



Infectious Diseases at the 9<sup>th</sup> European Public Health Conference

# Report 2016 of the Presidency of the EUPHA section Infectious Disease Control

November 11, 2016  
Vienna, Austria

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## EUPHA-Infectious Disease Control

The section Infectious Disease Control (IDC) of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) offers a unique platform for research, policy and practice, bringing together people from various domains of expertise in order to frame the public health relevance. Currently, EUPHA-IDC has 1031 members throughout Europe.

## Goals

We attempt to build up a strong organization with as many as possible members who are actively involved. We work together with other EUPHA sections and European organizations such as the European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO)-Euro, in organizing joint workshops/pre-conferences during the annual European Public Health Conference. We aim to widen knowledge to a larger public health audience by regular publications in international medical journals. We want to strengthen the communication within our organisation through LinkedIn and by sending newsletters regularly. The EUPHA-IDC web page will be updated periodically.

## EUPHA-IDC core group in 2016

The members of the core group are Michael Edelstein (Sweden), Jeanette de Boer (The Netherlands), Karlijn Kampman (The Netherlands), Caroline Rumble (United Kingdom), Anja Schreijer (The Netherlands), Günter Pfaff (Germany, vice-president), Valentina di Gregori (Italy), Maria Ganczak (Poland), Erik Ruland (The Netherlands), Elisabeth Aichinger (Germany) and Aura Timen (The Netherlands, president). The core group maintained contact through conference calls to discuss proposals for the scientific programme of the European Public Health Conference 2016 in Vienna and the evaluation of the EPH 2015 in Milan.

## The European Public Health Conference 2016, Vienna

The European Public Health Conference 2016 will be held on 9-12 November in Vienna, Austria. The theme of the conference is All for Health-Health for All. There is a full track on infectious diseases. EUPHA-IDC has organized/participates in the following seminars and workshops:

- *Tackling antimicrobial resistance: case studies and ethical reflection*
- *All for e-health and e-health for all: how to develop digital innovations for public health*
- *Knowledge translation in public health: moving from evidence to policy and practice*
- *Ageing and health*
- *Communicable diseases preparedness and surveillance*

The conference is organized in collaboration with other organizations such as the ECDC and the EUPHA sections Chronic Diseases, Mental Health and Public Health Ethics.

Before the official start of the European Public Health Conference, EUPHA-IDC has organized a pre-conference in collaboration with the ECDC on *Core competences for strengthened public health system preparedness*, including a workshop *How can institutional preparedness for public health emergencies contribute to health for all?* In the pre-conference, we will actively engage colleagues from EUPHANxt and colleagues from the EUPHA Practice Pillar.

## Participation in international activities on behalf of EUPHA

### ECDC-ASEF workshop in risk communication

Günter Pfaff, vice-president EUPHA-IDC, represented EUPHA in the joint ECDC and ASEF workshop entitled: *How can we be better prepared for the next global health threat? Planning and implementing emergency risk communication*, September 7-8, 2016, Stockholm, Sweden.

### 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Responsible Use of Antibiotics in Animals

Aura Timen represented EUPHA at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Responsible Use of Antibiotics in Animals, September 26-28, 2016, The Hague, the Netherlands. In her presentation *The stakeholders' view on antibiotic use and resistance*, she emphasized that during the yearly European Public Health Conference, antimicrobial resistance has been approached from various angles of expertise such as communicable disease control, health promotion, environmental health, public health ethics and health economics. During the past years, we addressed dilemmas in the human veterinary interface repeatedly and pointed out to the large differences in antibiotic use, both in humans and animals in the European countries. Efforts to further reduce veterinary use of antibiotics face the challenge of identifying the optimal mix of instruments to meet the final aim of an economically profitable animal production chain with a prudent use of antimicrobials. Furthermore, we need to have a better understanding of the relationship between man and the whole environment when it comes to controlling antimicrobial resistance. Yet importantly, the scientific community, which EUPHA is a part of, needs to keep engaging in systematic communication efforts with the political environment to provide the evidence for science based policy decisions with positive consequences for public health as a whole. During Aura Timens presentation there was a vivid discussion about the need to further reduce antibiotic use in both animals and humans. Prudent use is the cornerstone of each approach to reduce the public health impact of antibiotic resistance.

### Advisory Forum ECDC

In September 2013, Aura Timen became a member of the advisory forum of the ECDC on behalf of the EUPHA and thus participated in all meetings of the AF.

## Webpage EUPHA-IDC

<http://www.eupha.org/infectious-diseases-control>

## Secretariat EUPHA-IDC

Contact us at: [secretariat\\_EUPHAIDC@rivm.nl](mailto:secretariat_EUPHAIDC@rivm.nl)

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Aura Timen, Karlijn Kampman and Klazien Groeneveld on behalf of the core group.

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