

European Diabetes Forum Launch Meeting

Executive Summary

Successful Kick-Off Meeting of newly launched European Diabetes Forum

Bringing together the entire landscape of diabetes research, clinical care and experts in Europe

On 30th September 2018, the European Diabetes Forum was launched as a multi-stakeholder platform in Berlin. On the eve of the 54th EASD Annual Scientific Meeting, more than 70 committed experts from research, politics, patient organisations, foundations, the medical profession, industry and many more assembled to outline the main objectives, current agenda and next steps of the Forum. In truly inspiring lectures and two panel debates, the who is who of European Diabetes care discussed the challenges of patient centered care and contributions of the newly established forum to the discourse with all stakeholders and experts related to diabetes treatment. The initiative representing the full diabetes landscape stands up for a sustainable and successful diabetes research and care structure in Europe.

Number of people with diabetes living in Europe is likely to cross 80 million by 2045

Professor Juleen R. Zierath, President of EASD, and Professor John J. Nolan, Executive Director of the Forum, emphasized in their opening statements that the establishment of the European Diabetes Forum is both necessary and timely. Although modern therapies are available to treat diabetes properly, many people with diabetes still suffer from a limited quality of life or even die from the consequences of preventable complications.

Hence, all speakers and the audience agreed that cross-professional cooperation and driving concrete policies are indispensable to improve overall patient outcomes and to enable healthcare systems to cure and support people with diabetes adequately. To put this vision into action it will be necessary to translate research results into appropriate policy actions towards better diabetes care at a national level. Professor Nolan calls this the overall “mission of the Forum”.

Better involvement and patient relevant outcomes

Various presentations pointed out means of patient involvement and questions of patient relevant outcomes as just two of many current challenges in European diabetes research. The European Diabetes Forum will address these and others in its longstanding work and aims to present realistic solutions on how to deal with them.

The speakers and attendees share the ambition to achieve the following overriding objectives:

- Fostering alignment on the ambition to improve outcomes by measuring and registering patient outcomes
- Continuously improving and innovating diabetes care driven by policy action at European and national level
- Enlightening the way for integrated care and sustainable financing of diabetes in the future

“Diabetes needs to receive the priority it deserves”

Among others, key task of the Forum will be to sensitise decision makers for the importance of high-quality diabetes care for both the individual patient and the cost-effectiveness of national healthcare systems. Thus, value-based data and fact-based arguments will be required to stimulate the willingness of relevant policy makers to get into action.

In his closing remarks, Professor John. J Nolan noted that the European Forum is the perfect platform for all relevant stakeholders to realise improvements in diabetes care. However, sustainable success can only be achieved if diabetes care is rethought at national level, country by country.

The Forum is a project in the making and looks forward to shape actionable plans with the broad stakeholder landscape to put unmet needs of people with diabetes into the centre of public and political attention.

Social media reactions

Bastian Hauck @tadorna · 9m
"Who cares for #HbA1c if we can increase #QoL for a #PwD?" Interesting to hear this from @SDelprato at @EUDIabetesForum #EUDF #EASD2018



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Roberta Savli @robertasavli · 1h
Inspiring speech from @tadorna at @EUDIabetesForum launch: we, #patients, want to be part of the journey, part of the struggle & therefore part of the solution #diabetes #NothingAboutUsWithoutUs #EASD2018



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Juleen R. Zierath @JuleenRZier... · 1h
Launching the @EUDIabetesForum at #EASD2018 with an inspirational talk from Bastain Hauck #NothingAboutUsWithoutUs @EASDnews



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Tore Christiansen @TBergisha... · 18m
My wish for the @EUDIabetesForum - improve the training and Education for the next generation of diabetes researchers in collaboration with life science, Academia and hospitals - which also is the main objective of @DDA_Denmark #easd2018 #diabetes



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