



APPENDIX 4 – PAE Annual Activity report 2017

General

The year 2017 was an exciting year for PAE. Lots of activities were going on where PAE was involved. This is made possible because of PAE's image of being a reliable and trustworthy European Organisation.

On January first 2017 PAE had 34 members from 17 different EU countries. On December 31, 2017 PAE has grown to 36 members from 17 EU countries.

PAE had 1 General Assembly on Friday June 9 in Malta. It also had 2 official board meetings. March 7th and November 21th both at: Grensstraat 7, 1831 Diegem, Belgium, the official point of presence of PAE.

Ongoing Projects

PAE was involved in several long-lasting projects in 2017.

SIP Societal Impact of Pain

PAE is an active co-operation partner in the Societal Impact of Pain activities. The climax of these activities were on June 7, 8 and 9 during the SIP Symposium in Malta. In preparation of these days many visits were done in cooperation with the SIP partners, EFIC, Grünenthal, ACN and for 2017 MHN and No Pain Foundation. The SIP activities will continue. www.sip-platform.eu

Brain, Mind and Pain European Parliament interest group.

During 2017 the BMP interest group had three meetings in the Parliament. March 8th, July 12th and November 22th. The titles of the meetings were: [Optimising the European Social Pillar to #MakeWorkWork for those affected by brain disorders and chronic pain conditions](#), [The Value of Early Intervention in Brain, Mind and Pain Conditions](#), [Ensuring equitable access to high-quality treatment in brain, mind and pain disorders](#). These meetings were chaired by; MEP Marian Harkin, MEP's Jana Žitňanská / Marian Harkin / Michał Boni / Marek Plura and MEP Lieve Wierinck. www.brainmindpain.eu

Brain, Mind, and Pain Patient-Centred Innovation Grant

With the financial support of Grünenthal PAE has launched the BMP grant in 2017. This is aimed to be a long-lasting biennial project for which the miles stones have been set in 2017. PAE has been supported by a Steering group from representatives of PAE, EFNA, EFIC, EAN and Grünenthal. This has resulted in a call for projects. The call closed on December 31, 2017. www.bmp-grant.eu

Survey

PAE has started a survey in 2017 as start of a sequence of more surveys in order to get a better insight of the issues chronic pain patients matters. The 2017 survey was aimed on the situation of chronic pain patients' health condition within the healthcare society. A poster presentation of the result of the survey was done during the SIP event in Malta. The results were also addressed during a BMP meeting in the European Parliament. The outcome of the 2017 survey was an encouragement for PAE to continue this project. The first survey was made possible thru financial support of Grünenthal. For the upcoming surveys financial support is found by MundiPharma and Pfizer. <https://www.pae-eu.eu/?portfolio=paes-survey-chronic-pain>

Expert group on the social impact of pain on the EU Health platform.

As a result of the ever-lasting advocacy work of the SIP partners the European commission granted an Expert group on the social impact of pain on the EU Health Platform. Together with EFIC is PAE administrator of this group. This news was announced by the Deputy-Director General for health and food safety Martin Seychell during the plenary session at the SIP Symposium in Malta.

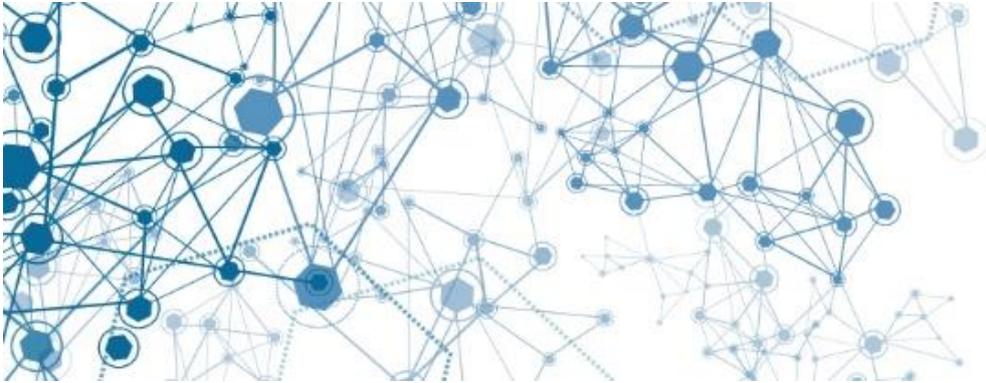
At the end of 2017 the expert group was asked to submit a request to become a thematic network on the EU Health Platform. The SIP partners did so and by the closing of the poll we were rank second. We are now waiting for the decision of the European Commission. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hpf/group/index>

Office

The office is doing the secretarial support of the BMP grant. Assists by the organisation of the BMP interest group. Holding the websites of PAE and the BMP-Grant. Holding the PAE Twitter account and the Facebook account. Is organising the board meetings and general Assembly. Support individual board members in their tasks. Is supporting in other core activities of PAE. Liaise with the members and stakeholders. Coordinates involvement with EMA.

Incidental activities

For its core activities PAE was present during many events organised by partners or potential partners such as; ACN, EULAR, EBC, EFNA, Hope, AFPA and UEHP. It also had on several occasions meetings with existing and potential sponsors to strengthen or start relations.



On a more formal way PAE was a jury member of the European Civic Prize on Chronic Pain. In 2017 we started to examine the possibility of cooperate this the BMP grant which resulted in a memorandum of understanding between the two partners.

PAE also participated in a H2020 proposal "Back to Work" This didn't reach the finish line. PAE is participating in the Council of Coaches Project in the advisory board. This project is still running until 2020.

Also in 2017 PAE has organised a translation of the Video "Madness" about how patients with different chronic pain conditions deal with pain.

In 2017 we have been working very hard to strengthen our relation with EFIC after having proven the past years to be a very cooperative partner. This was shown in the SIP but also during the EFIC congress where PAE participated and our participation in working group formed by EFIC and in the expert group.

Relation with activity plans 2017

Overseeing our plans we had in 2016 for the year 2017 we may say that we were so lucky to achieve more than we engaged for. In one way this is very good news on the other hand this is also frightening as it puts a lot of pressure on PAE to be just as successful the upcoming years.

The mentioned Target project didn't receive the necessary funding from the EU so this was cancelled and the pain patient additional burden project we did some adjustments on that and they became the surveys we are holding at the moment.

Acknowledgments

We, the board, are aware that all of this wouldn't be possible if we didn't had the full support of our sponsors, of friendly patients and healthcare associations, our excellent team in the office in Diegem, the MEP's in the European Parliament and the policymakers within the European institutions, but mostly if we wouldn't have the support of all our members. In this way we have shown that working together is the best way to achieve what we all want: improving the quality of life of people living with chronic pain in Europe.

The board of PAE