

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

European Association of Hospital Pharmacists



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Foreword from the president

Looking back at 2020, I have to say it has been a tough year. We started out in January 2020 with a lot of ideas for our ongoing projects and educational events and had so many plans. But as March and our annual congress date drew closer, we realised that 2020 will not turn out as we had envisioned it. Infections with the novel coronavirus skyrocketed and hospital pharmacists found themselves at the frontlines of fighting a virus that would very quickly turn into a pandemic. To assist its member associations and individual hospital pharmacists in this critical time with the provision of the best possible care for patients, EAHP quickly decided to gather and make available information on COVID-19 relevant for the hospital pharmacy profession in a resource centre. Since mid-March 2020, EAHP's COVID-19 Resource Centre seeks to ensure that hospital pharmacists are provided with up-to-date information and guidance on protection measures, surveillance and treatment options for patients infected with the disease. Thanks to the great support from our members we have gathered an array of trusted information and continue to update the resources weekly, to support among other things, evidence-based approaches and the vaccination campaigns across Europe.

The SARS-CoV2 changed not only the work of hospital pharmacists but also impacted the activities of EAHP, first and foremost the in-person education events. We however rose to the challenge and found new ways to engage with our members through for example a virtual general assembly and our open learning courses that were already in place before the start of the pandemic. Also, we joined forces with other organisations to hold webinars discussing potential solutions for addressing the medicine shortage problem and best practices by clinical and hospital pharmacists for dealing with COVID-19.

Despite having to shift some of our resources towards helping our members and addressing the coronavirus outbreak, we did not lower our policy and project engagement. To the extent possible we continued to move forward with our Common Training Framework project and the implementation of the European Statement of Hospital Pharmacy. Our advocacy work focused on our key priorities, securing action on medicines shortages, leveraging the role of hospital pharmacists in combatting antimicrobial resistance and enabling the rational use of medicines for patients. By engaging in discussions linked to the Pharmaceutical Strategy, European's Beating Cancer Plan, the EU4Health Programme and the European Health Data Space we ensured and will continue to ensure that the voices of hospital pharmacists are heard in these key projects of the European Union.

For 2021, I hope that we can take steps that will help us contain the virus and return to our normal reality. Until then we will continue to embrace the new virtual reality and look forward to seeing you all at our first online congress celebrating the 25th anniversary of the EAHP Congress.

Petr Horák
EAHP President

EAHP in numbers

23,000
hospital pharmacists

23
Consultations 

3 webinars 

964 500
Twitter impressions 

35 countries 


2 Positions papers &
2 policy publications 

989
Instagram followers 

360 Hospitals
have assessed their
hospital with the SAT

281,754 visitors to www.eahp.eu 

791
Facebook likes 

General assembly
gathering
34 members 

1667
EU Monitor
subscribers 

6 issues of the
European Journal of
Hospital Pharmacy

96 stories in national media in **12** different
languages 

Who we are

The European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) is a working community of national associations of hospital pharmacists that represents and develops the hospital pharmacy profession within Europe in order to ensure the continuous improvement of care and outcomes for patients in the hospital setting. This is achieved through science, research, education, practice, as well as sharing best-practice and responsibility with other healthcare professionals.

