

SIP National Platform Meeting 25th April 2025 Lyon, France

Attendees

- SIP Team: Patrice Forget (EFIC/SIP), Joanne O'Brian Kelly (EFIC), Marta Bartnicka (EFIC/SIP), Oda Steensen (EFIC/SIP), Chris Mitchell (EFIC/SIP).
- SIP National Platform Representatives.

Welcome and Introductions

- Marta Bartnicka (**MB**), from EFIC/SIP, opened the National Platform Call.
- Patrice Forget (**PF**), SIP's Chair, introduced himself and outlined the Agenda for the meeting.
- Joanne O'Brian Kelly (**JOB**) introduced herself as the EFIC Advocacy Vice-Chair.
- EFIC Communications and Advocacy trainee, Chris Mitchell (**CM**) introduced himself to the SIP National Platform Representatives.
- EFIC Communications and Advocacy trainee, Oda Steensen (**OS**) introduced herself to the SIP National Platform Representatives.
- Each **SIP National Platform** representative then introduced themselves to the participants.

2025 SIP Priorities

MB briefly reinstated SIP's 2025 priorities, which are:

- The European Health Data Space and ICD-11
- Access to Treatment
- Preventive Health
- EU-OSHA Partnership

EHDS & ICD-11

MB introduced the priorities regarding the EHDS and ICD-11 for SIP in 2025.

- Monitor EHDS implementation timeline – **Ongoing**
- ICD-11 Joint Statement – **Ongoing**
- Engagement with EU Institutions – **Ongoing**
- Outreach to governmental bodies in charge of ICD-11/classifications in the country and support ICD-11 roll-out at national level – **Ongoing**

Access to Treatment

MB introduced the priorities regarding Access to Treatment for SIP in 2025.

- Dissemination of SIP BoE; SIP PFDPC; SIP Infographics with stakeholders, EU Institutions and European and national meetings – **Ongoing**
- Translation of the SIP Infographics – **Ongoing**
- Complete and submit to scientific journals the SIP Case Studies – **Ongoing**
- Update of the SIP PFDPC to include a prevention section and development of a complementary leaflet – **Ongoing**
- Development of an Advocacy Toolkit – **Ongoing**

Preventative Health

MB introduced the priorities regarding Preventative Health for SIP in 2025.

- Monitor upcoming policy on prevention, NCD's, and CVD's – **Ongoing**

- Preventative Health Position Paper – **Ongoing**
- Translation Health Position Paper – **Ongoing**
- Engage with the EU Commission, Council of the EU, and Parliament on such new developments to ensure SIP's priorities are included within any new upcoming policy – **Ongoing**

MB kindly reminded everyone that one of SIP's key focus areas this year is prevention. She noted that SIP will continue to monitor upcoming policies related to preventative health and highlighted that work is already underway on a SIP Position Paper on Prevention, supported by EFIC's research assistant, Mary.

EU-OSHA Partnership

MB introduced the priorities regarding the EU-OSHA Partnership for SIP in 2025, and that all ongoing work regarding this priority has been completed.

- Develop a joint webinar with ER-WCPT, on theme of the new campaign, related to SIP's workplace adaptation and integration position paper + the OTM campaign resources and new developing leaflet on pain and work – **Done**
- EU-OSHA at SIP NPC – **Done**
- Engagement on social media, in particular during the European Week of Safety and Health at work, and dissemination of valuable resources – **Done**

SIP National Platform Updates

Representatives of the SIP National Platforms took turns to share updates on their respective platforms.

SIP Denmark

SIP Denmark shared a series of recent updates, including the development of a new national database. The platform aims to support interdisciplinary clinics and promote measurable outcomes in pain management. Emphasis was placed on the importance of long-term trust in healthcare relationships and the challenges of implementation. SIP Denmark explained that their interdisciplinary council seeks to bridge the gap between patients and researchers, with the first official meeting focusing on improving mutual communication. Lastly, SIP Denmark noted that initial resistance from municipalities towards ICD-11 had shifted over time due to sustained advocacy efforts.

SIP Belgium

SIP Belgium shared their recent update, which was the official launch in September. Further, SIP Belgium shared that recently they created a dedicated pain website based on the SIP Book of Evidence (BoE) model, which includes raising the visibility of pain-related topics and improving their public presentation.

