



NEWSLETTER

July/August 2013

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Editorial

We welcome back our readers with a double issue that covers two months of activities. In Luxembourg we continued to



prepare the Malta Conference, in close consultation with the European Working Group of People. We also updated our map of dementia plans in Europe and celebrated the award of Dr. Dianne Gove's PhD. We were pleased to be selected for the European Medicines Agency's (EMA) PCWP Working Party but also saddened to hear of the passing of Sten-Sture Lidén, a valued friend of Alzheimer Europe.

In Brussels, our European Alzheimer's Alliance gained Slovenian MEP Mojca Kleva Kekuš while existing member Angelika Werthmann hosted an interesting conference on neurodegenerative diseases. European Health Ministers held their first meeting under the new Lithuanian Presidency and Croatia became the 28th member of the EU with 12 representatives in the European Parliament.

Meanwhile, the Portuguese government has received a text for a national dementia plan and the Netherlands adopted a new dementia standard. Malta named our colleague Charles Scerri to focus efforts on launching a Maltese plan by the end of the year. Both Ireland and Scotland have launched new research initiatives and Wales began a programme to support people with dementia. Naturally, our member associations are fully involved and we wish them every success.

Many of our members are preparing for World Alzheimer's Day on 21 September, but also

found time for other activities. Alison Cook joined the UK Alzheimer's Society as the new Director of External Affairs and the Alzheimer Society of Ireland started a campaign for dementia friendly communities. Finland's Muistiliitto is actively pursuing new legislation for self-determination and Alzheimer Nederland will be involved in five JPND research projects. The Norwegian Health Association attended a week-long lobbying event while Federazione Alzheimer Italia participated in a government meeting on bioethical issues in Alzheimer's disease.

On the scientific front, we've covered many highlights from the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston. For instance, the ADNI initiative will share the genome sequences of 800 people with Alzheimer's disease and a new Phase 3 trial of pioglitazone to delay the onset of MCI. Lilly also announced a Phase 3 trial of solanezumab, as a continuation of two previous trials. A new clinical trial simulation tool has been approved by the EMA and the agency is also issuing new draft guidelines for ALS treatment. Finally, a new study shows that dementia rates seem to have dropped in three European countries.

This issue also covers new publications, including a new WHO mental health report and an EU report on legal incapacity. The UK Alzheimer's Society has published a dementia guide for doctors and a new book explores activity planning in care homes.

We look forward to seeing you all in Malta, where we're expecting more than 400 delegates. The final conference programme is now online and lists all 170+ oral and poster presentations.

Jean Georges
Executive Director

Alzheimer Europe

17-18 June: Dianne Gove attends UN Human Rights symposium

On 17-18 June, Dianne Gove, Information Officer for Alzheimer Europe, attended the regional symposium in Brussels on Preventing Abuse and Neglect of Older Persons in Europe, which was organised by the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner and the European Commission Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

Issues such as human rights in ageing societies, abuse and neglect in care institutions as well as in informal and community-based care settings and human rights advocacy were discussed. Barbro Westerholm, Member of the Swedish Parliament, highlighted the persistence of ageism and emphasised the need to avoid considering older people as a burden. Francesca Colombo, Senior Health Policy Analyst, OECD, described the need for measures to monitor the quality of long-term care, which achieve the right balance between factors relating to clinical quality and those relating to quality of life. In relation to the development of policies, she emphasised the need to strike the right balance between care processes which are standardised and those which are tailored to care recipients' needs.

The conference ended with a lively debate about the advantages and disadvantages linked to a potential new instrument (i.e. a convention) on older people's rights. There were mixed opinions as to whether a new instrument would be helpful or whether existing instruments should be better used.

8 July: EWGPWD Executive Board meets in Brussels



On 8-9 July, the Executive of the European Working Group of People with Dementia (EWGPWD) held a meeting in Brussels.

The Executive consists of Chairperson Helga Rohra and the three Vice Chairpersons: Nina Baláčková, Jean-Pierre Frognet and Agnes Houston. The meeting was also attended by carers Kveta Provinska and Marie-Anne Schreder, as well as Jean Georges, Executive Director of Alzheimer Europe.

The main purpose of the meeting was to prepare the group's participation in Alzheimer Europe's 23rd Annual Conference in October 2013. All of the EWGPWD members will attend the conference, where they will have a dedicated stand to welcome visitors and provide information about their activities. Nina will be a keynote speaker during the third Plenary Session and the group will also hold a special session to present their experiences during the first year of operation of the EWGPWD.

The Executive also discussed how to improve communication between the members and looked ahead to activities of the group in 2014. The next meeting of the EWGPWD will take place in Malta on 9 October.

16 July: Charles Scerri is named as Malta's National Focal Point on dementia



Dr. Charles Scerri, General Secretary of the Malta Dementia Society and Honorary Secretary of Alzheimer Europe, has been appointed by the Maltese government as the National Focal Point to develop a national dementia strategy by the end of 2013.

The appointment was announced on 16 July by Parliamentary Secretary Franco Mercieca. He noted that there are some 5,200 Maltese people currently living with dementia and this will increase to 14,000 people in the next 25 years.

Dr. Scerri will lead the task of updating the 2010 draft dementia strategy and presenting the update by the end of the year. At that time, the update will be presented for public consultation with the key stakeholders - including people with dementia and their relatives.

Dr. Charles Scerri is a lecturer in Neuropathology and Neuropharmacology at the University of Malta. He has been the General Secretary of the Malta Dementia Society since its inception in September 2004. In 2008, he was elected to the Alzheimer Europe Board as a member and in 2012 as the Honorary Secretary of the organisation.

17 July: Dianne Gove earns PhD in Dementia Studies



We are pleased to announce that Dianne Gove, Information Officer at Alzheimer Europe, was awarded a PhD in Dementia Studies from the University of Bradford on 17 July 2013. Dr. Gove's thesis is entitled "GPs, stigma and the timely diagnosis of dementia".

Dianne would like to thank Jean Georges and the Board of Alzheimer Europe for having supported this study, as well as her supervisors: Prof Murna Downs and Prof Neil Small from the University of Bradford and Prof Myrra Vernooij-Dassen from Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, as well as Prof Rob Newell, formerly from the University of Bradford.

26 July: Alzheimer Europe joins EMA's PCWP working group

On 26 July, Alzheimer Europe was accepted as a member of the European Medicines Agency's PCWP - the Working Party with Patients' and Consumers' Organisations - for the period 2013-2016.

This follows an evaluation of several candidates, which found that Alzheimer Europe "fulfils the criteria to participate in the activities of the EMA and is considered to be in the position to actively contribute to the operation of the working party."

The PCWP provides recommendations to the European Medicines Agency and its human scientific committees on all matters of interest to patients in relation to medicinal products. The working party is composed of representatives from patients' and consumers' organisations that fulfil the eligibility criteria, as well as the Agency's human scientific committees and the Agency

secretariat. Additional information on the PCWP can be found on the EMA website.

www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Other/2010/02/WC500073497.pdf

1 August: AE updates map of dementia plans in Europe

We are pleased to provide an update of our map of national dementia plans in Europe (see below). There are currently 12 active dementia plans and several more are on the way.

According to reports from our member associations, Ireland will very likely be the next country to launch a dementia strategy, with Malta and Switzerland close behind. Last year, Austria committed to establishing a strategy by 2017 while this year has seen significant progress in Portugal and Slovenia.

We are always keen to report on new developments - please continue to let us know what is happening in your country.

www.alzheimer-europe.org/EN/Policy-in-Practice2/National-Dementia-Plans

23 August: Final Conference programme is online

The final programme for the 23rd Alzheimer Europe Conference is now online.

We are pleased to present an interesting variety of over 110 oral presentations from dementia experts from 23 countries. In addition, some 60 researchers and academics will share their findings by presenting a poster at this year's conference.

Over 400 people have already registered for this event, which will take place on 10-12 October 2013 in Malta. Online registration will remain open until 29 September.



www.alzheimer-europe.org/EN/Conferences/St-Julian-s-Malta-2013/Detailed-programme-and-abstracts

31 August: Sten-Sture Lidén, former national secretary of Demensförbundet

We were saddened to learn that Sten-Sture Lidén, former national secretary of Sweden's Demensförbundet, has passed away at age 76 after suffering a stroke.

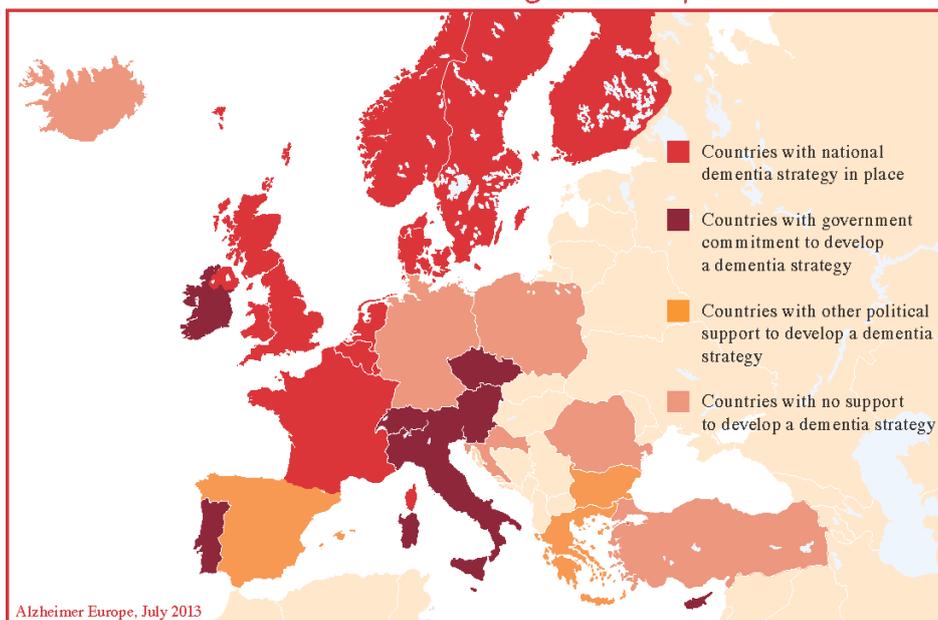
Sten-Sture represented Demensförbundet in a number of Annual General Meetings of Alzheimer Europe and was an active participant in AE's first Lawnet project that brought together legal experts from many AE member organisations.

