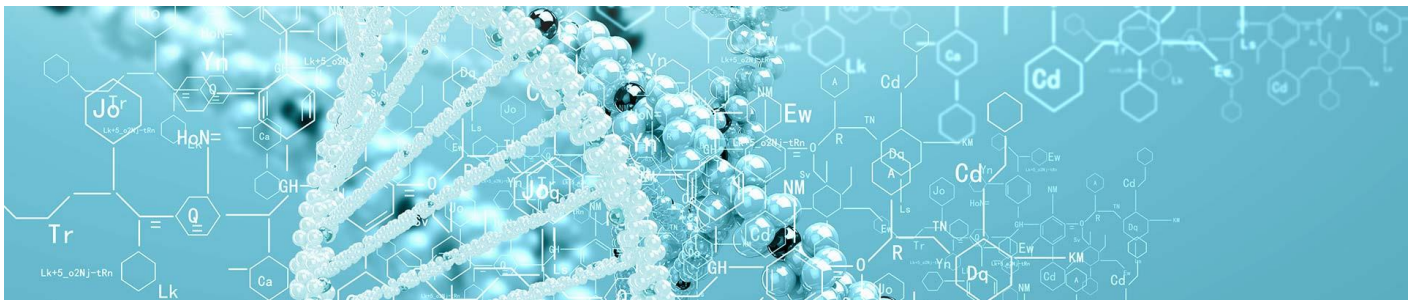

Biomedical Alliance in Europe

UPDATE FEBRUARY

Highlights:

Biomedical Alliance in Europe

1. ESICM becomes the 30th member of the BioMed Alliance

We are glad to welcome the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) to the Biomedical Alliance in Europe, bringing the total amount of members to 30. ESICM unites more than 9000 professionals in intensive care medicine and we are sure that the organisation will provide valuable input and expertise in our activities.

ESICM was established in 1982 and the organisation supports and promotes the advancement of knowledge in intensive care medicine through education, research and professional development.

With ESICM joining, the number of specialties and the diversity in our membership continue to increase allowing us to work intensively on even more projects.

2. BioMed Alliance experts met with the JRC

On 11 February, Regulatory Affairs and Medical Devices Task Force advised the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission in Ispra, Italy, on the clinical evaluation of high-risk medical devices. Representatives of the healthcare professions discussed how scientists and clinicians can help to implement the new EU Medical Devices Regulation (MDR) and the new EU In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices Regulation (IVDR).

The BioMed Alliance published a press release about the meeting which was promoted by DODS, a major EU political affairs monitoring service.

3. #BettereducationBettercare Cartoon is now online

Continuing medical education is essential for healthcare professionals to keep track of the latest developments in healthcare and provide the best possible care to their patients. Therefore, the CME Experts Standing Committee has created a cartoon which explains the importance of high quality unbiased continuing medical education.

The cartoon targets the public and medical professionals to raise awareness on CME and particularly on the role of medical associations in providing CME.

There are two versions of the cartoon, the longer version may be shared on websites while the shorter version is more suitable for social media and will be shared under the hashtag #BetterEducationBetterCare.

4. BioMed Alliance jointly organised roundtable with EFPIA on translational research

The Biomedical Alliance in Europe and EFPIA met on 26 February to discuss European initiatives designed to increase the coherence and visibility of translational biomedical health research.

EFPIA (which represents pharmaceutical organisations) is coordinating the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) which is the most prominent initiative at EU level for translational research. It brings together the EU, industry and researchers and facilitates cooperation in health research.

During the roundtable meeting, several BioMed Alliance Board members and representatives discussed the current landscape for translational research with EFPIA representatives. They also exchanged views on the future of translational research at EU level. Notes of the meeting along with the agreed action points will be circulated to our members in due time.

5. Video on the future of health policy featuring BioMed Alliance

On 22 February, Interel published a video featuring Prof. Axel Pries. The video provides a platform to several key stakeholders in EU health policy to communicate their vision on health policy ahead of the EU elections.

The BioMed Alliance was thus able to communicate its policy priorities and outline its vision for future priorities in health policy. Prof. Pries specifically referred to our ambition for a Steering Board for Health and stated that; “A Steering Board for Health would create a more visible, more sustainable and more long-term vision for health research funding in the EU”.

The full video can be found here and is available on our social media channels.

6. BioMed Alliance provides feedback to Plan S

The BioMed Alliance provided feedback to the public consultation on Plan S, the initiative of the European Commission, Research Funding Organisations and Science Europe to promote open access publishing. While a majority of members welcomes the initiative proposed by Coalition S and supports the promotion of open access publishing, members shared certain concerns about the scope and implementation of Plan S. In particular, they see the plan as underdeveloped, the timeline as too ambitious and the content as too restrictive and inflexible.

Plan S, or cOAlition S, is an initiative of the European Commission and national funding organisations that aims to promote open access and ensure that scientific publications that receive funding from its members are made freely accessible immediately upon publication. The intention of the Coalition is to enhance access to academic publications that are funded with public money, since many researchers struggle to pay the high costs. The most important consequence of Plan-S is that researchers that receive public funding from participating organisations will no longer be able to publish in paid, non-open access journals.

The BioMed Alliance has issued a statement outlining its feedback on Plan S, which cautiously welcomes the initiative while listing a number of concerns voiced by member organisations.

7. Upcoming

- The BioMed Alliance's annual **Spring Meeting** will take place on 14 May from 10.00 to 16.00 Members are invited to this meeting to discuss policies that are high on the political agenda and activities of the BioMed Alliance. The final agenda will be communicated shortly.
- Members of Regulatory Affairs and Medical Devices Task Force are organising a **workshop on registries** on 17 June. The meeting will provide an opportunity for medical societies and regulators to jointly discuss how registries should be organised to supply both regulatory and clinical needs.