

Active and Healthy Ageing



Addressing the Challenges of Multi-Medication in Europe's Elderly Population

Thursday 27 April

09:00 - 16:00

Scotland House - Rond Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels

Active and Healthy Ageing:

Addressing the Challenges of Multi-Medication in Europe's Elderly Population

Across Europe, healthcare policy makers share the same challenges:

- An ageing population, with multiple long-term conditions, requiring numerous medications
- A traditional attitude to prescribing which focuses on each individual complaint rather than taking a holistic view of the patient's conditions
- 50% of patients taking 4 or more medications do not take them as prescribed and 3-6% of hospital admissions are caused by inappropriate medication use. These patients are twice as likely to have further hospital admissions

There is, therefore, an urgent need to achieve safe, sustainable, efficient approaches to the appropriate use of prescription medications.

The **SIMPATY (Stimulating Innovation Management of Polypharmacy and Adherence in The Elderly) project**, co-funded by the third EU Health Programme, brings together ten partners from across Europe to address challenges in health service provision and sustainable management of medication among the elderly. The project aims to deliver the necessary change in management approaches and tools to help manage multi-medication and adherence to prescribed drugs.

We would like to invite you to attend our final conference, where we will share the good practice identified; the components required to optimise impact and demonstrate new tools to gather evidence on the potential economic impact of improved approaches to polypharmacy. It is our hope that this conference will inspire you – as health leaders, professionals and key stakeholders – to adopt new approaches to improve outcomes for EU citizens from medicines and achieve efficiencies.

Programme

9:00 - Registration and welcome coffee

9:30 - Welcome and Introduction - Shona Robison MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Scottish Government

9:40 - Leadership in healthcare change management - Professor Marty Linsky, Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government

10:00 - SIMPATHY Project: overview of finding and key policy messages - Alpana Mair, Scottish Government

10:15 - Patients' views of polypharmacy - European Patient Forum and patient story

10:30 - Polypharmacy and patient safety: the global challenge - Dr Neelam Dhingra, WHO

10:45 - Call to action at European level on national policy - Dr Albert Alonso, International Foundation of Integrated Care (IFIC), Professor Bernard Vrijens, European Society Patient Adherence, Compliance and Persistence & Professor Przemyslaw Kardas, European Innovation Partnership, Active and Healthy Aging

11:00 - Coffee Break

11:20 - The importance of managing polypharmacy for multimorbidity in an integrated care policy context - Marianne Takki, European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety

11:35 - Interactive roundtable discussion - Moderator: Claire Dhéret, European Policy Centre

12:40 - Final Conclusions

12:50 - Lunch

13:50 - Public sector leadership workshop - Professor Marty Linsky, Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government



We would be delighted if you could join us for this event.

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