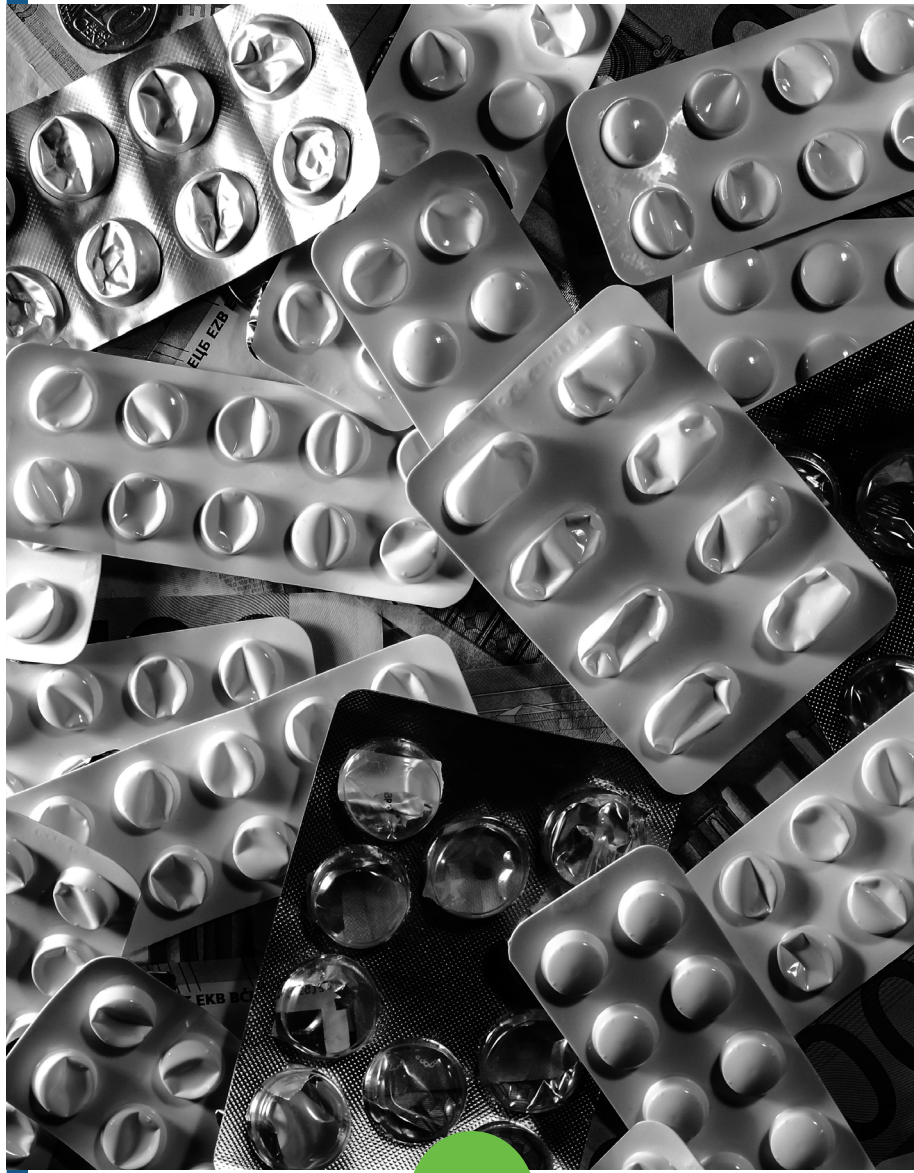
Our goals

- in the interest of patients and public health, to promote and further develop hospital pharmacy and to obtain and maintain general joint pharmaceutical principles and a joint pharmaceutical policy;
- to foster research and education activities on behalf of hospital pharmacy, in order to allow hospital pharmacists in all countries which are members of the Council of Europe from time to time (hereinafter "Countries in the European Region") to contribute optimally to public health and furthermore anything directly or indirectly related or beneficial thereto, all in the broadest sense of the word;
- to promote co-operation with other organisations in the domain of public health;
- to promote the position and function of hospital pharmacists;
- to support and uphold the interests of hospital pharmacists at the European Union authorities; to support and uphold the interests of hospital pharmacists at the Council of Europe authorities;
- to support and undergo everything related to the above that may be conducive to carrying out the Association's purpose.

Members

AUSTRIA - Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreichischer Krankenhausapotheker - **BELGIUM** - Association Francophone des Pharmaciens Hospitaliers de Belgique - Belgische Vereniging van Ziekenhuisapothekers - **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA** - Farmaceutsko Društvo Republike Srpske - **BULGARIA** - Bulgarian Association of Hospital Pharmacists - **CROATIA** - Hrvatsko Farmaceutsko Društvo - **CZECH REPUBLIC** - Sekce Nemocničních Lékárníků - **DENMARK** - Pharmadanmark - **ESTONIA** - Eesti Haiglaapteekrite Selts - **FINLAND** - Suomen Farmasialiitto - **FRANCE** - European Fellowship for Pharmacists - Syndicat national des pharmaciens des établissements publics de santé - Fédération Nationale des Syndicats d'Internes en Pharmacie et en Biologie Médicale - EURO-PHARMAT Base de données sur les Dispositifs Médicaux - Syndicat National des Pharmaciens Praticiens Hospitaliers et Praticiens Hospitaliers-Universitaires - **GERMANY** - Bundesverband Deutscher Krankenhausapotheker e.V. - **GREECE** - Πανελλήνιας Ένωση Φαρμακοποιών Νοσηλευτικών Ιδρυμάτων - **HUNGARY** - Kórházi Gyógyszerészeti Szervezete - **ICELAND** - Lyfjafræðingafélag Íslands - **IRELAND** - Hospital Pharmacists Association of Ireland - **ITALY** - Società Italiana di Farmacia Ospedaliera e dei Servizi Farmaceutici - **LATVIA** - Latvijas Farmaceitu Biedrības Oficiālais - **LITHUANIA** - Lietuvos farmacijos sąjunga - **LUXEMBOURG** - Association des Pharmaciens Hospitaliers du Luxembourg - **MALTA** - MAHP - Malta Association of Hospital Pharmacists - **MONTENEGRO** - Farmaceutska komora Crne Gore, Sekcija bolničkih farmaceuta - **NORTH MACEDONIA** - Фармацевтска Комора на Македонија - **NORWAY** - NNorske Sykehusfarmasøytters Forening - **POLAND** - Naczelna Izba Aptekarska - **PORTUGAL** - Associação Portuguesa de Farmacêuticos Hospitalares - **ROMANIA** - Asociația Națională a Farmacivilor de Spital din România - **SERBIA** - Savez Farmaceutskih Udruženja Srbije - **SLOVAKIA** - Slovenská Lekárnická komora - **SLOVENIA** - Slovensko Farmaceutsko Društvo - **SPAIN** - Sociedad Española de Farmacia Hospitalaria - **SWEDEN** - Apotekarsocieten - **SWITZERLAND** - Schweizerischer Verein der Amts- und Spitalapotheker - **THE NETHERLANDS** - Nederlandse Vereniging van Ziekenhuisapothekers - **UNITED KINGDOM** - Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists

