











In the News...

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Dear reader,

We hope you are well and ready for a new year.

Recovery, Strength and a Sense of Belonging.

These words summarise the French Presidency Programme. France took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union on 1st January 2022 and will be leading the way until 30th June 2022.

The programme will focus on three main points: a more sovereign Europe; a new European model for growth, and a human Europe. As part of a new European model for growth, the French Presidency will be focusing on technological excellence that supports innovation and the growth of European digital players. It will also develop digital health by opening negotiations on the Commission's proposal for a European Health Data Space.

To this regard, the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) will be mainly focusing on Digital Health and Pain during the first quarter of 2022. On 31st March 2022, SIP will hold a virtual multistakeholder event entitled 'How digitalising health services reduce the societal impact of pain?', during which the recommendations from its Position Paper on Digital Health: Pain Assessment and Quality Indicators will be discussed. The event coincides with the launch of the European Health Data space, which is expected by early April. Additionally, SIP will continue to work on employment and pain policy, as well as focusing on the very relevant topic of ICD-11 and ICF.

In addition, the European Pain Federation (EFIC), has recently joined the European Connected Health Alliance (ECHAlliance), a Global Health Connector for Digital Health, facilitating multi-stakeholder connections around ecosystems, driving sustainable change and disruption in the delivery of health and social care. We look very much forward to the many interesting outcomes of this movement.

SIP National Platforms continue to be constantly active. For example, SIP Spain will host a virtual event on 25th-26th March 2022 that will focus on the societal impact of pain in the country and attendees will be able to learn about the impact and the challenges on digitalisation, employment and cancer in patients with chronic pain.

Furthermore, SIP Portugal will launch in 2022 an interactive manual and a guide for first chronic pain consultation. Such tool and the guide will help both patients and healthcare professionals during the first chronic pain consultation. The interactive manual will be available online and will, among other things, contribute to a better diagnosis, personalised treatment and pain management.

We offer a warm welcome to Laura Thyssen Thorøe who has recently joined the EFIC team as the new Communications and Advocacy Trainee. Laura will support the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP), as well as the European Pain Federation (EFIC) activities.

In other news, Pain Alliance Europe (PAE) has welcomed their new Association and Projects Manager, Emilia Kosińska. As a partner in SIP, PAE and Emilia will keep ensuring the voice of the patient is well represented in the campaign.

Regarding the Brain, Mind and Pain (BMP) Grant, Pain Alliance Europe (PAE) is looking for projects focusing on practical solutions for chronic pain and healthy sleep. The submission deadline is 31st March. The BMP Grant aims to explore and provide practical solutions for people living with pain, and struggling with healthy sleep.

As we start this new year of intense European health policy activities, SIP looks forward to continued collaboration with our network and community in topics related to the societal impact of pain. Make sure you don't miss out on our upcoming activities by checking out our events section.

We wish you all the best for this New Year 2022

Best wishes,

Dr. Brona Fullen, President of European Pain Federation EFIC & Ms. Deirdre Ryan, President of Pain Alliance Europe (PAE)



Save The Date! SIP Multi-Stakeholder Event: on 31st March: How Can Digitalising Health Services Reduce The Societal Impact Of Pain?



On 31st March 2022, SIP will host a multistakeholder virtual event entitled "How digitalising health services reduce the societal impact of pain?" to discuss the recommendations from its Position Paper on Digital Health: Pain Assessment and Quality Indicators. The event coincides with the creation and launch of the European Health Data Space in April 2022, which will ensure the appropriate use, access and sharing of health data for healthcare delivery purposes and will allow the use of data research, innovation and policy making.

More information will follow soon, in the meantime be sure to keep an eye on our events page for updates!

#### The European Pain Federation EFIC joins the **European Connected Health Alliance!**

The European Connected Health Alliance (ECHAlliance) is the Global Health Connector for Health, facilitating multi-stakeholder connections around ecosystems, driving sustainable change and disruption in the delivery of health and

As a multi-stakeholder platform led by EFIC and PAE, SIP will have the opportunity to collaborate with the organisation closely and engage with the more than 70 geographic and 12 thematic innovations ecosystems, complementing our 2022 digital health

up-to-date with our latest news!



### SIP Spain event

SIP Spain will host on 25-26 March 2022 their forum on the societal impact of pain in their country. Attendees will be able to learn about the impact and the challenges of digitalisation, employment and cancer in patients with chronic pain.

Click here to register to the event.

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#### SIP Portugal Develops an Interactive Manual and a Guide for First Chronic Pain Consultation

SIP Portugal will be publishing in the upcoming months an interactive manual. Such tool and the Guide will help both patients and healthcare professionals during the first chronic consultation. The interactive manual will be available online and will, among other things, contribute to a better diagnosis, personalised treatment and pain management.

Health literacy is one of the main problems when patient-healthcare discussing professional communication. Therefore, a first chronic pain consultation guide, will improve health outcomes overall.

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Meet the new SIP team members

# MEET THE SIP TEAM

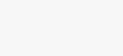
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activities.

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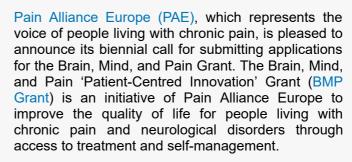
social care.

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and social care for over ten years in the UK, she is well aware of patients' needs regarding access to health services and health education. Emilia also engages in teaching opportunities. Emilia holds an MA in Translation and Interpreting from the University of Westminster and an MSc in Sport Management from Ulster University. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her dog, sipping coffee in random places, and watching basketball.

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The Brain, Mind, and Pain 'Patient-Centred Innovation' Grant (BMP Grant)



Review the eligibility criteria, and apply before 31 March 2022.

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BMP GRANT

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# QUESTIONS? NEED SUPPORT? WISH TO ENDORSE OR TO PUBLISH ON SIP PLATFORM?

In case you should have any question regarding the newsletter's contents, please contact Jamie Wilkinson, Project Manager, Societal Impact of Pain Platform, jamie.wilkinson@efic.org.

In case you would like to endorse the SIP Platform or to publish news on the SIP Website, please contact: sip@efic.org

In case you should have any technical questions or need assistance, please contact Jamie Wilkinson (Website Editor): sip@efic.org

Contact Mariana Branco (PAE EU Affairs Coordinator) for patient-focused inquiries at info@pae-eu.eu

#### **IMPRINT**

The scientific framework of the SIP platform is under the responsibility of the European Pain Federation (EFIC®).

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