SIP Finland

SIP Finland shared that notable gap persists between patients and physicians. While ICD-11 is being used informally, there is a strong desire to accelerate its formal adoption. As a follow-up, politicians in Finland demonstrated how early treatment of chronic pain could lead to long-term societal benefits, such as increased future tax contributions. Lastly, SIP Finland highlighted the need for greater focus on women and children within pain-related healthcare initiatives.

SIP France

SIP France shared a recent development, which is that the organisation had hosted a senate roundtable on pain, reflecting growing national-level engagement with the issue.

SIP Germany

SIP Germany reported strong cooperation with patient organisations. The organisation shared current healthcare reform discussions that are ongoing. Further, SIP Germany continues to collaborate with institutions at both federal and state levels. They have hosted national pain forums and contributed to hospital reform debates. Lastly, SIP Germany is also developing pain assessment programmes tailored to geriatric patients and are revising national guidelines for long-term opioid use.

SIP Netherlands

SIP Netherlands recently held their annual National Congress, themed “The Future of Pain – Customisation in a Changing Society.” Their June conference will include a new programme focused on violence. The group actively involves over 400 patients in pain research and partnerships with patient organisations. They maintain an active website, have revived two committees, and continue to host national pain events. A recent survey on pain prevalence indicated a higher burden among women.

SIP Portugal

SIP Portugal is currently collaborating with Malta on a “patients as teachers” initiative and is exploring opportunities under Erasmus+ for health literacy programmes. Their advocacy model includes both professionals and patients. Despite regional barriers to ICD-11 promotion, they have conducted a national survey on pain and employment, gathering over 500 responses. The group maintains ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the College of Doctors.

SIP Spain

SIP Spain continues to engage in strong national advocacy efforts, although ICD-11 implementation remains blocked due to regional fragmentation. It was noted that the Health Minister is not currently familiar with SIP or EFIC. The Spanish Pain Society is supporting efforts by providing translations and hosting patient sessions. A comprehensive PDF presentation has been released to demonstrate the impact of patient advocacy efforts.

SIP Sweden

SIP Sweden has historically struggled to define its national role, but recent workshops held in March helped clarify their direction. The new focus includes raising public awareness, promoting pain awareness days, and conducting expert meetings with healthcare professionals. The group is now prioritising collaboration between professionals and patients. SIP Sweden has also strengthened its alignment with the Swedish Pain Society and continues its implementation work with the same team that has been in place for the past two years.

SIP National Platform Roundtable: SIP Advocacy Toolkit

MB introduced the main objectives of the SIP Advocacy Toolkit:

- To be a practical step-by-step guide for national actors who wish to set up a new SIP Platform and drive policy change forward.
- To enhance a closer collaboration between SIP NPs and SIP Europe to increase capacity building, share knowledge and best practices.
- To act as a practical guide for SIP NPs on how to design and follow a successful advocacy campaign and strategy.
- To ensure stakeholders across Europe understand the role of SIP NPs within the national arena.

MB quickly showcased some of the aspects of the Toolkit, mentioning that in the upcoming months National Platforms will be invited to preview the Toolkit.

SIP National Platform Roundtable: SIP Governance Model and Plan

MB kindly reminded everyone of the SIP Governance Model, which is designed to support National Platforms in defining responsibilities, decision-making processes, and partner roles. She further emphasised that the Governance Model and accompanying Plan reinforce alignment with the principles of SIP Europe, while enabling National Platforms to grow within a recognised and trusted framework. **MB** encouraged National Platforms to complete the document and noted that it can be submitted to SIP Europe for feedback.

SIP Communications, next steps and closure

- **SIP Bi-lateral calls:**
 - **MB** kindly asked National Platforms that have not yet held their SIP bilateral call to schedule one with her.
- **SIP Newsletter going out on 30th May 2025:**
 - **MB** asked everyone to please send their news and updates by 16 May 2025.
- **SIP communications channels:**
 - **MB** emphasised the importance of engaging with SIP's communication channels, urging everyone to follow their social media, website, and newsletter for the latest information, such as the social media, website, newsletter, etc.
- **Next SIP National Platform Call:**
 - 25 September 2025.

PF and **JOB** concluded the meeting. They expressed their joy in seeing everyone's in-person participation.

The meeting closed at 15:30h CET.