



Message from Isabel Saraiva, Chair of the European Lung Foundation:

It has been a very active few weeks for ELF and the wider lung health community. Things kicked off for me with World No Tobacco Day on 31 May; here in Portugal, we had a number of different awareness-raising activities highlighting the importance of a smoke-free life.

I then attended the International Primary Care Respiratory Group conference in Porto, where I was invited to speak about the role of patients at the conference's closing session. ELF also had a stand at the event, and it was a real pleasure to meet so many primary care professionals and talk to them about how our factsheets and other resources can help them and their patients.

Later on in the month, we joined the Chair of this year's European Respiratory Society International Congress in Paris to meet with local Healthy Lungs for Life partners [Fondation du Souffle](#), [SPLF](#) and [FFAAIR](#). During the meeting, we discussed the final details of this year's Healthy Lungs for Life campaign. After launching the campaign with a press conference, we will hold a lung testing event for members of the public outside the Paris city hall on Friday 14–Saturday 15 September between 11:00–20:00. Alongside free lung tests, FFAAIR and smoking cessation experts will be on-hand to provide information and advice on lung conditions, clean air and stopping smoking. I hope that many of you will join us and our partners at Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville to help us celebrate.

Last week, we took part in the 2018 ERS Presidential Summit in Athens, Greece. Professor Mina Gaga wanted patients to be at the heart of the event, and the whole agenda was based on the survey that the ELF Patient Organisation Network responded to on the future trends affecting them and their members. We were joined by some brilliant patient advocates and patient organisations who were able to share their experiences and views on a range of pressing topics. This resulted in a really powerful event, and I was proud that ELF was a part of it. You can read a full overview of the summit later in this newsletter.

In other news, we were recently invited to the annual European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) congress to share our experience of involving patients in lung research projects. Courtney Coleman gave a presentation highlighting the benefits and learnings from several projects we have been involved in. Courtney also took the opportunity to meet the Chair of EULAR's patient pillar, and network with patient organisations. It was great to be able to share ideas and identify opportunities for future collaboration, and see patient involvement in action outside the lung health field.

Finally, I want to pay tribute to Malcolm Weallans, co-founder of the UK Pulmonary Fibrosis Trust. Malcolm had idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) and was a fantastic advocate for others with the condition. As well as being a member of the British Lung Foundation's IPF advisory panel, Malcolm was a leading light for us in our work on making air travel easier for people living with lung conditions. As well as participating in [the workshop we held at the ERS International Congress in London in 2016](#), Malcolm was very active on this topic, contributing his experiences and views on our educational materials – all with the aim of helping other people with lung conditions. My sincere

condolences go to his family and friends; we will continue his work in ensuring people with lung conditions can travel more easily.

Living in a less 'walkable' area could increase a child's risk of asthma

[Find out more](#)

Ban e-cigarette flavourings and misleading adverts to protect young people, say international lung health experts

[Find out more](#)

Study shows lung transplant can benefit people with bronchiectasis at advanced stages

[Find out more](#)



ELF DELIGHTED TO BE OFFICIAL EU-OSHA HEALTHY WORKPLACES CAMPAIGN PARTNER

We are pleased to announce that we are an official partner of the Healthy Workplaces campaign, organised by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA).

Healthy Workplaces is an EU-backed two-year long campaign that aims to raise awareness of different aspects of health and safety at work. The current campaign topic is 'manage dangerous substances'.

[Read more.](#)

ERS PRESIDENTIAL SUMMIT 2018: 'REDESIGNING THE FUTURE OF PATIENT CARE'

The 2018 ERS Presidential Summit took place in Athens, Greece on 19–20 June.

This year the summit had the theme of 'Redesigning the future of patient care', and ERS President Professor Mina Gaga really wanted it to focus on what patients need in the future and to give them a platform to share their experiences.

[Read more.](#)



NEWS FROM THE ELF TEAM

Over the coming months, there will be some changes within the ELF team.

Firstly, Irene Ferrario, who has been working with us on EU projects since the end of 2015, will be leaving for an exciting new position in the tech industry in Switzerland. We will be sorry to see her go, but want to thank her for her hard work for ELF and wish her lots of luck for the future.

We are also pleased to announce that Courtney Coleman, who many of you will know for her work on ELF's patient involvement activities, is expecting a baby. Courtney's maternity leave starts in September, so she will not be joining us at Congress – however, we are looking forward to welcoming Barbara Johnson, who will cover Courtney's role during her maternity leave, to the team at the end of next month.



INTERVIEW WITH TETIANA SPRYNSIAN, VICE-DIRECTOR OF INCURE

INCURE, the Communicable Diseases Intensive Care Association Civic Union, was set up in Ukraine to share best practices in TB treatment.

In this interview we asked Tetiana Sprynsian, Vice Director, about their recent activities and upcoming campaigns.

[Read the interview.](#)



PATIENT ORGANISATION ROUND UP, JUNE 2018

May has been a very busy month for patient organisations – with events like World Asthma Day and World Pulmonary Hypertension Day to celebrate among many other milestones.

[Read the full round-up.](#)

Picture: Irene Dikova, who has received a double lung transplant, takes home the gold medal in tennis during the European Heart and Lung Transplant Championships





The European Lung Foundation (ELF) was founded by the European Respiratory Society (ERS) in 2000 with the aim of bringing together patients, the public and respiratory professionals to positively influence respiratory medicine.

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