He was also the founder of the Uppsala dementia association and was very active at the "Kalmar" meetings of representatives of the various Nordic Alzheimer associations.

In the photo, Sten-Sure (right) is together with Pär Rahmström, also from Demensförbundet, at our Luxembourg conference in 2010.



The status of national dementia strategies in Europe



European Alzheimer's Alliance

9 July: MEP Werthmann hosts panel discussion on the challenges of neurodegenerative diseases



On 9 July, Angelika Werthmann, MEP (Austria) and European Alzheimer's Alliance member, organised a panel discussion in the European Parliament to discuss "The challenges of Neurodegenerative Diseases (NDD) in the Workplace". The aim of the meeting was to highlight the challenges faced by people affected by NDDs while still employed and to propose recommendations for future actions.

The challenges were discussed by Annette Dumas, EU Policy Advisor, Alzheimer Europe, Heather Clarke, European Political Affairs Officer, European Parkinson's Disease Association and Shana Pezaro, a person with MS representing the European Multiple Sclerosis Platform. All concurred that diagnosis was made far too late, when the symptoms are acute.

Despite some interesting but rare initiatives to help people with NDDs remain at work for as long as possible, people suffering from these three neurodegenerative diseases face common challenges on the workplace: stigma and discrimination, the necessity to give up work and lack of adequate support.

The speakers made clear recommendations for future action in the field of early diagnosis, raising awareness, social legislation, mapping of the needs of the persons as well as their involvement in the identification and the planning of services and policies.

Philippe Cupers, Head of Sector Neurosciences, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission, agreed

with the three speakers that brain diseases are costly (EUR 800 billion in Europe in 2010) and that the ageing of the population is another major EU challenge. He then listed the EU commitments in research on NDDs: Horizon 2020 (the current EU research programme), the Joint Programming of Neurodegenerative Diseases (JPND) and the European Month of the Brain.

Mr Cupers also mentioned the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-Being - a DG Health initiative launched in 2008 - and the Joint Action on Mental Health that started in 2013. One component of this Joint Action is to support employees affected by a disease.

Ms Werthmann closed the meeting by emphasizing the role and responsibility of politicians in taking appropriate actions. She also pledged to table a Written Declaration on the challenges of NDDs in the workplace by early autumn 2013.

25 July: MEP Mojca Kleva Kekuš joins the EAA



The European Alzheimer's Alliance is pleased to welcome Mojca Kleva Kekuš, MEP (Slovenia). Ms Kleva Kekuš belongs to the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D).

She sits on the Committee on Regional Development and is part of the Delegation to the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly. In addition, she is a substitute for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality.

Ms Kleva Kekuš joined the Alliance on 25 July, bringing EAA membership up to 71 MEPs from 23 countries.

Alzheimer Europe Networking

On 9 July, members of the European Working Group of People with Dementia, Annette and Jean participated in a breakfast debate meeting hosted by Angelika Werthmann, MEP (Austria) on neurodegenerative diseases in the workplace (Brussels, Belgium).

On 9-10 July, Jean attended the Executive of the European Working Group of People with Dementia (Brussels, Belgium).

On 13-18 July, Jean attended the Alzheimer's Association International Conference (Boston, USA).

On 14-15 July, Jean met with Marc Wortmann from ADI for an exchange of information on the activities of the two organisations. He also met with Diane Stephenson from the Coalition against Major Diseases (CAMD) for an exchange and attended a round table discussion organised by the CEO Initiative against Alzheimer's (Boston, USA).

On 16-17 July, Jean met with representatives of Piramal Imaging to discuss 2013 sponsorship opportunities and attended a meeting of Lancet Neurology to discuss the publication of a policy paper on Alzheimer's disease (Boston, USA).

On 8 August, Jean met with a representative of the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers for a negotiation meeting for Alzheimer Europe's 2014 operating and conference grants (Luxembourg, Luxembourg).

Members of the European Alzheimer's Alliance



Currently, the total number of MEPs in the Alliance stands at 71, representing 23 Member States of the European Union and all seven political groups in the European Parliament. Alzheimer Europe would like to thank the following MEPs for their continued support of the European Alzheimer's Alliance:

Austria: Becker K. Heinz (EPP), Werthmann Angelika (NI). **Belgium:** Demesmaeker Mark (Greens/EFA), Ries Frédérique (ALDE), Staes Bart (Greens/EFA), Tarabella Marc (S&D). **Bulgaria:** Parvanova Antonyia (ALDE). **Cyprus:** Triantaphyllides Kyriacos (GUE-NGL). **Czech Republic:** Cabrnock Milan (ECR), Kohlíček Jaromír (GUE/NGL), Roithova Zuzana (EPP). **Denmark:** Christensen Ole (S&D), Rohde Jens (ALDE), Schaldemose Christel (S&D). **Finland:** Jaakonsaari Liisa (S&D), Jääteennmäki Anneli (ALDE), Pietikäinen Sirpa (EPP). **France:** Audy Jean-Pierre (EPP), De Veyrac Christine (EPP), Griesbeck Nathalie (ALDE), Grossetête Françoise (EPP), Juvin Philippe (EPP), Morin-Chartier Elisabeth (EPP), Pargneaux Gilles (S&D). **Germany:** Niebler Angelika (EPP), Roth-Behrendt Dagmar (S&D), Ulmer Thomas (EPP), Weisgerber Anja (EPP). **Greece:** Chountis Nikolaos (GUE-NGL), Koppa Maria Eleni (S&D), Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou Rodi (EPP). **Ireland:** Aylward Liam (ALDE), Childers Nessa (S&D), Crowley Brian (ALDE), McGuinness Mairead (EPP), Mitchell Gay (EPP). **Italy:** Panzeri Pier Antonio (S&D), Toia Patrizia (S&D). **Lithuania:** Blinkevičiute Vilija (S&D). **Luxembourg:** Engel Frank (EPP), Lulling Astrid (EPP). **Malta:** Cuschieri Joseph (S&D). **Netherlands:** De Lange Esther (EPP), van Nistelrooij Lambert (EPP), Wortmann-Kool Corien (EPP). **Poland:** Łukacijewska Elżbieta (EPP). **Portugal:** Carvalho Maria da Graça (EPP), Coelho Carlos (EPP), Matias Marisa (GUE/NGL). **Romania:** Antonescu Elena Oana (EPP), Busoi Cristian (ALDE), Sârbu Daciana Octavia (S&D), Tanasescu Claudiu Ciprian (S&D). **Slovakia:** Mikolasik Miroslav (EPP), Záborská Anna (EPP). **Slovenia:** Kleva Kekuš Mojca (S&D), Peterle Alojz (EPP). **Spain:** Badiá i Cutchet Maria (S&D), Estaràs Ferragut Rosa (EPP). **United Kingdom:** Anderson Martina (GUE-NGL), Ashworth Richard (ECR), Hall Fiona (ALDE), McAvan Linda (S&D), McCarthy Arlene (S&D), Moraes Claude (S&D), Simpson Brian (S&D), Taylor Keith (Greens/EFA), Vaughan Derek (S&D), Watson Graham (ALDE), Willmott Glenis (S&D), Yannakoudakis Marina (ECR).

EU Developments

1 July: Commission publishes guide on "Excellent Innovation for Ageing"

On 1 July, the European Commission published "Excellent Innovation for Ageing - a European guide". This guide presents the Reference Sites of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP AHA) that have engaged in innovation for active and healthy ageing in real life in various European regions, cities and communities.

32 Reference Sites from 12 Member States (Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands and the UK) have thus been rewarded for implementing innovative technological, social or organisational solutions to enhance the efficiency of health and social care systems, and foster innovation and economic growth.

Reference Sites are coalitions of regions, cities, integrated hospitals or care organisations that aim to provide concrete examples of innovative services with proven added value to citizens and care systems in EU regions. Some of them have contributed to growth and job creation in their areas and many have extended elements of their best practice from local to regional or national level.

The 32 (of 56) Reference Sites that were selected underwent an extensive self-assessment and peer review covering three criteria: innovation, scalability & replicability and outcomes of good practices. The sites have committed to share their achievements with others and transfer knowledge across Europe. They adopted several of the six actions of the EIP AHA: medication adherence, fall prevention, frailty and malnutrition, integrated care, independent living and age-friendly environments.

By showcasing Reference Sites, the EIP-AHA aims to identify, rate and award the best places to see workable innovation in practice across Europe.

The Reference Sites received their awards at a ceremony hosted by Neelie Kroes, European Commission Vice-

President for the Digital Agenda and Paola Testori Coggi, Director General of DG Health & Consumers.

<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/excellent-innovation-ageing-european-guide-reference-sites-european-innovation-partnership>
http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing

1 July: Croatian officials and MEPs take up EU posts

On 1 July 2013, Croatia became the 28th Member State of the European Union.

In the European Commission, Neven Mimica will be in charge of the Consumer Portfolio. He was approved by the European Parliament as Commissioner for Consumer Policy on 12 June and the EU Council officially appointed Mr Mimica until the end of the Commission's term of office on 31 October 2014.