Key achievements in 2020



COVID-19

RESPONSE



January

- Participation in the 'Morning rounds - A European answer to medicines shortages' event.
- Exchange with the German regional representations on medicines shortages.
- Meetings with several MEPs.

February

- Participation in the launch event of the "MEP Interest Group on Antimicrobial Resistance - MEPs fight AMR".
- Participation in the European Cancer Plan kick-off event.
- Contribution to the SEPEN Workshop - Health Workforce Planning, Quality of Care, Patient Safety and Working Conditions.
- Presentation on CTF at the ESNO a Touch of Nurses Congress.
- Implementation Steering Committee meeting.

March

- Participation in the ESA Patient Safety Policy Summit.
- Contribution to the "A European Union that ensures patient access and sustainability" event.
- Launch of COVID-19 Resource Centre
- Participation in the EU Coalition for Vaccination annual meeting.
- Provision of feedback for the "Commission guidelines on the optimal and rational supply of medicines to avoid shortages during the COVID-19 outbreak".



2019 EAHP MEDICINES SHORTAGES REPORT

MEDICINES SHORTAGES IN EUROPEAN HOSPITALS

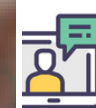
Medicines shortages in the hospital sector - prevalence, nature and impact on patient care



Share.

Exchange.

Webinar: Practical examples of Clinical and Hospital Pharmacy Services for COVID-19



The webinar will take place on 29 October from 7



April

May

June

- Publication of EAHP's 2019 Medicines Shortages Report.
- Joint Statement of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists, the European Association of Senior Hospital Physicians, the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy and the European Society of Oncology Pharmacy on the treatment of COVID-19 patients.
- Submission of feedback to the "Assessment of different options concerning the protection of workers from exposure to hazardous medicinal products".
- COVID-19 video initiative with ESCP.
- Engagement with MEPs to provide input to the Report on the "shortage of medicines - how to address an emerging problem".



Lessons learned from COVID-19

EAHP SURVEY ON THE FUTURE CRISIS PREPAREDNESS OF HOSPITAL PHARMACIES

#FightShortages4Patients

Take part in this survey before 23 December 2020

The survey is open to Hospital Pharmacists all over Europe and is available in 13 languages!



July

- Memorandum of Understanding signed with ESOP.
- Memorandum of Understanding signed with PGEU.

September

- Launch of EAHP's Survey on the future crisis preparedness of hospital pharmacies.
- Participation in the conference for the "Assessment of different options concerning the protection of workers from exposure to hazardous medicinal products".
- Virtual meeting with Health Commissioner Stella Kyriakides.
- World pharmacist Day.

October

- Adoption of position paper on patient safety.
- Adoption of position paper on pharmacy preparations and compounding.
- COVID-19 webinar with ESCP.
- Zooming in on solutions webinar series - EAHP webinar on risk assessments.
- 50th EAHP General Assembly.

