



PRESS RELEASE

Launch of new International liver patients organization

LIVER PATIENTS INTERNATIONAL

Brussels, 01/05/2021

Today sees the launch of a new liver patient organization aimed at improving the lives of liver patients around the world.

Liver Patients International (LPI), is an umbrella organization which brings together expertise, experience and a passion to be the difference from a number of national patient organizations who already have a proven track record of leading change.

Member orgs include:

Austria (Hepatitis Aid Austria – Platform Healthy Liver - HAA), Bulgaria (HepActive & HepAsist), UK (HepC Trust, PBC Foundation), Germany (Deutsche Leberhilfe e.V.), Greece (Hellenic Liver Patients Organization “Prometheus”), Italy (EpaC Onlus), The Netherlands (Dutch Liver Patients Organization), Romania (Sanohep), and Switzerland (Schweizerische Hepatitis C Vereinigung SHCV).

A quote from the Chair of LPI

“In 2020 there are still so many areas in which Liver patients are disadvantaged and marginalized. There are many issues faced, and shared, across the liver disease spectrum from rare disease, such as PBC and Biliary Atresia, through to global public health concerns including, viral hepatitis and NASH.

At LPI we believe that no-body should be left behind; through building strong, collaborative partnerships we are using our combined knowledge and experience to drive forward the multiple agendas within liver disease; supporting, empowering and engaging our member organizations.

We are thrilled to be part of this collaboration and look to forming many new alliances and partnerships to further the cause of liver patients internationally.”

George Kalamitsis, Chair, Liver Patients International

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What LPI means for the patients

LPI was formulated by patient advocates with three common goals: to raise awareness, to share best practice, and to advocate for all of those affected by liver disease. We, as LPI, will continue striving for a better quality of life, better diagnostic and treatment facilities for people living with all kinds of liver diseases. With patient-centric care being our common denominator, we lay solid foundations for equal access to diagnosis, treatment, information, support and general improved developments in health policy globally and in patients' rights

A quote from Prof. Jeffrey Lazarus- Barcelona Institute for Global Health (IS Global)

Liver health is notoriously absent from the global health agenda. LPI can play an important role in raising the patient voice and shining a spotlight on this important issue, be it viral hepatitis, NAFLD/NASH or one of the many rare liver diseases.

A quote from Prof. Maria Buti – EASL EU Public Health and Policy Chair

EASL is grateful that LPI supports and advocates for liver patients. Liver disease constitutes an important cause of mortality worldwide. Liver diseases are many times unrecognized by the patients and the healthcare professionals and thus diagnosed too late. Patient voice is extremely important to change this scenario and help those who particularly need it the most, leaving no one behind.

More information on our work and impacts

Via our website: <https://liverpatientsinternational.org/>

Via our social media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LiverPatientsInternational/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/liverpatients?lang=en>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/lpi-liver-patients-international>

Via our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFivoqHUzqqm9k98KzyYjqw>

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For any requests or information please contact us as at:

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Management board:

George Kalamitsis- Chair of LPI

Robert Mitchell Thain - Vice Chair & spokesperson for patients' associations and new members

José Willemse - Treasurer

Rachel Halford- Vice treasurer and sponsoring

Silvana Lesidrenska- Board member

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