Croatia also has 12 MEPs in six Committees:

Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO): Zdravka Bušić (EPP), Sandra Petrović Jakovina (S&D)

Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET): Tonino Picula (S&D), Davor Ivo Stier (EPP), Nikola Vuljanić (GUE/NGL)

Committee on Budget (BUDG): Andrej Plenković (EPP), Oleg Valjalo (S&D)

Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI): Biljana Borzan (S&D), Dubravka Šuica (EPP)

Committee on Economic Affairs (ECON): Marino Baldini (S&D), Ivana Maletić (EPP)

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL): Ruža Tomašić (ECR)

www.europarl.europa.eu/croatiancommissionerhearing/cms/home
www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/genaff/137680.pdf
www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/search.html?country=HR

1 July: Lithuania takes over the EU Presidency



On 1 July, Lithuania took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the first Baltic state to hold the post. Lithuania took over

from Ireland and will hand over to Greece on 1 January 2014.

The motto of the Presidency is "Growing Europe", focusing on the three goals of a credible, growing and open Europe. Efforts will be concentrated on further strengthening the ground for financial stability, continuing work to establish the banking union and implementing new agreed rules on economic governance.

The Presidency will work to strengthen the European economic and social model by encouraging further integration of the single market. This will include energy, the focus on the digital agenda and measures for better employment opportunities - particularly for young people.

Finally, Lithuania will promote closer integration of the EU and its Eastern Partners, the continuation of the enlargement policy, free trade with strategic partners and effective management of the EU external borders.

www.eu2013.lrs.lt

2 July: EFPIA releases Code on the disclosure transfers of value to healthcare professionals and organisations

On 2 July, the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) presented its Code on the "disclosure of transfers of value to healthcare professionals (HCP) and healthcare organisations (HCO)".

This Code reflects EFPIA's commitment to introduce greater transparency in the industry's interactions with HCPs and HCOs.

Collaborations and partnerships between HCPs and industry are subject to stringent legislation and require that all parties respect high ethical standards. EFPIA's code will enhance transparency around these relationships and ensure that the industry's work with HCPs and HCOs is well understood by the public and healthcare stakeholders.

The Code was adopted by the EFPIA Statutory General Assembly of 24 June and requires implementation in national codes by 31 December 2013.

The code requires all members of EFPIA to disclose transfers of value to HCP's and HCO's as of 2016 regarding all transfers in 2015. The Code also requires each member company to document and disclose on their websites, or on common websites: 1) the names of healthcare professionals and associations that have received payments or other transfers of value, and 2) the amounts or value transferred, and the type of relationship, such as consultancy fees, payment for travel or congress fees.

www.efpia.eu/mediaroom/109/43/Pharmaceutical-Companies-to-Disclose-All-Financial-Relations-with-Healthcare-Professionals
<http://transparency.efpia.eu/the-efpia-code-2>

2 July: MEPs vote in support of a European Foundation Statute

On 2 July, Members of the European Parliament voted by a large majority in support of a resolution for a European Foundation Statute, which would make it easier for foundations to support citizens' initiatives across Europe. The proposed Statute will need to be adopted unanimously by the Council.

In a statement following the vote, Evelyn Regner, Vice-Chair of the Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament (JURI) and Rapporteur on the Statute, welcomed the strong show of support by the European Parliament and called on the Council to quickly move the file forward: "It would be very welcome if an agreement could be reached during the current legislature," she stressed.

Foundations are increasingly seeking to engage in transnational European initiatives, but their efforts are hampered by a European legal and operating environment that does not afford them the advantages of the Single Market. Many European initiatives are delayed or abandoned due to a number of barriers, including high legal and administration costs, difficulties with the recognition of foreign legal personalities, and legal uncertainties over the recognition of the "public interest" nature of resident foundations' cross-border work and public-benefit status. A European Foundation Statute is widely recognised as the best policy option to overcome these hurdles.

[www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2012/0022\(APP\)&l=en#basicinformation](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2012/0022(APP)&l=en#basicinformation)



www.alzheimer-europe.org/Donation

4 July: EP adopts resolution on access to care for vulnerable groups

On 4 July, the European Parliament adopted the report of MEP Jean Lambert (UK, Green/EFA) on "The Impact of the crisis on access to care for vulnerable groups".

With access to healthcare and other social support services threatened by budget cuts, the report uncovers important findings and proposes measures to improve the access to care, support services and healthcare of the most vulnerable people in society.

The vote sends a message to the European Commission and EU governments on the need to ensure that austerity measures do not undermine EU values and prevent the most vulnerable citizens, such as undocumented migrants, children from poor families and the homeless, from being able to access healthcare, care services and basic living support.

The report reveals that the crisis measures put in place by EU governments are leading to a disproportionately negative affect on vulnerable groups. As an example, cuts in disability benefit are affecting disabled peoples' ability to live independently, while the long-term unemployed face increasing difficulty in gaining access to healthcare and other social support systems.

The report calls on the Commission and EU governments to carry out social impact assessments to ensure policies do not run counter to the EU's Anti-Poverty Strategy and close the gaps in existing schemes to ensure their affordability, availability and quality. The report also calls for any financial aid to another EU member state to include a social protection and care dimension. The accompanying policies should be evaluated to ensure they

do not worsen conditions for groups already seen as vulnerable.

It also calls on the European Commission to propose a Directive on carers' leave. With cutbacks leading to increased care costs and many vulnerable people forced to make difficult decisions on whether to cut back or even cancel the care services they receive, the Commission and Member States should explicitly recognise the work of informal carers and provide tailored measures for both voluntary and paid carers, such as on work-life balance, better coordination between informal and formal care providers as well as social security policies and training.

Finally, the report calls on the Council to adopt long overdue legislation on anti-discrimination. While EU law already outlaws employment discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, age, disability or religion, there is currently nothing in place to prevent people from being discriminated against in their access to healthcare, education or housing.

[www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2013/2044\(INI\)&l=en](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2013/2044(INI)&l=en)

www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2013-0328+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN

8-9 July: Ministers hold Informal Health Council meeting

On 8-9 July, the first Informal European Union Council of Health Ministers of the Lithuanian Presidency of the European Union took place. The Ministers discussed the future of EU health systems, with a focus on the sustainability of the healthcare systems. The shifting demographic situation, economic hardships and the assimilation of new technologies are changes that jeopardise this sustainability.

At the meeting, Health Commissioner Tonio Borg told the Ministers that the Commission was ready to support the EU member states in preparation to deal with the challenges ahead.

Fabio Pammolli, Professor of Economics and Management at IMT, stressed that sustainable healthcare was closely linked to sustainability of public finances. The question is how a shrinking and aging population can satisfy the increasing demand for financing healthcare.

Josep Figueras, Director of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and head of the WHO European Centre on Health Policy, presented a three step proposal to ensure that a healthcare system was truly sustainable: concentration on value based coverage, structural delivery reform and strengthening good governance.

The Member States recognised that although the statistics of EU healthcare systems are good and improving, every state had to understand the importance of issues ahead and work together in order to meet the challenges.

www.sam.lt/go.php/eng/EU_Ministers_of_Health_sustainability__t/3986
www.eu2013.lt/en/news/pressreleases/eu-health-ministers-are-meeting-in-lithuania-to-tackle-key-healthcare-challenges

9 July: IMI launches 9th call for proposals

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) has launched its 9th Call for proposals on the following topics:

1. WEBAE: Leveraging emerging technologies for pharmacovigilance.
2. Developing innovative therapeutic interventions against physical frailty and sarcopenia (ITI-PF&S) as a prototype geriatric indication.
3. Driving re-investment in R&D and responsible use of antibiotics.
4. Clinical development of antibacterial agents for Gram-negative antibiotic resistant pathogens.

IMI encourages small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), patients' organisations, regulatory authorities, academic teams, industry, hospitals and other organisations to form consortia and apply for participation in the new IMI projects.



The deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest is 9 October 2013. More information is available on the IMI website.

www.imi.europa.eu/content/9th-call-2013

11 July: Commission updates Public Health website

On 11 July, the European Commission updated the content on Health Reporting Systems at national level in its Public Health website.

In August, there was also an update of population indicators and old-age-dependency ratio (ECHI 1) with 2012 data and some EU28 aggregates.

http://ec.europa.eu/health/reports/national/systems/index_en.htm
http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/echi/list/index_en.htm#id1

17 July: Commission issues call to support active ageing strategies

The European Commission has published a call to support the development of comprehensive active ageing strategies.

The aim is to provide financial support for national public authorities that are willing to engage in the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies for active ageing.

Support will be provided in various policy areas as well as different levels of governance and relevant stakeholders to enhance their capacity to take concrete actions for tackling the challenges posed by ageing populations.

The deadline for this call is 30 September 2013.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=629&langId=en&callId=384&furtherCalls=yes>

1 August: Asbestos is not a root cause of Alzheimer's disease

A recent petition to the European Commission sought recognition that exposure to asbestos is a cause of Alzheimer's disease. It also called for corresponding provisions in terms of welfare benefits and healthcare.

In its response, the Commission pointed out that Alzheimer's disease is not scientifically recognised as a form of occupational ill health linked to exposure to

asbestos at work. For this reason, it is not included in the EU's Recommendation 670/2003/EC.

www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=COMPARL&reference=PE-514.951&format=PDF&language=EN&secondRef=02

6 August: The eHealthMonitor project - a decision support system for dementia treatment

The eHealthMonitor (eHM) project is a three year FP7 effort that began in December 2012.

The project will provide a service-oriented platform used in the process of generating a Personal eHealth Knowledge Space (PeKS) as an aggregation of all knowledge sources relevant for the provision of individualized personal eHealth services. The aim is to significantly increase the individualisation of personal eHealth services and thereby the quality and acceptance of electronic healthcare services for prevention, treatment, care and decision support.

One of the project teams will focus on dementia, providing a PeKS specifically for dementia patients, caregivers and medical professionals on the basis of a web-based platform. Within this PeKS, end users will have access to disease- and situation-specific information from numerous sources.

