



## PRESS RELEASE – GLOBAL PSORIASIS COALITION

### IFPA holds Informational Session on Global Psoriasis Coalition at AAD 2017 in Florida

- Psoriasis takes a heavy mental, social and economic toll on over 125 million people worldwide
- To address the disease's impact, IFPA has united stakeholders in a Global Psoriasis Coalition
- Coalition members include professional societies, NGOs, foundations and corporate partners
- The Global Psoriasis Coalition aims to foster cross-sectoral partnerships, instigate behavioral change and include psoriasis in global and national NCD strategies

**(Orlando, March 2, 2017)** – Today, IFPA is presenting its Global Psoriasis Coalition in an Informational Session at the 2017 annual AAD meeting. The Coalition brings together stakeholders to cooperate across borders, disease areas and sectors to improve the lives of the 125 million people worldwide living with psoriasis.<sup>i</sup> By uniting professional societies, non-governmental organizations, foundations, corporate partners and other relevant associations, we aim to center the global health conversation on psoriasis, foster behavioral change and create opportunities to change the living conditions of people with psoriasis. Together, the Global Psoriasis Coalition is all in for 125 million.

Psoriasis is a severe, chronic, non-communicable disease (NCD) that dramatically reduces the quality of life of affected individuals – roughly 3 percent of the world population.<sup>ii</sup> Psoriasis takes a high mental, emotional, social, and economic toll – both on individuals and the societies they live in. Those affected have a greatly increased risk for comorbid NCDs like diabetes and cardiovascular disease. These further reduce quality of life and generate higher costs for health systems. As of today, there is no cure for psoriasis yet. Those living with the disease often struggle to receive an accurate diagnosis, have difficulty accessing appropriate treatment and care, and face discrimination and stigma.

The Global Psoriasis Coalition was launched to address the impact of psoriasis. In doing so, it builds on the gains of recent psoriasis advocacy milestones, such as the WHO Resolution on Psoriasis in 2014 and the first-ever WHO Global Report on Psoriasis in 2016.<sup>iii</sup> The Coalition takes these efforts one step further: it aligns and activates stakeholders (situated at the intersection of policy, research, advocacy and care) around a shared framework. Specific aims of the Coalition include managing psoriasis, fostering new cross-sectoral partnerships and driving the inclusion of psoriasis in comprehensive global and national NCD strategies, such as the WHO's Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs (2013-2020).

### About IFPA

**The International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA)** is a non-profit organization made up of psoriasis associations from around the world. As the main global psoriasis patient organization, IFPA's goals are to empower its members, improve living conditions for people with psoriasis and/or psoriatic arthritis, raise awareness of the disease and cooperate with fellow stakeholders. Key IFPA actions include World Psoriasis Day (annually on October 29) and a scientific psoriasis conference every three years. Since its founding in 1971, IFPA has continuously sought to resolve the challenges facing over 125 million people with psoriasis worldwide.

Learn more about IFPA at [www.ifpa-pso.com](http://www.ifpa-pso.com) or contact IFPA's Executive Director, Ms. Sophie Andersson, at [Sophie.Andersson@ifpa-pso.com](mailto:Sophie.Andersson@ifpa-pso.com).

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<sup>i</sup> “Addressing NCD Comorbidities – Shared Opportunities for Action.” International Federation of Psoriasis Associations and NCD Alliance. 2017.

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>iii</sup> “Psoriasis & Psoriatic Arthritis: A Serious Global Health Challenge.” International Federation of Psoriasis Associations. 2016. <http://ifpa-pso.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/IFPA-infographic-2.pdf>