK)

Julian Mamo entered Public Health after his MD studies in 1984. He worked at the Nutrition Department within the Ministry of Health, Malta before studying for a Masters of Science degree in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London. After heading the Health Information Unit from 1988 to 1990 with the Health Ministry, he moved on to the International Institute on Ageing (UN Malta). Between 1990 and 1998 as Deputy Director of this institute he worked closely with the WHO programme on Ageing and was engaged as consultant on epidemiology and ageing missions in the near and Far East. In 2004, he concluded his research PhD on Ageing and Health with King's College London and was subsequently more involved with the Department of Public Health, University of Malta, where he continues to work as Head of Department since 2006. He coordinates a Masters in Public Health at the University of Malta Medical School since 2006. Over recent years, he has conducted several expert evaluations for a number of EU agencies. Between 2008 and 2010, he was president of the Malta Association of Public Health, during which Malta won the bid and hosted the 5th European Public Health conference.

Prof. Mamo was chairman of the local organising committee and also head of the international scientific committee of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) for this conference, which was held in 2012. He has conducted editorial work for the Malta Medical Journal and the Italian Journal of Public Health, and has been on the scientific committee of EUPHA since 2006.

Prof. Julian Mamo continues to coordinate research projects as well as undergraduate and post graduate studies in research methods and public health within the Department of public Health, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery. He teaches epidemiology and has more recently joined the health research group of the Islands and Small States Institute (ISSI) at the University of Malta.