



EU REPORT

European Academy of Paediatrics

AT A GLANCE: HIGHLIGHTS

EU tobacco directive enters into force in May - More than one in four Europeans smoke. Half of them will die prematurely, shortening their life by 14 years on average. As from 20 May, new rules will go into effect to make smoking and cigarettes less attractive particularly among young people. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

Low to moderate risk of Zika virus outbreak in Europe during late spring and summer - The WHO European regional office estimates that the risk of the Zika virus to spread in European countries, although varying depending on the country, exists and will demand target preparedness work. Read [more](#) and also, for more information about the latest update of the Zika virus outbreak by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, click [here](#).

European Forum Health Gastein - In Gastein Valley, Austria, 28-30 September. Annual conference gathering EU-level representatives from the areas of health policy, administration, science, business and patient organisations. This year's topic: 'Demographics and diversity in Europe - New solutions for health'. Read [more](#).

International 360°Summit on eHealth - In Budapest, Hungary, 14-16 June. Event under the patronage of the European Commission bringing together industry representatives, researchers, vendors, mHealth and eHealth domain experts, clinicians, developers and others to plan, learn, network, collaborate, strategize and more effectively tap into the potential of the eHealth and mHealth domains. Read [more](#).

EU Health Policy Platform - A collaborative initiative to ease the communication between the Commission services and health stakeholders was launched last April 2016. It includes a thematic network on children and youth health. Read [more](#).

Coordination by: [Cleverland Communications, BE](#)

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World Humanitarian Summit - The European Union committed to strengthen prevention and preparedness, improve the international response and help find solutions to support an overstrained humanitarian system during the first WHS that took place in Turkey on 23-24 May. Read [more](#).

INSIDE THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Coordinators' meeting

- As part of the regular work that the ENVI Committee carries out, a meeting with all coordinators from all European Parliament political groups took place in April 2016. Among others topics discussed, some motions for a resolution were proposed, which mean that these will be different topics that might be eventually discussed in the European Parliament in the near future. Among others: (i) banning the use of dangerous components in skincare products for babies; (ii) combating child obesity; (iii) stepping up research into rare diseases; (iv) children with Down syndrome; (v) spread of the Zika virus in Italy and Europe.

BRIEFINGS

European Medicines Agency Paediatric Committee (PDCO) and the use of Umbipro to help prevent umbilical cord infections - The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has recommended Umbipro (chlorhexidine digluconate), an antiseptic gel to prevent umbilical cord infections (omphalitis) in newborn babies, for use in countries outside the European Union (EU). Read [more](#).

European Medicines Agency has released its annual report on companies and products that have benefited from any of the rewards and incentives in the Paediatric Regulation (medicinal products for paediatric use). To read the full report, click [here](#).

European Commission report on young-child formulae - Report built upon two scientific opinions and a market study of the European Food and Security Agency and an extensive consultation with national authorities. Main issues tackled and covered in the report: presence in the market, consumers' perception and behaviour, legal framework and scientific advice on its intake. Read [more](#).



GENERAL INFORMATION OF INTEREST

European Parliament, Directorate General for Internal Policies (Policy Department A - Economic and Scientific Policy) - 'Organ Harvesting in China'. Revision of the scope for creating a fair system of organ donation and for the use of a more efficient and transparent organ database accessible to EU and eventually to global citizens. Read [more](#).

European Parliament, Directorate General for Internal Policies (Policy Department A: Economic and Scientific Policy) - 'Communicable Diseases: EU Response to HIV, Tuberculosis and Hepatitis C'. Results of a workshop celebrated at the European Parliament on the topic. Read [more](#).

Policy Network / Bertelsmann Stiftung - 'Young People at Risk: Challenges and Policy Options for the UK'. Read [more](#).

Rand Europe - 'The Role of the European Social Fund in Supporting Child Care Provisions in the European Union. Read [more](#).

MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

This section is dedicated to information of general interest shared by EAP members for publication. If you are interested to refer any article, report, announcement, etc., please do so by writing to the following e-mail address: eapreport@gmail.com

EMA Public Workshop on Extrapolation of Efficacy and Safety in Medicine Development Sent by Dr. Jerney Završnik, Slovenia

The output of this workshop will be used for the finalisation of the reflection paper on extrapolation across age groups by the Paediatric Committee (PDCO) of European Medicines Agency (EMA). The PDCO is responsible for coordinating the Agency's work on medicines for children. The Committee's main role is to determine the studies that companies must carry out on children as part of paediatric investigation plans (PIPs).

Read more, [here](#).



Rare Diseases

Information sent by Dr. Liesbeth Siderius, The Netherlands

All children, irrespective of age, gender and disability, should be able to enjoy the universal human rights. Still, children with rare disabling conditions are one of the most excluded groups in society. In April the European Commission's Expert Group on Rare Diseases launched its recommendations to 'Support the Integration of Rare Diseases into Social Services and Social Policies'.

All member states should promote measures that facilitate multidisciplinary, holistic, continuous, person-centred and participative care provision to people living with rare diseases, supporting them in the full realisation of their fundamental human rights. People living with a Rare Disease should be assured of the same standards of care and support as the ones available to other citizens with similar requirements.

The particular challenges posed by rare and complex conditions must be recognized. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is a principle guiding document for all the EAP's engagements. The EAP promotes the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health for all children, in Europe as well as in Third Countries. This includes a strong commitment to the principles and practices of disability and chronic care management in childhood, supporting (as appropriate) their harmonization and implementation.

Read more, [here](#).

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HOW TO NAVIGATE EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS: HINTS & TIPS

This monthly report is based on many informative and official sources dealing with European affairs that are relevant for European paediatricians. For example, we consult: information from the European Parliament (various EP committees and the monthly plenary session), the European Commission (mainly Directorate-General Health and Food Safety), European agencies dealing with various relevant policy topics (food security, control and prevention of diseases, medicines), as well as news services such as POLITICO Brussels, EuroActiv, etc. To deepen EAP members' understanding of all the institutions and organizations referred to, this section will provide background information about each of them on monthly basis.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (EP)

The European Parliament (EP) has 20 specialised standing committees. These committees instruct legislative proposals through the adoption of reports, propose amendments to Plenary and appoint a negotiation team to conduct negotiations with the Council on EU legislation. They also adopt own-initiative reports, organise hearings with experts and scrutinise the other EU bodies and institutions. For more information, click [here](#).

ENVI Committee - Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee.

It is the main European Parliament's committee responsible for proposing European solutions to public health issues.

Its members meet once per month on a regular basis.

As it also tackles other policy areas such as information for consumers on food and environment-related questions, public health-related matters are not debated every month.

For further information, click [here](#).