

EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER - November 2020

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EBC Activities



MEP ALLIANCE
FOR MENTAL
HEALTH

Campaigning for a European Year for Mental Health

In a meeting of the **MEP Alliance for Mental Health**, held on 10 November, representatives of mental health-related organisations and MEPs underlined the need and voiced their support for a dedicated European Year for Mental Health, to be instigated in the short term.

Background to this event, organised by GAMIAN-Europe, is the general and pressing need to ensure awareness – with policymakers, service providers, the general public – of the **importance of mental health in all its aspects**, ranging from prevention, to diagnosis, treatment, care and cure.

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EBC launches new Disease Fact Sheets

Check out our **freshly published disease fact sheets** where you'll find a quick overview of key facts, history, known causes, diagnosis, symptoms and available treatment options.

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Prof Monica Di Luca, EBC President, featured in Open Access Government

Prof **Monica Di Luca**, EBC President, sheds light on brain conditions, mental and neurological alike, starting with an overview of prevalence and burden.

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Brain Innovation Days - From Innovative Ideas to Creative Interventions

The **European Brain Council** and **beLean.net** are excited to announce the first-ever Brain Innovation Days Pitch Competition, to be held on 26 January 2021.

The digital session will also host a panel discussion with key players in the field, with a start-up focus.

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Frédéric Destrebecq, EBC Executive Director, at GOLUP Meeting

EBC Executive Director, **Frédéric Destrebecq**, spoke at the workshop on good practices for the off-label use of medicines in Sweden and Norway. The event follows the launch of the Declaration on Good Off-Label Use Practice.

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Patients in the Driver's Seat! Co-research on Patient-Driven Innovations

MULTI-ACT, a project where EBC is heavily involved, was featured in the EHMA Conference this past November. Members of the project consortium took part in a panel discussion on how patient involvement can support patients and informal caregivers and develop their capacity to share information. Furthermore, a presentation was also given on multi-stakeholder, mission-oriented research and innovation for improved healthcare.

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EBC Members



Save the date for the FENS Regional Meeting 2021

The FENS Regional Meeting 2021 will take place on 25-27 August as an online meeting. Jointly organised by the Polish Neuroscience Society and the Lithuanian Neuroscience Association, the FRM 2021 will promote scientific collaborations at a regional scale.

Shape the programme: the call for symposia closes on 1 December!

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AT WHAT COST THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF STROKE IN EUROPE



Urgent investment in stroke care needed to mend overstretched health systems

New research by the Stroke Alliance for Europe (SAFE) shows projected future costs of stroke care in Europe could increase to €86 billion in 2040 if we fail to invest in stroke prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

At What Cost - the Economic Impact of Stroke in Europe adds to the existing evidence that shows stroke care is woefully underfunded and needs urgent investment.

This research offers solutions to help reduce the burden of stroke and future proof healthcare services at the time when COVID-19 has amplified the problem and exposed already overstretched and failing healthcare systems.

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Improving Access to Care and Treatment for Huntington's Disease Patients and Families

Join us on Thursday, December 3 for a multi-stakeholder roundtable discussion to highlight the sense of urgency required to ensure better access to care, services and treatment for all patients affected by Huntington's Disease and other Rare Neurological Diseases.

Representatives of the European Huntington's Disease Network (EHDN), the European Reference Network for Rare Neurological Diseases (ERN-RND), the European Brain Council (EBC), EURORDIS, and Members of the European Parliament will come together to discuss how they understand the challenges and unmet needs Huntington Disease patients face and how together we can ensure better access to care and treatment for all.

Join us to contribute your own perspective and gain greater insight into the challenges faced across the Rare Neurological Disease field.

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The EPA 2021 Congress is Going Virtual!

In order to ensure a safe and accessible event for all delegates and faculty, the upcoming 29th European Congress of Psychiatry will be organised as an entirely virtual event. EPA Virtual 2021 will take place on 10-13 April 2021 under the theme "Personalising and Integrating Mental Health Care in the Digital Era". Don't miss out on your chance to attend a highly engaging congress with scientific discussion, professional exchange, and educational forums! Online registration for EPA Virtual 2021 will open in early December. In the meantime, check out the [Congress website](#) to be informed of any updates and fees.

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Plenary Lectures for the 34th ECNP Congress

We are proud to announce the first four confirmed Plenary Lectures for the 34th ECNP Congress, 2-5 October 2021!

- Inflamed depression
Ed Bullmore, United Kingdom
- Chronic irritability in youth: what we know and what we need to know
Ellen Leibenluft, USA
- From anxiety to motivation – A metabolic nexus
Carmen Sandi, Switzerland
- The nature of schizophrenia
Michael Owen, United Kingdom

Find [here](#) more details on next year's Plenary Lectures.

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EAN is proud to announce the 2020 Virtual Master Classes Christmas Special

The current situation has made it more important than ever to provide high quality online learning resources accessible worldwide. EAN is already supporting its members accordingly. Having just announced a first round of Virtual Master Classes, EAN is currently developing other initiatives for its members to offer more resources and to keep on supporting and improving their neurological knowledge. After just two days from announcement, our Virtual Master Classes are completely booked out! In light of the overwhelming response, EAN is planning similar initiatives for 2021.

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National Brain Councils



NBCs' liaisons coordinate advocacy to Members States Research Department

Following EBC feedback and input to the European Commission on the draft of the "First Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 of the Health Cluster", NBCs' liaisons have initiated actions for raising NBCs' awareness on the importance to advocate this matter at the level of their Research Minister and EP officials. In response, eight NBCs (from Croatia, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Portugal, Serbia and Spain) already sent in their languages a letter to their Minister or officers in Brussels. Further action to selected MEPs is also underway.

[Read more](#)

For your Agenda

3 December 2020 - [Improving access to care and treatment for HD patients and families: what role for policymakers?](#), Webinar

8 December 2020 - [Encephalitis Conference](#), Virtual event

26 January 2021 - [Brain Innovation Days: From Innovative Ideas to Creative Brain Interventions](#), Digital Event

12 March 2021 - [European Life After Stroke Forum](#), Barcelona

10-13 April 2021 - [EPA Congress](#), Virtual

2-5 October 2021 - [ECNP Congress](#), Lisbon

12-13 October 2021 - [Brain Innovation Days: United for Brain Innovation](#), Brussels

28 April-2 May 2022 - [14th European Paediatric Neurology Society Congress](#), Glasgow



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