



**Patients and professionals making  
the future together**

***EAHP request for patient group  
participation***

## **What is the European Summit on Hospital Pharmacy?**

The European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) has a mission of developing the hospital pharmacy profession at the European level *‘to ensure the continuous improvement of care and outcomes for patients in the hospital setting’*.

In order to achieve this mission the Board of the EAHP considers it important to develop a clear sense of the desired professional destination for hospital pharmacy, a desire that should ideally be shared by its key focus: patients. This vision for professional development should be accompanied by practical tools to achieve its delivery in every European country, and in so doing, help to address inequalities in healthcare delivery in the hospital setting.

The sense of vision, and the proposed tools and implementation framework, are intended to be brought together at a Summit event, scheduled to be held in Brussels in May 2014. Working Groups will provide the Summit participants with a range of statements, documents and intended outcomes for scrutiny and validation. The Summit participants are intended to be not only hospital pharmacists, but the users of hospital pharmacy services (patients), as well as hospital pharmacy delivery partners (other professions).

The Summit should then provide a strong focus to service improvement activities across Europe from 2014 onwards.

## **Why would EAHP like patient groups to be involved?**

EAHP is determined that the outcomes of the Summit reflect what is desired by patients themselves. For example, do patients want to be counselled about the use of new medicines by hospital pharmacists? If so, which models in Europe for delivering this do they find attractive, and in scales of priority, when might they like to realistically see this achieved?

EAHP considers that patient groups can bring unique insights to a range of issues in relation to any discussion about the future of health systems and service delivery in Europe. Issues such as: patients’ rights; patients’ information requirements in relation to medicines use and compliance; and the positive and negative experiences of patients in respect of developments in hospital services to date.

EAHP would like patient groups to contribute this perspective to our Summit event, and help to ensure the event’s outcomes, which are intended to be the basis of EAHP practice improvements endeavours for some time, meet the needs of patients, and reflect their views and experiences.

## **What would such involvement require?**

Principally, a patient group would be asked to participate in the May 2014 Summit event in Brussels, as an active and involved voting member on the outcome documents (what hospital pharmacy should be in the European context, what represents best practice, how countries can achieve this etc).

In advance of this, EAHP will work with patient groups to give appropriate involvement and input to the formulation of the Summit, and to provide any educational opportunities about the profession (e.g. attendance at our Congress, visits to hospital pharmacies). We are highly mindful of the need to respect resource pressures and shall at all times seek to keep any requests for contribution or opinion to a manageable level and for meaningful purpose.