PeKS also provides interactive monitoring, which will enhance medical decision support and treatment quality by connecting patients, their caregivers and medical professionals.

The eHealthMonitor project is funded by the European Commission within the 7th Framework Programme. More information is available on the project website.

www.ehealthmonitor.eu

22 August: JPND recommends funding for 11 new projects



The EU Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) has recommended funding for 11 new international research projects under two JPND Transnational calls.

These projects aim to increase understanding of the factors that put people at risk of developing neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, but also to evaluate health and social care strategies for people living with these debilitating illnesses.

JPND is the largest global research initiative aimed at tackling the challenge of neurodegenerative diseases. JPND aims to increase coordinated investment between participating countries in research aimed at finding causes, developing cures, and identifying appropriate ways to care for those with neurodegenerative diseases. The ultimate goal of JPND is to find cures for neurodegenerative diseases and to enable early diagnosis for early-targeted treatments.

The project proposals have been proposed for funding by the respective Peer Review Panels based on scientific evaluation and by the respective Call Steering Committees based on budget availability. They are grouped in two categories: Healthcare Evaluation and Risk Evaluation.

Healthcare Evaluation

ACTIFCare: ACces to Timely Formal Care (Maastricht University, Netherlands)

ALS-CarE: A Programme for ALS Care in Europe (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)

CLaSP: Care for Late Stage Parkinsonism (University College London, UK)

MEETINGDEM: Adaptive Implementation and Validation of the positively evaluated Meeting Centers Support Programme for people with dementia and their carers in Europe (VU University Medical Center Amsterdam, Netherlands)

RHAPSODY: Research to Assess Policies and Strategies for Dementia in the Young (Technical University Munich, Germany)

VD_ALS_EU: Strategies and interventions for vital decisions in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis in different European countries (University of Ulm, Germany)

Risk Evaluation

APGeM: Pre-clinical genotype-phenotype predictors of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia (Akershus University Hospital and University of Oslo, Norway)

COURAGE-PD: COmprehensive Unbiased Risk factor Assessment for Genetics and Environment in Parkinson's Disease (University of Tübingen, Germany)

PERADES: Defining Genetic, Polygenic and Environmental Risk for Alzheimer's Disease using multiple powerful cohorts, focussed Epigenetics and Stem cell metabolomics (Cardiff University, UK)

RiMod-FTD: Risk and Modifying factors in Fronto Temporal Dementia (German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases in Tübingen)

STRENGTH: Survival, Trigger and Risk, Epigenetic, eNvironmental and Genetic Targets for motor neuron Health (King's College London, UK)

www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/2012-joint-transnational-calls/closed-calls/risk-factors-2012/call-results
www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/2012-joint-transnational-calls/closed-calls/healthcare-evaluation-2012/call-results



www.alzheimer-europe.org/Donation

Policy Watch

18 July: The Netherlands release a national dementia standard

The first National Standard on Dementia was released in the Netherlands on 18 July. This is the first such integral standard and it includes welfare, care, cure and housing standards which meet the wishes of patients and their families. It encompasses all professional guidelines, best practices and evidence based interventions.

This project was led by Alzheimer Nederland and involved 28 branch organisations and associations of professionals in dementia care. In 2013, the standard will be used to procure integrated care in 85 dementia care networks. Case management for people with dementia is a crucial part of the national standard.

19 August: UK will host a G8 dementia summit

The UK will use its presidency of the G8 to hold a global summit on dementia. Prime Minister David Cameron and Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt have invited health ministers from the member countries to attend the summit in London on 11 December.

Mr Hunt said: "This is a global challenge and one which is set to intensify. While we continue to pursue tomorrow's cures, it is critical now more than ever to pay serious attention to what we can do to reduce the average number of years living with the condition. The G8 today have a unique chance to come together to help people manage dementia better, lead healthier lives and deliver real improvements in care and substantial economic savings."

23 August: Draft National Dementia Plan is submitted to the Portuguese government



The structure of Portugal's National Dementia Plan has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval.

The submission follows a May 2013 meeting, where a group of dementia experts persuaded the government that existing dementia prevalence figures are sufficiently accurate to allow the next phase of the plan to proceed right away. The group put forward a prevalence figure of 160,000 people with dementia in Portugal, which negated the need for a dedicated epidemiological study - an expensive and lengthy process.

The group included psychiatrists, neurologists, general practitioners, researchers, members of the municipalities and representatives of Alzheimer Portugal. Their work was coordinated by Prof Joel Menard, an architect of the original French Alzheimer Plan.

The next phase of the national plan is a study to determine the needs of people with dementia. This study is already prepared and can begin very quickly. It will begin in the north of Portugal and will return results within six to nine months. According to Álvaro de Carvalho, the Coordinator of the National Mental Health Programme, the rest of the country will follow in turn.

Alzheimer Portugal was represented by Fátima Brito, Vice Chairperson and Celso Pontes, Coordinator of the Scientific Committee. The association is very pleased that its role as an active stakeholder has been acknowledged and praised by the participants of this working group.

28 August: Scotland launches Dementia Research Consortium



Angiolina Foster, Scotland's Director of Health and Social Care Integration launched the country's first Dementia Research Consortium

(SDRC) on 28 August in Edinburgh. The launch marks a completely new collaborative approach to dementia research in Scotland, one that recognises expertise and work from all disciplines.

The SDRC includes some 165 members who are engaged in all aspects of dementia research: science and technology; clinical, health and applied practice; psychology and humanities; social and population. They will work to represent Scotland's dementia research interests at a national, UK, European and worldwide level. Administrative support is provided by Alzheimer Scotland.

The consortium is co-chaired by Prof Emma Reynish, Chair of Dementia Research at the University of Stirling and Dr. Peter Connelly, Co-Director of the Scottish Dementia Clinical Research Network and Hon Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry at the University of Dundee.

Henry Simmons, Chief Executive of Alzheimer Scotland, said: "We are delighted that the Scottish dementia research community has decided to collaborate in this way. It is vital that we develop a better understanding of dementia, not only so we can work towards improved treatments and ultimately a cure, but also so we can better support people living with the illness now. People with dementia and their carers will also have a voice within the Consortium, helping to shape the dementia research agenda in Scotland."

Members' News

20 June: Gabriella Salvini Porro attends national meeting on AD bioethics



On 20 June, Gabriella Salvini Porro, President of Federazione Alzheimer Italia (FAI), attended a meeting of Italy's National Bioethics Committee of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. The aim of the meeting was to hear an update from a working group that is investigating bioethical issues in Alzheimer's disease.



Ms Porro, who was also a co-founder of FAI, is recognised as an expert on dementia issues. During the meeting, she provided feedback to the members of the working group and also answered questions about various aspects of living with dementia.

3 July: Ireland focuses on health of family carers



On 3 July, the Alzheimer Society of Ireland and the Irish Health Research Board (HRB) announced a plan to co-fund a new large scale research project on family carers and dementia in Ireland.

The project will focus on the health of those caring for people with dementia and will receive a total of EUR 300,000 over three years. The research team will recruit 300 spousal dementia caregivers aged over 60 and will be led by Prof Brian Lawlor, Professor of Old Age Psychiatry at Trinity College Dublin.

Grainne McGettrick, Policy & Research Manager of the Society, said that this research will provide, for the

first time in Ireland, information on the determinants of the health of carers of people with dementia. She added: "Irish dementia care policy has a massive reliance on the family carer as the main provider of dementia care. By gaining an understanding of the carers' health determinants this research will inform policy into the future that can point to the development of targeted interventions in order to improve carers' health and make care in the community a viable option."

9 July: Flemish cyclists with dementia scale the Mont Ventoux

On 9 July, the Flemish Alzheimer Association co-organised a cycling event on the Mont Ventoux mountain, on the same route taken by the 2013 Tour de France racers a few days later. Four people with early onset dementia were among the group that achieved the climb to the 1,911 metre summit in Provence.



The main organiser was Te Gek!? ("Too Crazy?!"), a project unit of the psychiatric hospital Sint-Annendaal Diest. The event was also realised in cooperation with The Flemish Centre of Expertise on Dementia. The cyclists with dementia were joined by Te Gek?! employees, a psychiatrist and several Flemish celebrities.

The aim of the event was to break the stigma associated with early onset dementia and to show that people with dementia are still capable of living a normal and active life. The afflicted cyclists were highly motivated, but did encounter some barriers due to the limitations of the disease. However, this did not stop any of them from participating in this mini Tour de France and the ascension of Mont Ventoux will certainly erase any remaining doubts about their abilities.



12 July: Alzheimer's Society welcomes new Director of External Affairs

On 12 July, Alison Cook joined the UK Alzheimer's Society as the new Director of External Affairs.



Prior to joining the Society, Alison was a director at leading consultancy MHP Health Mandate, successfully supporting businesses, universities, charities and membership organisations with research and strategy policy and communications advice. Previous to that role, Alison was

Director of External Affairs at the Royal College of Surgeons, and Head of Policy Communications at the Department of Health.

Commenting on her new role Alison said: "It has taken a huge amount of effort from Alzheimer's



Society, and others, to put dementia at the top of the political agenda; not only for people with the condition but for our society and the economy. I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to work with the team to make sure that we continue to capitalise on the political and public spotlight as much as we can. I look forward to playing my part in making sure that the Society is demanding and facilitating new research and better services on behalf all those who rely on us."

Alison replaces Andrew Chidgey, who left his position in May after over ten years at the Society to take up a Chief Executive role at a leading HIV and aids charity in Hong Kong.

15 July: Dementia Dogs are put to work in Scotland



Oscar the Golden Retriever and Kaska the Labrador have become the first assistance dogs in the UK to help people with dementia. The dogs have been highly trained to help offer practical assistance and help to reduce social isolation and anxiety levels, some of the major problems experienced by couples where one partner has dementia.

