

PRESS RELEASE – EIU report

IFPA welcomes the findings of the newly released report “Encouraging policy action to address the psoriasis challenge” by the EIU

- New report¹ reveals that limited actions have been taken by governments of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and UK, following the adoption of the WHO psoriasis resolution²
- The report gives a good baseline for follow-up of national activities by IFPA members in the respective countries and for pushing governments to take action
- Further work is urgently needed to implement the definition of psoriasis according to the WHO Resolution, which states that psoriasis is “a chronic, noncommunicable, painful, disfiguring, and disabling disease for which there is no cure”

(Stockholm, April 6, 2017) – The report ‘*Encouraging policy action to address the psoriasis challenge*’ by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) reveals that governments in Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and UK have taken little or no action to improve care for those living with psoriasis although in 2014 all nation-states unanimously adopted the World Health Organisation (WHO) Psoriasis Resolution, which called for global action to improve quality of life for those living with the disease

IFPA warmly welcomes the report that benchmarked the effectiveness of European psoriasis policies and guidelines, including adherence to WHO recommendations “To insure relevant and effective national plans and guidelines, it is of utmost importance that psoriasis is recognized **not as a skin disease** but as a chronic, noncommunicable, painful, disfiguring, and disabling disease for which there is no cure. Psoriasis is often accompanied by severe chronic comorbidities such as psoriatic arthritis, crohn’s, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and more. Taking into account the definition of psoriasis in the 2014 WHO Resolution, is it essential to start improving life quality for people with psoriasis across the world. A holistic approach to disease management and the setting up of national multi-stakeholders’ advocacy plans on psoriasis is needed,” said Lars Ettarp, President of IFPA.

IFPA also recognized that the report gives a good baseline for follow-up of national activities by IFPA members in the respective countries, but–does hope that similar studies in other countries and regions will be done in order to give a global picture of the implementation of the Psoriasis Resolution. As stated in the Resolution, “too many

¹‘Encouraging policy action to address the psoriasis challenge’ March 2016
<https://www.eiuperspectives.economist.com/healthcare/encouraging-policy-action-address-psoriasis-challenge-1/white-paper/encouraging-policy-action-address-psoriasis-challenge> Accessed April 3, 2017.
² WHO, WHA67.9 Resolution. Geneva, World Health Organisation, 2014. http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA67-REC1/A67_2014_REC1-en.pdf Accessed January 11, 2017.

people in the world suffer needlessly from psoriasis due to incorrect or delayed diagnosis, inadequate treatment options and insufficient access to care” it is now time to act to improve the living conditions of the over 125 million of persons living with psoriasis.

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About IFPA - The International Federation of Psoriasis Associations 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 patients, raise awareness of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis and cooperate with fellow stakeholders. Key IFPA actions include organizing World Psoriasis Day (annually 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 patients in the international psoriasis community.

Learn more about IFPA: www.ifa-pso.com

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