

PRESS INVITATION

5th of December 2016

The European Liver Patients Association (ELPA) is pleased to invite you to the international press conference:

Serious Gaps in Viral Hepatitis Policies in Europe:

Presentation of the 27-country Hep-CORE 2016 study results

Tuesday, 20th of December 2016, 11:00 am

Location: Kaiserin Friedrich-Haus
Robert-Koch-Platz 7
10115 Berlin / Germany

2016 has been an incredibly important year for viral hepatitis. Milestones for global strategies were set through WHO. This couples with the advent of new, direct acting treatments for hepatitis C which improve outcomes massively to over a 90% likelihood of cure.

Nonetheless, in the WHO European Region, conservative numbers still estimate that 15 million people are living with chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and that more than 13 million people are infected with chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV). An estimated 171,000 people die each year from viral hepatitis-related causes in this region – and there are major failings in national policy and strategies to effectively combat viral hepatitis.

Therefore, the ELPA conducted the first-ever pan-European patient-led analysis of gaps and opportunities for improvement in viral hepatitis B and C policies. 27 member patient organizations from 25 European and 2 Mediterranean Basin countries reported on the key indicators for national and subnational hepatitis policy: awareness, prevention, testing and linkage to care, disease monitoring, and treatment.

The final report and results provide the building blocks to identify gaps and successes of specific countries, improve decision-making based on priorities and patient advocacy, and mobilize effective follow-up action in the European context.

The European Liver Patients Association will present the results of this study to member patient organizations and to the media on the occasion of the ELPA Annual Policy Meeting in Berlin, Germany, on the 20th of December 2016.

We look forward to welcoming you to this press conference. Kindly RSVP to this invitation via e-mail (elpa@ipse.de) or using the attached fax form.

ELPA is able to offer compensation for travel costs. Please let us know if you require this financial assistance.

AGENDA – Tuesday, 20th of December 2016

- 11:00 am **Welcome**
Tatjana Reic, President, European Liver Patients Association
- 11:05 am **The Hep-CORE report – methodology and results**
*Prof. Jeffrey V. Lazarus, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen,
principal investigator of the research team conducting the study*
- 11:35 am **WHO Action Plan - Strategies to eliminate viral hepatitis in Europe**
*Dr. Sandra Dudareva-Vizule, Department for Infectious Diseases Epidemiology, Robert
Koch-Institute, Berlin*
- 11:50 am **Prevalence of HCV and burden of disease – epidemiological and scientific point of
view – impact on clinical practice**
*Prof. Massimo G. Colombo, MD Professor of Gastroenterology, University of Milan,
Italy and Chairman of EASL International Liver Foundation*
- 12:15 am **Expectations on politics to meet the hepatitis challenges**
*Achim Kautz, Managing director Leberhilfe Projekt gUG and member of the World
Health Organization (WHO) strategy group planning committee*
- 12:30 pm **Question period**
- 1:00 pm Refreshments and time for individual questions and networking
-

About ELPA

The European Liver Patients' Association, established in 2005, is an umbrella organization that works to promote the interests of people with liver diseases. ELPA currently has 35 member groups from 27 countries. ELPA and its members are dedicated to multi-level institutional initiatives involving European Union, EASL, WHO, OECD, other international and national organizations as well as policymakers, liver specialist associations and public health experts. (For more info please visit: www.elpa-info.org)

ELPA member patient organizations forming part of the Hep-CORE 2016 study representing:

Austria	Germany	Serbia
Belgium	Greece	Slovakia
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Hungary	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Israel	Spain
Croatia	Italy	Sweden
Denmark	Macedonia	Turkey
Egypt	Netherlands	Ukraine
Finland	Poland	United Kingdom
France	Portugal	
	Romania	

Fax reply, +49 30 288846-46

**Serious Gaps in Viral Hepatitis Policies in Europe:
Presentation of the 27-country Hep-CORE 2016 study results**

**Tuesday, 20th of December 2016
11 am**

**Kaiserin Friedrich-Haus
Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin / Germany**

I will attend the press conference.

I am interested in compensation for travel costs. Please contact me via e-mail or telephone (see below).

None of our editorial staff members can attend the conference. Please provide me with the press kit.

Last name, first name:
(Block letters please)

Medium:

Address:

Telephone/Fax:

E-mail:

Contact

Daniel Postulka | ipse Communication GmbH | Albrechtstraße 14 B | 10117 Berlin
Tel: +49 30 288846-0 | Fax: +49 30 288846-46 | E-Mail: elpa@ipse.de | www.ipse.de