

EATRIS and the European Patients' Forum sign collaboration agreement, ensuring stronger patient involvement throughout the research process

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The European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine (EATRIS) and the European Patients' Forum (EPF) have signed a collaboration agreement, demonstrating both parties' interest in advancing patient engagement in the translational research process and in implementing joint actions, particularly in the fields of advocacy and training.

The mission of EATRIS is to accelerate the translation of discoveries into medical products for the benefit of patients. In 2018 EATRIS made patient involvement a key priority of its 2019-2022 Strategic Agenda to support effective multi-stakeholder collaboration and a genuine patient-centered approach throughout the translational science process.

EPF and EATRIS will facilitate this development by strengthening EATRIS' Patient Advisory Committee, bringing the patient voice into translational research projects and proposing solutions on how to increase patient engagement in earlier phases of the medicines' life cycle.

Furthermore, Toni Andreu, EATRIS Scientific Director, said: "EATRIS and EPF are also joining forces to further raise awareness, train and incentivise translational researchers to adopt responsible research principles and involve patients and patient organisations as co-partners in their research."

Usman Khan, EPF Executive Director, added "this collaboration with EATRIS is an important step towards patient involvement in research, helping to ensure that prioritisation of research topics fully incorporates the patient voice".

To kick-off this collaboration, EATRIS will be a partner of the [EPF Congress](#), the first ever European Congress on patient involvement driven by leading representatives of the patient community and patient experts taking place in Brussels on November 12-14 2019.

About the European Patients' Forum - www.eu-patient.eu

EPF is an umbrella patient organisation that works with patients' groups in public health and health advocacy across Europe. EPF members represent specific chronic disease groups at EU level or are national coalitions of patient organisations. With over 15 years of work in the EU arena, EPF has a strong track record of successfully managing and completing complex EU-funded projects. Through consultations with a diverse membership across Europe, EPF gathers patients' views and channels their voice to inform decision making in public health, health-related research and in the definition of innovative patterns for patient involvement. **Contact:** valentina.strammiello@eu-patient.eu

About the European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine - www.eatris.eu

The mission of EATRIS is to accelerate the translation of promising discoveries into products for the benefit of patients. EATRIS is a research infrastructure for advancing translational medicine, composed of 90 European Institutes, providing industry and academia access to research services for biomedical innovation. EATRIS is currently supported by 13 European Member states.

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