



International Diabetes Federation

IDF Europe Newsletter

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Message from the President

In this IDF year of the Diabetic Foot, my mobility has been a little hampered in the past few months as a result of a Charcot's foot. Nevertheless, I was still able to be very active.



IDF Europe is proud to have been invited by the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medical Products (EMA) to join the EMA Working Group with Patients' Organizations from now on, so as to present the voice of the people with diabetes. The European Commission strongly supports such cooperation. Of course, one of our goals will be to ensure that new medicines reach people with diabetes as quickly as possible, not only those for the treatment of diabetes and its complications, but also medicines for the improvement of the quality of life of people with diabetes.

Regarding prevention, one of our Corporate Partners, Nutrition & Santé, has launched a campaign in which the glycemic index plays a crucial role. A press conference held in Paris at the end of September was very successful.

During the recent EASD meeting in Athens, the Associations' Village was once again a big success. We were able to have good contacts with our member associations as well as with several other very active national diabetes organizations, which are not (yet) members of IDF.

For many years, the Nordic diabetes associations have met each other annually. President-elect Tony O'Sullivan visited this year's Nordic Meeting that took place in Iceland. The board of IDF Europe fully agreed with the wish of the Nordic Associations that their meeting be in future acknowledged as an IDF Europe activity.

In the diabetes world, it is very interesting and promising to see how younger generations are ready to take over several tasks from the older generations. Young doctors, nurses, dietitians, and office co-workers. Everywhere, regionally and locally. Resulting from this generational shift is a stronger self-management of younger people with diabetes.

Finally, I am very happy to announce that AstraZeneca has recently decided to join us as a new Corporate Partner next year.

I do hope to meet many of you in Munich during the General Assembly and Together We Are Stronger meetings.

Dr Wim Wientjens
President IDF Europe

IDF Europe Association News

- ◆ In Denmark, the **Danish Diabetes Association** has succeeded in signing a group life insurance agreement for the benefit of all its members aged 18 to 50. The insurance premiums are comparable with those for people without diabetes and the conditions for eligibility are very lenient. The agreement will allow people with diabetes to access insurance that has been denied to many people with the condition in Denmark in the past.

- ◆ In Portugal, the **Portuguese Diabetes Association (APDP)** celebrated its 79th anniversary on May 13. Over 120 people attended the celebration, among them the Secretary of State for Health and the former President of the National Parliament. The theme of the event was "Prevention of diabetes complications: retinopathy, neuropathy, nephropathy" and presentations included a study from Central Portugal demonstrating the possibility of systematic tracking of diabetes complications, and the conferral of an award for the most distinguished work on the topic of "Health and Lifestyles of Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes".



- ◆ In Serbia and Montenegro, the **Diabetes Association of Serbia and Montenegro** held its 3rd annual 7-day camp for elderly people with diabetes in Mitrovac, located in the Tara Mountain region. Some 30 participants, aged 50-77, took part in a variety of activities - coordinated by a team made up of a diabetologist, a diabetes nurse, an educator and a dietitian - aimed at informing them on how to effectively manage their diabetes. A representative from **Diabetes UK** also attended the camp and described it as an excellent example of structured patient education, personal care plan and patient empowerment.

- ◆ In Slovenia, the **Slovenian Diabetes Association (SLODA)** held its 10th Sports and Recreation Meeting for people with diabetes in the city of Velenje in May. The event offered a variety of activities promoting the benefits of physical activity in people with diabetes. In June, SLODA announced that it was starting the development of a Slovenian National Diabetes Programme.





For over 30 years, Servier has been a leading partner in the field of diabetes research, with partnerships with leading diabetes associations such as:

IDF, IDF-Europe, EASD, The Diabetes Education Study Group, The Mediterranean Group for the Study of Diabetes, The European Union Geriatric Medicine Society and the International Group of Insulin Secretion.

In addition, Servier collaborates with the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD) in a Research Grant Programme, and with the University of Padova for the Morgagni Prize.

Servier also endows the Robert Turner Professorship in Diabetic Medicine at Oxford University.

If you have any diabetes related news that you would like to share with IDF Europe, please send us the information either by e-mail (newsletter@idf.org) or Fax (+32-2-5371981) and we shall be pleased to include it in our next newsletters.

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