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### QUOTE OF THE WEEK



"We know that most of a person's brain cell development has taken place by age three so a good start in life plays an enormous role in shaping a child's future. Although a good start can create a health chain reaction that lasts a lifetime, health can be created at any time. If we are serious about creating healthier populations, we must understand the mechanisms supporting the ability to adapt and self-manage."

Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe, said during a meeting of Health ministers on exploring the creation of a health chain reaction for life. [Read more](#)

### AGENDA WATCH

**Draft Council Conclusions on the review of the European Research Area advisory**

**structure ([Council Register](#))***October 26 2015, Brussels*

See attached the drafted Council Conclusions with a view to the discussion by the Research Working Party.

**Draft Council conclusions on research integrity - Presidency text ([Council Register](#))***October 28 2015, Brussels*

See attached the Presidency text on the Draft Council conclusions.

**Research Working Party ([Council Register](#))***October 26 2015, Brussels*

Items in the [Agenda](#) include:

1. Draft Council conclusions on Research Integrity - Continuation of examination of the Presidency text
2. Draft Council conclusions on Advancing gender equality in the European Research Area - Continuation of examination of the Presidency text
3. Draft Council conclusions on the review of the European Research Area advisory structure - Examination of the Presidency text

**ARTICLES OF INTEREST****Health ministers explore creating a health chain reaction for life ([WHO Europe](#))**

Ministers of health and representatives of the 53 Member States will join WHO experts to explore a new angle on policy-making, focusing on the developmental origins of health and disease and making a compelling case for policies that address health at the transitions in life, across ages and generations.

**Day 1 of Life-course Conference: synergies between Health 2020 and sustainable development goals ([WHO Europe](#))**

On the first day of the Conference, delegates from across the WHO European Region recognized that the importance of giving children the best start to life is scientifically based and should be reflected in policies.

**ERC awards 44 Proof of Concept grants ([EU Research Council, PDF](#))**

ERC announced the names of 44 of its grant holders who will receive top-up funding to explore commercial or innovation potential of the results of their ERC-funded research.

**Dementia—not all about Alzheimer's ([The Lancet](#))**

A three-paper Series in The Lancet summarises the most common non-Alzheimer's disorders that cause dementia.

**UK launches \$100m dementia research fund ([Pharma Times](#))**

Pharma giants including GlaxoSmithKline, Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer have teamed up with the UK government and Alzheimer's Research UK to launch the \$100-million Dementia Discovery Fund.

**Mediterranean diet linked to healthier aging brain ([Reuters](#))**

Following a Mediterranean diet rich in fruits, vegetables, legumes, whole grains, fish and healthy fats may preserve a more youthful brain in old age, a U.S. study suggests.

**OECD warns governments must step up R&D spend ([Science Business](#))**

A few powerful multinationals are performing close to 70 per cent of global private sector R&D, while public R&D budgets have fallen to their lowest level in years, according to the OECD's 2015 Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard.

### First trial to stop Alzheimer's before symptoms emerge ([BBC](#))

Most research into dementia is about finding treatments for people who are already affected by symptoms.

### Alzheimer's and dementia are second biggest killer in Australia, data shows ([The Guardian](#))

The illnesses supplanted strokes as the number two cause of death behind heart disease in 2013 while suicide remains leading cause among young people.

### How multi-sensory therapy helps people with dementia reclaim their identities ([The Guardian](#))

A new arts programme that uses birdsong and the smell of flowers is improving wellbeing for older people with dementia.

## EU FUNDED PROJECTS

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### Delving into the depths of cortical space ([European Commission](#))

How does our brain figure out where we are in relation to our surroundings? The EU-funded project SPACEBRAIN shed light on this and other questions by exploring specific neural cells in the brain.

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## FOR YOUR AGENDA

### Events of interest:

October 27, 2015, Brussels - Belgium, 'Which priorities for a European policy on multimorbidity?', DG SANTE

October 28-29 2015, Brussels - Belgium, EFPIA Health Collaboration Summit, EFPIA

December 7-10, 2015, Brussels - Belgium: 7th European Innovation Summit, DG Research

### EBC Specific Meetings

17 November - Call to action: Polish Brain Plan - an example of a comprehensive national brain strategy, Brussels - Belgium

20 November 2015 - Workshop on "European Neuroscience Strategy", Brussels, Belgium

25 November 2015 - **4th Industry Board meeting**

25 November 2015 - **EBC Board Dinner meeting**

26 November 2015 - **4th EBC Board meeting**

25 November 2015 - **3rd Roundtable on the "Cost of non-Treatment/Value of Treatment" project**

9 December - **YotB closing conference**, Brussels - Belgium

### EBC Members events:

18-21 October 2015 - **EANS European Congress of Neurosurgery 2015 (Madrid)**

12 - 15 March 2016 - EPA Psychiatry Congress 2016 (Madrid)

2-6 July 2016 - 10<sup>th</sup> FENS Forum 2016 (Copenhagen)



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