

Speaker biographies:



Lieve Wierinck (Host)

Member of European Parliament

Lieve Wierinck is a Flemish politician for the liberal Open VLD party. She holds a pharmaceutical degree from the VUB (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), and a postgraduate degree in Pharmaceutical management from the University of Hasselt.

Before joining the European Parliament, Lieve was leader of the party fraction in Zaventem, followed by her 12-year presidency of the OCMW (Public Centre for Social Welfare).

In May 2016, Lieve replaced Philippe De Backer as a Member of the European Parliament, where she is a full member of the Industry, Technology, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE) and a substitute Member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary affairs (ECON). Lieve also works on topics surrounding healthcare, as she strives for a progressive and affordable healthcare in Europe.



Ian Banks (Presenter and Panel)

Patient Advisory Committee Chair,
European CanCer Organisation (ECCO)

Ian Banks is the official spokesman on men's health issues for the British Medical Association (BMA), president of the European Men's Health Forum and former president the England & Wales Men's Health Forum. For over two decades he represented all doctors for the BMA as a member of Council for the UK. He worked on Developing Patient Partnerships (DPP, formerly Doctor Patient Partnership) for six years and is a founder board member

of the Self Care Forum (UK). In 2015, he was appointed by the European Commission to the panel of experts for the PiSCE programme on self-care.

Ian was appointed to the European Society of Medical Oncologists (ESMO) patient advocacy working group January 2015. He was co-chair of the ECCO 2017 conference, and again for the ECCO summit 2018.



Amadou Diarra (Panel)

Vice President, Global Policy, Advocacy & Government Affairs, BMS

Amadou’s organisation, Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS), works closely with key stakeholders including patient support organisations, healthcare professionals, policymakers and industry associations.

Amadou holds a Doctorate in Pharmacy, University of Tours (France), a MBA from École Supérieure de Commerce de Tours and completed the General Management Program (INSEAD).

Amadou represents BMS as Chair of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) International Section Executive Committee (ISEC) and as a Council member of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA). He is also a member of BMS’s Global Leadership Team, the Global Diversity and Inclusion Council and the

Sustainability Council.



Pascal Garel (Panel)

Chief Executive,
European Hospital and Healthcare Federation (HOPE)

HOPE gathers 36 national organisations from 30 European countries, covering around 80% of the hospital sector.

Pascal has been actively involved in mechanisms of decisions in the hospital sector – on issues including research, hospital management, quality and patient safety development – for more than 20 years, in national, European and international contexts.

Educated in political science (Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris, 1986) and European law (University of Rennes, 1992), his main professional background is healthcare management, with 12 years’ experience in France at two Teaching Hospital Centres, Nantes and Rouen. Previous posts also include director of the European and International Department of the French Hospital Federation, and responsibilities for Central and Eastern Europe at the French Ministry of Health.



Sakari Karjalainen (Presenter)

Secretary General, Cancer Society of Finland

President of the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)

Sakari Karjalainen has been the Secretary General of the Cancer Society of Finland since November 2011. He was previously Director General of the Department of Education and Science Policy of the Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland. He is a medical doctor, holds a doctorate in medical sciences (epidemiology) and is a Docent at the Tampere University.

From 2002 until 2006, he worked as the Director of the Science Policy Division of the Ministry of Education. His main research interests have been research ethics, equity in health and education and cancer epidemiology.



Lydia Makaroff (Presenter and Panel Moderator)

Director, European Cancer Patient Coalition (ECPC)

Lydia Makaroff has over ten years' international experience in non-communicable disease research and policy development in academia, the pharmaceutical industry, and the non-profit sector.

Her experience spans quantifying the impact of non-communicable diseases, monitoring national governments' commitments to health, providing tools to member organisations, writing policy papers, and working with the European institutions to advocate for change.

Lydia holds a PhD in immunology and a Master's degree in Public Health. She is a Board member of Pancreatic Cancer Europe and an Associate Researcher at the Translational Immunology laboratory at the University of Leuven.



Rosna Mortuza (Panel)

Director of Implementation, International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM)

Rosna joined ICHOM in September 2017 as Director of Implementation. She focuses on key areas including: capacity building for countries and organisations seeking to implement standard sets and benchmarking communities; supporting the implementation team to drive delivery of large-scale

programmes for global impact; and developing business opportunities to ensure ICHOM offerings are fit for purpose, in championing value-based healthcare and leveraging market/client readiness.

Prior to joining ICHOM, Rosna worked in the NHS for ten years in a range of senior leadership positions across corporate, contracting, commissioning and hospital settings.

Rosna read Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) at Oxford University and has a Master's with Distinction from Goldsmiths College, University of London.



Herb Riband (Panel)

Vice President International Policy & Government Affairs, Amgen

Herb Riband joined Amgen in 2012, based at the company's European headquarters in Zug, Switzerland. Founded in California in 1980, Amgen is a global pioneer in biotechnology and today is one of the world's leading biopharmaceutical companies.

Herb leads Amgen's International Policy & Government Affairs work, focused on regions outside of the United States. He is a member of the governing Council and Global Health Committee of Geneva-based IFPMA, the international federation that represents pharmaceutical manufacturers and associations from around the world. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the European association of biopharmaceutical enterprises, and the International Committee of EFPIA.



Dirk Van den Steen (Panel)

Policy Officer, DG SANTE, European Commission

Dirk Van den Steen is an economist working at DG SANTE on the performance of national health systems.

Prior to joining the Commission in 2009, Dirk worked at the actuarial department of the Belgian public payer organisation RIZIV/INAMI, dealing with the database architecture of hospital billing/clinical information.

He previously worked at the Belgian Healthcare Knowledge Centre (KCE) as a health economist involved with health technology assessment, and with IMS Health (now called IQVIA) as a consultant in pharmaco-economic modelling for the pharmaceutical industry. Until recently, Dirk was working at the Commission's

Competition DG, with a focus on antitrust enforcement in the domain of pharmaceuticals, devices and health services.



Suzanne Wait (Presenter and Seminar Moderator)

Managing Director, The Health Policy Partnership
Secretariat of All.Can

Suzanne Wait co-founded The Health Policy Partnership in 2015. Over the past 15 years, she has helped run many multi-stakeholder policy initiatives. The challenge of inter-sectoral and multidisciplinary working has been a focal thread across all her work, as well as the need for sustainable and patient-focused healthcare systems.

Suzanne was formerly Director of Research, and is currently an Advisor, at the International Longevity Centre-UK (ILC-UK), a registered London-based charity, and was a founding member and trustee of European Nutrition for Health Alliance, a non-profit collaboration aimed at raising awareness of malnutrition in Europe. She is a Member of the Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia Pacific (CEVHAP).

Suzanne has a Master's of Public Health from Columbia University and a PhD in Public Health from the University of Strasbourg.