Hospital pharmacists are experts in medicines and efficiently contribute to reduction of antibiotic overuse and resistance development

Acc.V Spot Magn Det WD | 1 µm

18-24 November 2020

#KeepAntibioticsWorking
#AntibioticResistance



November

December

- Virtual engagement in EAAD 2020

- Contribution to EMA's public meeting on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Participation in FIPs Vaccination series and summit.
- New EAHP Statutes filed

Projects and Policy

2020 was a challenging year for everybody. Hospital pharmacists, like many of their healthcare professional colleagues, fought on the frontline against the coronavirus. While some of EAHP's projects could only move forward at a slower pace, efforts were made to support hospital pharmacists across Europe during the COVID-19 pandemic. We want to take this opportunity to thank members for their strong support and commitment to EAHP and its activities even during these difficult times.

Projects

Statement Implementation

EAHP and its members keep working on moving towards the implementation of the European Statements of Hospital Pharmacy. The Steering Committee met in February 2020 to discuss and review the project. Following this meeting, the EAHP team and its network of Implementation Ambassadors prepared an updated action plan aiming to continuously advance the project.

380 hospitals have already assessed the level of implementation of the European Statements within their hospitals with the EAHP Self-assessment tool. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the SILCC programme – a training programme allowing hospital pharmacists to visit hospitals from other member countries to receive training on procedures linked with the Statements – was temporarily suspended.

Common Training Framework

EAHP's team is working on setting up a Common Training Framework for the hospital pharmacy profession. The Common Training Framework (CTF) is a legal tool to achieve automatic professional qualification recognition across EU countries, meaning that learning outcomes and competencies received in one European country are recognised throughout Europe.

In February 2020 the team shared their knowledge on CTF and the process that is being followed to achieve it with attendees of the Congress of the European Specialist Nurses Organisation (ESNO). All CTF Working Groups are collaborating to make CTF a reality. In 2020, the different working groups worked on gathering further information on the national programmes of hospital pharmacy which is needed for building an in-depth knowledge of the national programmes that exist across Europe.

International Membership

EAHP's members approved at the last General Assembly in October 2020 to widen the membership categories to also include associate international members and interested parties. EAHP membership is now open to regional or national associations representing the interests of hospital pharmacists and aiming to improve the profession. By partnering with other likeminded associations across the globe, EAHP will be able to collaborate and work together and by doing so can strive to obtain better patient outcomes when delivering hospital pharmacy services.

COVID-19

Launch of COVID-19 Resource Centre

In March 2020, EAHP launched its COVID-19 Resources Centre. EAHP's COVID-19 Resource Centre offers a structured compilation of scientific and medical knowledge and findings about COVID-19. Its objective is to help hospital pharmacists and other healthcare professionals to identify the most relevant publications on COVID-19 among the large amounts of data generated each day on this subject. The information included in the Resource Centre is updated regularly.

Data collection for EAHP's Survey on the future crisis preparedness of hospital pharmacies

EAHP launched in September 2020 a survey on the future crisis preparedness of hospital pharmacies and to better understand the shortages suffered. The survey targeted hospital pharmacists. Until the end of December, it gathered on the one hand details on the medicines for which shortages were experienced. On the other hand, it took stock of the experiences made in hospitals during the first few months of the crisis and explored suggestions for improving the future crisis preparedness of hospital pharmacies. The results of the survey will be released in the spring of 2021.

Examples of clinical and hospital pharmacy services offered to COVID-19 patients

Together with the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy (ESCP) EAHP engaged in an initiative to collect videos showcasing interesting activities done in hospital pharmacies and during the provision of clinical pharmacy services to treat COVID-19 patients. The 17 different videos can be viewed on a joint YouTube channel that has been set up to share the best practices from pharmacists across Europe: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjOzzti48bRJcrxyihNIEfA>

In October, a webinar was hosted to further disseminate the best practices and to provide EAHP and ESCP members with a clinical update.

European COVID-19 drugs calculation tool

Thanks to the efforts of some of EAHP's members, the European COVID-19 drugs calculation tool (ECDCT) was created to assist pharmacists, local healthcare institutions, governments, partners and other stakeholders to estimate potential requirements for essential drugs supplies to respond to the current COVID-19 pandemic. The ECDCT generates an estimation of drugs needed over a variable time frame, up to one year. The drug demand is calculated on the basis of forecasting the epidemiological curve. Hosted on EAHP's website (<https://www.eahp.eu/practice-and-policy/covid-19>) the tool and its tutorial can be used and viewed by pharmacists across the globe.

EAHP Opinion on COVID-19 Vaccine Programmes and their Implementation

In December 2020, EAHP issued an Opinion on COVID-19 Vaccine Programmes and their Implementation. The opinion touches on challenges posed by the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and their administration. EAHP draws attention to transport and storage conditions, underlines the importance of good logistic processes and record-keeping and shares information that could help with combatting vaccine hesitancy. In addition, regularly updated information on COVID-19 vaccines is also made available via EAHP's COVID-19 Resource Centre.