They are part of the Dementia Dog project, a partnership between Alzheimer Scotland, the Glasgow School of Art, Dogs for the Disabled and Guide Dogs Scotland.

Oscar and Kaska can help people to wake up, fetch medicines when an alarm goes off and take items from



one person to another. They also provide a reason for regular walks, which can help maintain social skills and awareness of community activities. The carers find that they are spending less time giving reassurance to their partner because the dog gives a calming new focus for the person with dementia.

Joyce Gray, Deputy Director of Development at Alzheimer Scotland, said: "Dementia Dog has had a truly wonderful impact on the families involved and Alzheimer Scotland is delighted to have been part of this ground-breaking project. It has also been a great example of partnership working. Supporting people with dementia and their families to live well with the illness requires innovative and imaginative approaches and the Dementia Dog team have brought all this and more to the project."

<http://dementiadog.org>
<http://vimeo.com/50140686>

17 July: Wales to launch nationwide community project for people with dementia

The UK Alzheimer's Society has been awarded over EUR 835,000 from the Big Lottery Fund for project to support people living with dementia in Wales.

The award will fund the society's "Life not just a service" project, which aims to enable people with dementia and their carers to feel more supported and enjoy a full and active life.

The project will be delivered through a programme of weekly community courses that include art, drama, patchwork quilting, family history, and photography. Courses will run for ten weeks and will be offered in many locations across Wales. People with dementia will be involved in all aspects of the programme, which will run for three years.

Sue Phelps, Director of Alzheimer's Society in Wales said: "We are delighted to have been awarded this grant. We know that people with dementia report feeling lonely and isolated, and this project aims to address that.

"We want to make individuals feel more valued as part of family, community and civic life and hope that by doing so, people living with dementia in Wales can be supported to become more independent, feel less isolated and have a better quality of life.

"The local, community focus of the project will enable us to reach people living in more isolated, rural areas and in harder to reach communities."

8 August: Norwegian Health Association lobbies for better dementia care



The Norwegian Health Association recently made its first appearance at "Arendalsuka", an annual forum for informal meetings between politicians, organisations, business and the media in Norway. The forum lasts for an entire week, allowing national delegates in politics, society and industry to meet each other and the public and to debate and develop policies for the present and the future. A particular goal of the forum is to bring organisations and individuals into direct contact with key national politicians and business leaders.

The Association's presence included an information stand that received numerous visitors - including people with dementia - and provided information about their work and about living with dementia. Members of the Association also lobbied politicians from all the Norwegian parties on day care, more funding for research and quality in nursing homes. They also had the opportunity to network with representatives of 80+ organisations that were present at the forum.

The Association was very pleased with the results of its participation and is already planning for a larger presence at next year's Arendalsuka. Anne Kjersti Toft, Political Advisor, is happy to answer queries about the Association's lobbying work. She can be reached at anne.toft@nasjonalforeningen.no

13 August: The Alzheimer Society of Ireland embarks on Dementia Friendly Communities Initiative

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland has embarked on the development of a new Dementia Friendly Communities initiative. This initiative is focussed on improving the inclusion and quality of life of people with dementia and their families.

Dementia Friendly Communities demonstrate a high level of public awareness and understanding so that people

with dementia and their families are supported to live well and remain active in their community. They are inclusive of people with dementia, and improve their ability to have choice and control over their lives.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is supporting and building the capacity of eight communities across the country to get involved. It is providing these communities with an award of up to EUR 25,000 over the next three years.

The awards are being used to support organisations, local communities, groups and neighbourhoods to play their part in making their local community more "dementia-friendly" and will develop new and inspiring initiatives which promote genuine inclusion for people with dementia in their community.

A national steering group has also been established to guide the direction of the work. Also as part of the support provided to the communities involved, the Society will be developing a Dementia Friendly Communities toolkit that will be comprised of information about the initiative including a guide to example of other dementia friendly activities, awareness raising material and useful checklists.

The Project Leader for this initiative is Avril Easton, who can be reached at avril.easton@alzheimer.ie

22 August: Alzheimer Nederland will co-finance five JPND research projects



Alzheimer Nederland is one of the contributors of the 2012 JPND call for research into neurodegenerative diseases. The JPND (EU Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research) has selected 11 projects from 11 international consortia for funding of up to EUR 25 million.

Five of these consortia include Dutch research institutes and two projects are led by Dutch researchers. Alzheimer Nederland is contributing to the research projects of all five consortia. These are called ACTIFCare, MEETINGDEM, RHAPSODY, PERADES and RiMod-FTD.

More information about these projects can be found on the JPND website and also in the related article on page 8 of this newsletter.

www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu

30 August: Finland gears up for Memory Week and World Alzheimer's Day



This year, the Alzheimer Society of Finland and its member associations are celebrating 25 years of advocacy for people with memory ailments. In 2013, their motto is to TAKE CARE! of each other and everyone around us, including people with dementia.

During the upcoming World Alzheimer's Day and Memory Week, all the members will be involved in festivities, actions and events that will hopefully garner media coverage and increase awareness all over Finland. The Society will be emphasising the need for security,

autonomy and self-determination for all people with memory ailments.

Meanwhile, the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is developing new legislation to reinforce the rights of patients for self-determination. The Society is keenly involved in this process, as it will lead to Finland's first law to regulate restrictions of freedom for people with dementia. It is expected that the law will be enacted by November 2014.

www.muistiliitto.fi/en
www.stm.fi/en

Science Watch

7 July: FDA approves rivastigmine patch for severe AD

On 7 July, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Novartis' application to expand the use of its rivastigmine transdermal film to treat symptoms of severe Alzheimer's disease.

The rivastigmine patch releases a steady stream of medicine into the bloodstream over a 24-hour period. It was originally approved in 2007 for the treatment of mild and moderate forms of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

www.pharma.us.novartis.com/newsroom/pressreleases/137182.shtml

10 July: New AD trial simulation tool is approved by EMA and FDA

A new simulation tool for improving trial design in Alzheimer's disease has received positive opinions from both the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The Clinical Trial Simulation Tool applies computerised models to simulate "what-if" scenarios for clinical trials. It is intended as an open resource for companies designing clinical trials for Alzheimer's disease.

The tool was developed by the Critical Path Institute (C-Path), an American non-profit organisation based in Arizona. C-Path is part of a larger consortium called CAMD - the Coalition Against Major Diseases. This coalition includes pharmaceutical companies, academic institutions, government agencies and patient groups.

The simulated trials of the new tool are based on data from Alzheimer's disease patients who have participated in previous trials. These data were provided by pharmaceutical companies on an anonymous basis.

Dr. Martha Brumfield, President and CEO of C-Path, said: "The regulatory decisions on this tool exemplify how C-Path's efforts result in alignment between global regulatory agencies when based on consensus science and supporting data; an alignment that can result in greater efficiency in drug development. This could not have been accomplished by any one entity working in isolation."

Jean Georges, Executive Director of Alzheimer Europe, attended the EMA review meeting when the simulation tool was presented by representatives of C-Path and the CAMD on 3 June 2013.

<http://c-path.org/AD-clinical-trial-simulation-tool.cfm>

www.ema.europa.eu/ema/doc_index.jsp?curl=pages/includes/document/document_detail.jsp?webContentId=WC500146179&url=menus/document_library/document_library.jsp&mid=0b01ac058009a3dc



www.alzheimer-europe.org/Donation

12 July: Lilly will conduct a new Phase 3 trial of solanezumab

Lilly will conduct a new Phase 3 trial of solanezumab on people with mild Alzheimer's disease who appeared to respond to treatment in two previous trials.

The previous trials took place in 2012 with people displaying mild to moderate AD symptoms, but neither trial met its primary endpoints. However, a combined analysis showed that the drug slowed cognitive decline by 34% in people who started out with only mild symptoms.

The new trial is called Expedition 3 and will involve up to 2,100 people with mild symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. They will be pre-screened with an imaging agent to ensure the presence of brain plaque. Solanezumab is designed to block the activity of the beta amyloid protein that forms the plaques. Recruitment will begin in September 2013 and the trial will last for 18 months.

<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01900665?term=solanezumab&rank=1>

12 July: Global project collects genome sequences of 800 people with AD

The Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI) has collected the entire genome sequences of more than 800 people with Alzheimer's disease. This data - estimated at 200 terabytes or 200,000 gigabytes - will be made available to researchers worldwide.

ADNI enrolls people with Alzheimer's disease, mild cognitive impairment, and normal cognition who have agreed to be studied in great detail over time. The goal is to identify and understand markers of the disease in body fluids, structural changes in the brain, and measures of memory.

The genome sequencing data will be available through the Global Alzheimer's Association Interactive Network (GAAIN), a planned massive network of Alzheimer's disease research data made available by the world's foremost Alzheimer's researchers from their own laboratories.

GAAIN is an international database framework already in use by thousands of scientists and local computational facilities in North America and Europe. The network makes research data available free-of-charge for searching, downloading, and processing across a cloud-based, grid-network infrastructure accessible anywhere through Internet access.

Dr. Maria Carrillo, a Vice President of the American Alzheimer's Association, said: "The Alzheimer's Association is committed to creating open access to research data, and we believe GAAIN will transform how neuroscience data is shared and accessed by scientists throughout the world."

"By fostering a higher level of global data sharing, GAAIN will accelerate investigation and discovery in Alzheimer's through a system comparable to a search engine like Google or Bing for relevant data."

This presentation was made at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

15 July: Fronto-temporal dementia causes loss of emotion memory

A study by researchers at Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) showed that fronto-temporal dementia (FTD) causes the loss of emotions from people's memories. FTD affects the frontal and temporal lobes of the brain and people with the condition often have difficulties with understanding and expressing emotion.

The research team discovered that the brain's orbitofrontal cortex region plays a key role in linking emotion and memories. Their research group consisted of 34 people with FTD, 10 with Alzheimer's disease and 15 healthy controls subjects. They were shown images that prompt an emotional reaction in healthy people and then tested on their memories of the images.

The healthy controls and people with Alzheimer's disease remembered more emotional than neutral images, showing the interaction between emotion and memory for true recognition. This emotional enhancement effect was notably absent in the FTD patients.

The study's lead author was Associate Professor Olivier Piguet, a clinical neuropsychologist at NeuRA. He said: "Up until now, we knew that emotional memories were supported by the amygdala, a brain region also involved with emotion regulation. This study is the first to demonstrate the involvement of the orbitofrontal cortex in this process. This is an important development in how we understand the relations between emotions and memory and the disturbance of the emotional system in this type of dementia."

<http://brain.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/07/08/brain.awt185>

16 July: Diabetes drug could reduce the risk of developing dementia

A recent study found that the drug metformin could cut the risk of developing dementia by 20%. This drug is in common use to treat type 2 diabetes.

The study was conducted by scientists at Kaiser Permanente, a non-profit medical group based in California. They examined the records of nearly 15,000 people aged over 55 with type 2 diabetes who took metformin over five years. The results showed that these people had 20% less risk of developing dementia in old age.

Clinical trials are now underway to investigate the use of metformin as a therapy for both dementia and mild cognitive impairment.

These results were presented at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

17 July: CHF5074 improves cognition in people with MCI

A trial of a neuroinflammatory inhibitor called CHF5074 has shown improved cognition in people with MCI.

CHF5074 is a microglial modulator, which means that it changes the behaviour of microglial cells. These cells operate in the brain and spine as the main line of immune defence. For example, they help to relieve the effects of inflammation and also protect sensitive tissues.

However, it is thought that Alzheimer's disease plaque causes microglial cells to attack healthy neurons and tissues as well. CHF5074 acts to block this destructive behaviour.

The trial conducted by Chiesi Pharmaceuticals (Italy) involved 74 people in three cohorts that took different doses of the drug over 90 weeks. An interim analysis of 27 people at week 88 showed statistically significant, dose-dependent improvements in participants' cognitive abilities. Study participants who carried one or two copies of the ApoE4 gene, which increases the risk of Alzheimer's, performed significantly better than non-carriers on two of the cognitive tests.

These results were presented at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

17 July: MK-8931 lowers beta amyloid in mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease

A Merck trial of a BACE1 inhibitor called MK-8931 found that the drug significantly lowered beta amyloid in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease.

BACE1 inhibitors work by blocking the activity of beta-secretase (BACE1), one of two enzymes that produce beta amyloid by breaking down its parent molecule - known as amyloid precursor protein (APP).

The trial was led by Prof Mark Forman, a Neuropathologist at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine. Participants received varying doses of the drug daily for seven days. Beta amyloid levels were measured in CSF obtained by lumbar puncture over 36 hours following the final dose.

Results showed a significant decrease in CSF beta amyloid in people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease in a dose-dependent fashion; at the highest dose, the average reduction from baseline was more than 80%.

These results were presented at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

17 July: A new Phase 3 clinical trial aims to delay MCI onset

A new Phase 3 trial will begin in 2013 to investigate the effects of pioglitazone, an existing diabetes drug, on cognitively normal people with genetic risk variations.

The study will take place in various sites in the US, Europe, Australia and Russia. Participants will be cognitively normal but will carry risk variations in the APOE and TOMM40 genes that are associated with an increased risk of earlier onset of Alzheimer's disease. The trial will be led

by Dr. Kathleen Welsh-Bohmer, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University Medical Center.

This trial will also apply and attempt to validate the new NIA/Alzheimer's Association diagnostic criteria for MCI due to Alzheimer's, see link below. This includes the use of a set of cognitive tests that would work effectively in all study sites around the globe.

In Europe, pioglitazone is marketed by Takeda as Actos and Glustin for the treatment of type 2 diabetes. In earlier human studies it was associated with decreased markers of brain inflammation.

This presentation was made at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

[www.alzheimersanddementia.com/article/S1552-5260\(11\)00104-X/abstract](http://www.alzheimersanddementia.com/article/S1552-5260(11)00104-X/abstract)

17 July: PET scans track the spread of tau in live AD patients

Japanese researchers have demonstrated a new way of identifying the tau protein in live people with varying degrees of Alzheimer's disease.

The research team from Japan's National Institute of Radiological Sciences carried out PET scans on people with Alzheimer's disease and healthy controls of the same age. Before the scans, they were injected in turn with [¹¹C] PBB3 - an agent that highlights the tau protein - and [¹¹C] PIB, which binds to beta amyloid.

The PET images revealed high levels of [¹¹C] PBB3 in different areas of the brain to [¹¹C] PIB. The tau-binding agent spread to large areas of the brain in those with Alzheimer's disease; the area covered and degree of concentration correlated with the severity of the disease.

These results were presented at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

18 July: Early dementia diagnosis enables better quality of life

A study from the University of Eastern Finland (UEF) shows that people with dementia can manage their daily activities for longer if diagnosis is made and treatment begun at a very early stage of the disease. These factors also decrease their risk of developing psychological and behavioural symptoms.

The study was led by Ilona Hallikainen, psychologist, and Tuomo Hänninen, neuropsychologist at UEF. They followed people with Alzheimer's disease over three years. The participants were diagnosed either at the very mild or mild phase of the disease and were treated within the standard Finnish health care system.

This study also established the suitability of "The Consortium to Establish a Registry for Alzheimer's Disease Neuropsychological Battery" (CERAD-NB) total score for monitoring Alzheimer's disease progression in early-diagnosed medicated patients.

These results were presented at the 2013 AAIC Conference in Boston.

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=8948242>

22 July: Study shows an inverse relationship between AD and cancer

A new Italian study suggests that people with Alzheimer's disease have a lower risk of cancer than other elderly adults. The study also found that older adults with cancer are less likely to develop Alzheimer's disease.

The cohort study was led by Dr. Massimo Musicco, MD, at the Italian National Institute of Biomedical Technologies in Milan. It identified a number of genes that affect both neurology and cancer growth - as well as how the two are connected - which may explain the inverse link between the diseases.

The researchers tracked new cancer and Alzheimer's diagnoses among 204,000 people age 60 and older living in northern Italy. Between 2004 and 2009, just over 21,000 of them were diagnosed with cancer and close to 3,000 with Alzheimer's disease. A further 161 people were diagnosed with both diseases.

The research team calculated that 246 cases of Alzheimer's disease would be expected in people with cancer, while 281 cases of cancer would be predicted among those with Alzheimer's disease. The lower rate means that people with cancer were 35% less likely to develop Alzheimer's disease than other adults and those with Alzheimer's disease had a 43% lower risk of cancer.

Dr. Musicco said: "Cancer may be conceptualized as a high tendency of cells to reproduce, which is so high that it is no longer controlled. Alzheimer's disease is exactly the reverse. It's a sort of incapacity of neuron cells to reproduce.

"Cancer and Alzheimer's have been viewed by researchers as completely separate. Some of the knowledge that we have on cancer can be used for a better understanding of what happens when a person has Alzheimer's disease, and vice versa."

www.neurology.org/content/early/2013/07/10/WNL.0b013e31829c5ec1.sho rt?sid=51f49113-ef17-4cbc-881d-8027409717ff

22 July: Later retirement may help prevent dementia

A new French cohort study shows that people who delay retirement are at less risk of developing dementia. "For each additional year of work, the risk of getting dementia is reduced by 3.2%," said Dr. Carole Dufouil, an epidemiologist at INSERM, France's public health research agency.

Dr. Dufouil headed the research team that examined the health records of some 430,000 workers. These people had been retired for an average of 12 years and were at average age 74.

Nearly 3% of them had developed dementia, but the risk lessened with each year of age at retirement. Someone who retired at 65 had about 15% lower risk of developing dementia compared to someone retiring at 60.

To rule out the possibility that mental decline may have led people to early retirement, the team eliminated people who developed dementia within five and ten years of retirement. The trend did not change, suggesting that

work was having an effect on cognition, rather than the other way around.

Dr. Dufouil concluded that people should work as long as they want, because it may have health benefits.

These results were presented at the 2013 AAIC conference in Boston.

26 July: Excessive iron may be a risk factor for Alzheimer's disease

A new study from UCLA suggests that iron accumulation may contribute to the formation of plaques in Alzheimer's disease.

Researchers led by Dr. George Bartzokis, Professor of Psychiatry at UCLA, compared the hippocampus and thalamus brain areas in a group of 31 people with Alzheimer's disease and 68 controls. Using MRI scans, they found that the hippocampi of people with the disease - known to suffer damage early in the disease - showed an elevated iron presence while their thalami did not. The thalamus is usually affected at a later stage of the disease.

Dr. Bartzokis attributes this to the activity of myelin, an iron-rich tissue that coats nerve fibres in the brain. When myelin is destroyed, it causes disruption in the communication between neurons and promotes the build-up of plaques. In turn, the plaques destroy more and more myelin, leading to cell death and Alzheimer's disease.

He said: "It is difficult to measure iron in tissue when the tissue is already damaged. But the MRI technology we used in this study allowed us to determine that the increase in iron is occurring together with the tissue damage. We found that the amount of iron is increased in the hippocampus and is associated with tissue damage in patients with Alzheimer's but not in the healthy older individuals - or in the thalamus. So the results suggest that iron accumulation may indeed contribute to the cause of Alzheimer's disease."

www.j-alz.com/node/308

27 July: Excess insulin blocks stem cell movement and growth

A new study shows how excess insulin prevents stem cells from becoming neurons. This may explain why there is less plasticity in brains affected by Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. Plasticity is the ability of synapses to strengthen or weaken over time in response to more or less activity.