Policy

Continuing the fight against medicines shortages

Between November 2019 and January 2020, EAHP collected information on medicines shortages from hospital pharmacists, patients and other healthcare professionals, such as physicians and nurses. Selected feedback has been displayed in infographics. The 2019 Medicines Shortages Survey looked at the impact of medicines shortages in the hospital environment. In particular, it explored issues such as the communications of medicines shortages within hospitals, current management strategies and possible reasons for shortages and their impact on patients. Also, solutions to preventing and addressing medicines shortages were gathered. The survey report was published in April 2020.

Throughout spring 2020, EAHP engaged with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and provided input from the perspective of healthcare professionals to the Report on the shortage of medicines - how to address an emerging problem. Also, different events organised on the topic were attended by EAHP.

In autumn EAHP teamed up with Affordable Medicines Europe, the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), the European Healthcare Distribution Association (GIRP) and the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU) to organise a series of webinars focusing on solutions to mitigate the impact of medicines shortages in Europe. The second webinar of the series - which zoomed in on prevention, response plans and risk assessments - was hosted by EAHP. Two types of prevention strategies were explored with the speakers and the audience.

Strengthening collaboration with the fellow pharmacy organisations ESCP, ESOP, FIP and PGEU

The year 2020 was also used by EAHP to further strengthen its relationship with fellow pharmacy organisations such as ESCP, the European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP), the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) and PGEU. Agreements were concluded with the European organisations to foster collaboration and exchange in areas of mutual interest. In the area of vaccination, several webinars organised by FIP were joined to share the views of the European region.

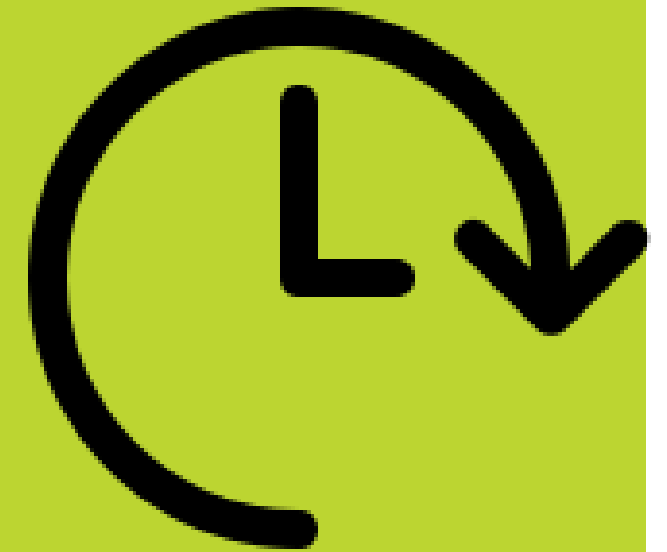
Revision of the position paper on patient safety

In October 2020, EAHP's member associations agreed on a revised position paper on patient safety specifically focusing on medication safety. In particular medication errors, which occur when a medicine has been inappropriately prescribed, prepared, dispensed or administered to a patient, are a key concern for hospital pharmacists. Therefore, the position paper shares recommendations for different management tools, the implementation of clinical pharmacy services as well as the application of infection prevention and control measures. It also touches on the staffing of hospital pharmacies and the importance of interprofessional collaboration.

Adoption of a position paper on pharmacy preparations and compounding

EAHP's member association also adopted in October 2020 a position paper on pharmacy preparations and compounding. This position paper aims at providing information about the practice of pharmacy preparations and compounding in hospitals and asks for a stronger embedment of compounding and reconstitution practices in European hospital pharmacies, linked to increasing capacity and training.

Looking forward to what is coming next year



- Celebrating new milestones – EAHP’s 25th congress anniversary & the 1st virtual edition.
- Drawing from the lessons learned – Results of EAHP’s COVID-19 Survey.
- Sharing knowledge – EAHP’s Special Interest Groups are starting their work.
- Making CTF for hospital pharmacy a reality within Europe – Read more about the work done so far in the report coming out this summer.
- Moving towards Statement Implementation – Publication of an interactive report showing what EAHP is doing to fully integrate the European Statements within its member countries.
- Increasing our educational activities – Synergy Certification Courses in France & Greece.
- Broadening our horizon – EAHP Membership opened to International Associate Members and interested parties.

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