A stem cell in the brain is an immature neuron that must migrate from its birthplace to a specific place where it will connect with other neurons and become an adult neuron itself. It is coated with a special slippery molecule (polysialic acid) that allows it to reach that destination quickly. Once there, the slippery coating is absorbed, the stem cell is locked in place and it can begin connecting to nearby cells.

One finding of this study is that a healthy cell will re-absorb the slippery molecules. However, this does not happen in Alzheimer's and Parkinson's brains. The other

finding of the study is that an oversupply of insulin stops the absorption.

The study team was led by Dr. Maurice Curtis, Senior Lecturer at Auckland's University Centre for Brain Research in New Zealand. The researchers are now testing new drug compounds that target how polysialic acid is removed from the cell, in the hope of improving neuron connectivity.

The Gus Fisher Postdoctoral Fellowship, the Auckland Medical Research Foundation and the Manchester Trust were the main sponsors of this research work.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jnc.12363/abstract>

29 July: Scientists reverse age-related memory loss in mice

An American research team has successfully reversed memory loss in mice by modulating the activity of the RbAp48 protein.

The researchers found that when they suppressed the protein in the brains of healthy young mice, they developed memory loss consistent with older age. When the suppression was turned off, their memories returned to normal. In another experiment, the researchers increased the amount of protein in the brains of old mice. In memory tests, these rodents then performed as well as young mice.

These results provide more evidence that age-related memory loss and Alzheimer's disease are two distinct conditions. In other words, a person that is experiencing memory loss does not necessarily have dementia.

The team was led by Dr. Kandel, a Neuropsychiatrist at Columbia University Medical Centre in New York. He said: "The fact that we were able to reverse age-related memory loss in mice is very encouraging. Of course, it's possible that other changes contribute to this form of memory loss. But at the very least, it shows this protein is a major factor."

<http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/5/200/200ra115.abstract?sid=1fb5ec5a-6cf1-4a78-a9b0-96cf9e421a35>

29 July: New blood test uses microRNA to identify dementia

A German-American research team has developed a blood test that may identify new AD biomarkers using microRNAs or fragments of genetic code.

The researchers analysed a panel of 12 microRNAs from blood samples of 48 people with Alzheimer's disease and 22 healthy controls and recorded the signature, or distinct level, of each microRNA fragment in the Alzheimer group.

Then they repeated the procedure with a larger and different group that included people with conditions other than Alzheimer's as well as controls. In this group, the microRNA signature identified the people with Alzheimer's but also those with other conditions.

For example, the signature was more than 95% accurate in differentiating controls from people with schizophrenia, depression and bipolar conditions. It was significantly less accurate (around 82%) in differentiating patients with mild cognitive impairment, Parkinson's disease and

multiple sclerosis. The signature differentiated between Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative disorders with an accuracy of about 75%.

This study was co-led by Dr. Eckart Meese and Dr. Andreas Keller, both from Saarland University. The other researchers are from the Universities of Berlin, Erlangen and Heidelberg, the American Scripps Research Institute and Siemens Healthcare.

<http://genomebiology.com/2013/14/7/R78/abstract>



www.alzheimer-europe.org/Donation

2 August: EMA issues draft guidelines for ALS treatment

The European Medicines Agency has released a draft guideline on the clinical investigation of medicines for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) for a six-month public consultation.

ALS, often referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Most therapeutic options for ALS target the symptoms of the disease. There are currently no medicines that slow or halt the progression of the disease.

The document focuses on the design of studies for medicines that have an impact on the course of the disease (disease-modifying treatments) as well as medicines that treat the symptoms of ALS. Guidance is provided on the choice of meaningful outcome parameters used in studies and the clinical relevance of functional tests of disability, including motor- and respiratory-function tests and their relationship to survival.

Comments should be made using the submission form and sent no later than 31 January 2014 to cnswpsecretariat@ema.europa.eu

www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Scientific_guideline/2013/07/WC500147005.pdf

2 August: Two new drugs inhibit plaque formation

Swiss researchers from the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) have demonstrated two new compounds that prevent the build-up of beta amyloid plaque.

The new compounds, which are not named, change the behaviour of the gamma secretase enzyme. This enzyme seeks out and cuts the Alzheimer Precursor Protein (APP) into smaller pieces, which then go on to become plaque. APP can be cut in several different places, producing amyloid pieces of varying lengths. Only the longer forms carry the risk of clumping into plaques. The new drugs cause gamma secretase to cut APP in a different place, producing shorter pieces which cannot form into plaques.

Gamma secretase has been a research target for many years, but trials where the enzyme activity was completely blocked returned harmful side effects.

Prof Patrick Fraering, Chair of Neuroscience at EPFL, said: "Scientists have been trying to target gamma secretase to treat Alzheimer's for over a decade. Our work suggests that next-generation molecules, by modulating rather than inhibiting the enzyme, could have few, if any, side-effects. It is tremendously encouraging."

www.nature.com/ncomms/2013/130802/ncomms3246/full/ncomms3246.html

2 August: Blood pressure fluctuations may cause cognitive decline

A new study shows that large fluctuations in blood pressure may be a risk factor for cognitive impairment.

The PROSPER (PROspective Study of Pravastatin in the Elderly at Risk) study was a collaboration between researchers in University College Cork in Ireland, the University of Glasgow in Scotland and Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC) in the Netherlands.

5,461 participants of average age 75.3 with a high risk of cardiovascular disease had their blood pressure measured every three months over 3.2 years. The participants took tests for selective attention, processing speed and immediate and delayed memory. A subset of 553 people also had MRI scans.

The researchers were led by Dr. Simon Mooijaart from LUMC. They found that large swings in systolic and diastolic pressure were linked to lower hippocampal volume and high diastolic differences were also associated with cerebral bleeding. These results suggest that variable blood pressure may disrupt the regular blood flow to the brain, leading to an eventual loss of cognitive performance.

www.bmj.com/content/347/bmj.f4600

Dementia in Society

7 July: UK Health Secretary predicts a dementia cure by 2020

UK Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt has predicted that drugs to halt or cure dementia will be available by 2020. He said this would be the "medical equivalent of the invention of the internet in terms of its significance".

According to Mr Hunt, DNA mapping will be at the forefront of the effort, as it could unlock a "treasure trove" of information that would help to fight dementia. He added that Britain plans to be the first country in the world to map the personal DNA code (genome) of up to 100,000 people.

Jeremy Hughes, chief executive of the Alzheimer's Society, said: "We need an all-out fightback from Government, industry and organisations like the Alzheimer's Society to find a cure. There are currently more trials going on into hay fever than into some of the most common forms of dementia. It's not just about drug companies developing new medications from scratch.

"Studies we're funding show that drugs which are already licensed for other conditions may also treat dementia. If these are successful we could have them doubling as treatments for dementia within 10 years."

12 July: New study identifies risk factors for early onset dementia

A recent cohort study of young Swedish men has identified nine risk factors for early onset dementia, i.e. developing dementia before the age of 65.

Researchers at Sweden's Umea University examined the records of 488,484 men of average age 18 who were conscripted into military service between 1969 and 1979. Among this group, 487 men were later diagnosed with early onset dementia at an average age of 54.

The researchers were led by Dr. Peter Nordström, Professor of Geriatrics at Umea. They looked at nine risk factors for dementia, which together accounted for 68% of the 487 diagnoses: alcohol intoxication, stroke, use of antipsychotic drugs, depression, father's dementia, drugs intoxication other than alcohol, low cognitive function at conscription, low height at conscription and high systolic blood pressure at conscription.

Alcohol intoxication in late adolescence was by far the biggest single risk factor. Men who had at least two of the risk factors and were in the lowest third of the study participants for overall cognitive function had a 20-fold increased risk of developing early onset dementia.

The researchers concluded that the risk factors were multiplicative, most were potentially modifiable and most could be traced to adolescence - suggesting excellent opportunities for early prevention.

<http://archinte.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1726998>

16 July: Dementia rate drops in Denmark, England and Wales

A new UK study has found that dementia rates among people 65 and older in England and Wales have dropped by 25% over the past two decades, from 8.3% to 6.2%.

Another study from Denmark showed that people in their 90s who took a standard test of mental ability in 2010 scored substantially better than people who had reached their 90s a decade earlier. Nearly one-quarter of those assessed in 2010 scored at the highest level, representing twice the rate of those tested in 1998. The percentage of severely impaired people fell from 22% to 17% in the same period.

These results indicate that dementia projection rates seem to be decreasing, which is contrary to some forecasts of advocacy groups and public health officials.

Both studies showed that dementia rates decreased and mental acuity improved as the population grew healthier and better educated. Dementia rates are significantly lower in people with higher education and those who control their blood pressure and cholesterol.

These findings were welcomed by many dementia experts. There is general optimism that lower dementia projections will also apply to many other countries and several researchers have already called for further studies.

[www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(13\)61570-6/abstract](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(13)61570-6/abstract)

[www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(13\)60777-1/abstract](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(13)60777-1/abstract)

23 July: Three film finalists of LUX Prize 2013 are unveiled

On 23 July, the names of the three finalists of the LUX Prize 2013 were revealed at the 10th edition of the Venice Days section of the Venice International Film Festival.

The movies *Miele*, *The Broken Circle Breakdown* and *The Selfish Giant* tackle very different themes in widely varying ways:

Miele (Valeria Golino, France & Italy)

This film gives a delicate approach to a highly sensitive issue which is challenging people all over Europe: how to alleviate the pain of others even when they take fatal decisions.

Irene helps terminally ill people to die with dignity by giving them a drug. One day she supplies a new "client" with a fatal dose, only to find out he's perfectly healthy. Irene is determined not to be responsible for his suicide. From this moment, Irene and Grimaldi are locked unwillingly in a tense and unusual relationship which will change Irene's life forever.

The Selfish Giant (Clio Barnard, UK)

This is a contemporary fable about 14-year-old Arbor and his best friend Swifty. Excluded from school and outsiders in their own community, the boys meet Kitten, a local scrapman, and begin collecting scrap metal for him using a horse and cart. Swifty has a natural gift with horses and Arbor has a business brain and a way with words – they make a good team. But when Arbor begins to emulate Kitten by becoming greedy and exploitative, tensions build, leading to a tragic event which transforms them all irrevocably.

The Broken Circle Breakdown (Felix Van Groeningen, Belgium)

The film is a love story between Elise and Didier. Their happiness is complete after their little girl Maybelle is born. Unfortunately, Maybelle, at six years old, becomes seriously ill. Didier and Elise react in very different ways. But Maybelle does not leave them any choice. Didier and Elise will have to fight for her together.

The winner of the LUX Prize will be chosen in December based on votes cast by MEPs. The prize will be officially awarded at a formal sitting of the European Parliament with the film makers in attendance.

www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20130723IPR17539/html/Three-finalists-of-LUX-Prize-2013-unveiled

New Publications & Resources

27 May: WHO publishes Mental Health Action Plan

The World Health Organisation has released its Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020.



World Health Organization

The plan sets new directions for mental health including a central role for provision of community based care and a greater emphasis on human rights. It also introduces the notion of recovery and

moving away from a pure medical model. Finally, it addresses income generation and education opportunities, housing and social services and other social determinants of mental health in order to ensure a comprehensive response to mental health.

The action plan has four major objectives:

1. strengthen effective leadership and governance for mental health,
2. provide comprehensive, integrated and responsive mental health and social care services in community-based settings,
3. implement strategies for promotion and prevention in mental health,
4. strengthen information systems, evidence and research for mental health.

The new action plan can be downloaded from the WHO website.

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA66/A66_R8-en.pdf
www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2013/world_health_report_20130815/en/index.html

18 July: EC releases social statistics pocketbook

On 18 July, the European Commission released a new publication called "European social statistics pocketbook 2013". The first edition of this pocketbook presents a comprehensive summary of social statistics available at Eurostat. It includes chapters on health & safety, population, income & living conditions, social protection and the labour market.

http://ec.europa.eu/health/reports/european/statistics/index_en.htm
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-FP-13-001/EN/KS-FP-13-001-EN.PDF

29 July: Alzheimer's Society releases a dementia guide for doctors

The UK Alzheimer's Society has published "The Dementia Guide", a new booklet to help doctors provide support to people diagnosed with dementia. It offers advice to help people come to terms with their diagnosis, plan ahead and enable them to live well with the condition.

The guide, conceived specifically for GPs and psychiatrists, includes sections on the emotional impact of a diagnosis, drug treatments, signposting to available services and support for carers.

The Dementia Guide can be ordered free of charge on the Alzheimer's Society website.

www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/documents.php?categoryID=200455

9 August: EU releases report on legal incapacity of people with disabilities

On 9 August, the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) published a report underlining how legal incapacity can prevent people with disabilities from exercising choice and control over their lives, despite the promise of current international standards.

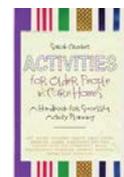
The report analyses current international and European legal standards and compares EU Member State laws in the area of legal capacity for people with intellectual disabilities and people with mental health problems.

It reveals how in many Member States legal capacity can be restricted or removed under certain conditions. It also shows that the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) leads to rapid and significant change.

The report is based on the experiences of interviewees who have had their legal capacity removed or restricted. It highlights the obstacles many people with disabilities face in securing equal enjoyment of their fundamental rights.

<http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/legal-capacity-intellectual-disabilities-mental-health-problems.pdf>

21 August: New book explores activity planning in care homes



A new book called "Activities for Older People in Care Homes: A Handbook for Successful Activity Planning" has been released. It is intended for people who are involved in activity planning for older people, including those with dementia, in care homes.

The book, written by Sarah Crockett, provides useful background information on dementia, the importance of activities and how to get to know residents through life story work. It addresses practical considerations such as how to assess a resident for suitable activities, activity planning, timetabling, budgeting and money-stretching, as well as how to enthuse residents and staff to join in and how to deal with resistance from colleagues. It also contains ideas and step-by-step instructions for activities such as arts and crafts, cooking, exercise, gardening, meditation and music.

Sarah Crockett is a day care officer in a UK care centre. She was previously a care assistant and activities coordinator at a care home in Gloucestershire. In 2008 she reached the finals of Barchester Health Care's Activity Provider of the Year Award, and in 2010 she won the National Association of Providers of Activities for Older People (NAPA) Activity Award. Her book can be obtained from Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

www.jkp.com/catalogue/book/9781849054294

Job opportunities

17 July: Dublin City University is hiring 3 Post Docs

The School of Nursing and Human Sciences at Dublin City University is offering three Post Doc research opportunities on 2/3 year contracts. All three positions will support the rollout of the new Irish dementia strategy.

- Postdoctoral researcher / Research Assistant
- Practice Development Officer
- Postdoctoral researcher in Innovative Midlife Intervention for Dementia Deterrence.

More information is available on the University's website.

www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/hr/DEMENTIA%20HUB_Postdoc_RA.pdf
www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/hr/DEMENTIA%20HUB_Practice%20Development%20Officer.pdf
www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/hr/Nursing_Clarity_Postdoc.pdf

AE Calendar 2013

Date	Meeting	AE Representative
2 September	Meeting with the conference team in Malta (Malta)	Gwladys
11 September	EMIF project meeting (Brussels, Belgium)	Alex
16-18 September	Meeting of World Health Organisation European Region (Izmir, Turkey)	Jean
19 September	EFPIA Think Tank (Brussels, Belgium)	Annette
17-20 September	Université d'été "Alzheimer, éthique et société 2013" organised by the Espace National de Réflexion Éthique sur la Maladie d'Alzheimer" (Lille, France)	Dianne
25 September	Roundtable discussion on the pharmaceutical sector organised by J&J (Brussels, Belgium)	Annette
25 September	Presentation at the Ambient Assisted Living Forum (Norrköping, Sweden)	Dianne
25-26 September	Patient and Consumer Working Party of the European Medicines (London, UK)	Jean
3-4 October	EMIF WP15 workshop (Brussels, Belgium)	Alex
4 October	Second meeting of the ethics working group on perceptions and the portrayal of dementia (Brussels, Belgium)	Dianne

Future Conferences

Date	Meeting	Place
19-20 September 2013	5th International conference: "Senior's training and non-pharmacological interventions for Alzheimer's disease", www.alzheimer.sk	Bratislava, Slovakia
21-26 September 2013	XXI World Congress of Neurology, www.oegnt.at	Vienna, Austria
30 September- 1 October	International Conference on Psychology, Autism and Alzheimer's disease, www.omicsgroup.com/conferences/psychology-autism-alzheimers-2013/index.php	San Antonio, Texas, USA
2-4 October 2013	9 th Congress of EUGMS: Improving outcomes in geriatric medicine, www.eugms2013.it	Venice, Italy
5-9 October 2013	26 th ECNP (European College of Neuropsychopharmacology), www.ecnp-congress.eu	Barcelona, Spain
10-12 October 2013	23rd Alzheimer Europe Conference: "Living well in a dementia-friendly society", www.alzheimer-europe.org/EN/Conferences	St. Julian's, Malta
17-19 October 2013	CAG2013: Aging...from Cells to Society, http://cag2013.ca/prospectus	Halifax, Canada
17-20 October 2013	8 th International Congress on Vascular Dementia – ICVD 2013, www.kenes.com/icvd	Athens, Greece
24-25 October 2013	Colloque Cesco 2013: Ensemble dans l'action: les outils en soutien aux personnes atteintes de la maladie d'Alzheimer, www.iugm.qc.ca/index.php/fr/prof/formationcontinue/colloque/289-cesco.html	Montréal, Canada
25-27 October 2013	6th International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Associated Disorders in the Middle East, www.alzheimermiddleeastconference.org	Istanbul, Turkey
14-16 November 2013	6th annual conference Clinical Trials for Alzheimer's disease CtaD 2013, www.ctad-alzheimer.com	San Diego, USA
11-14 December 2013	The 16 th Asia Pacific regional Conference of Alzheimer's disease international, www.aprc2013-hongkong-macau.com	Hong Kong & Macau, China
20-22 March 2014	58 th Annual meeting of the German society for clinical neurophysiology and functional imaging (DGKN), www.dgkn-kongress.de	Berlin, Germany
20-23 March 2014	30 th International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology of the IFCN (ICCN), www.iccn2014.de	Berlin, Germany
26-29 March 2014	13th Int. Geneva/Springfield Symposium on Advances in Alzheimer Therapy, www.ad-springfield.com	Geneva, Switzerland
8-11 May 2014	8th World Congress on Controversies in Neurology (CONy), http://www.comtecmed.com/cony/2014/	Berlin, Germany
5-9 July 2014	9 th FENS Forum of Neuroscience, http://forum.fens.org/2014	Milan, Italy
22-24 October 2014	24th Alzheimer Europe Conference "Dignity and autonomy in dementia", http://www.alzheimer-europe.org/Conferences	Glasgow, United Kingdom
23-25 October 2014	9 th International Conference on Frontotemporal Dementias, www.ubccpd.ca	Vancouver, Canada

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23rd Alzheimer Europe Conference
Living well in a dementia-
friendly society
St. Julian's, Malta, 10-12 October 2013
Mark the dates!

www.alzheimer-europe.org/conferences



The Alzheimer Europe newsletter arises from the 2013 Work Plan of Alzheimer Europe, which has received funding from the European Union in the framework of the Health Programme.