

Speaker biographies

Francis Arickx is currently coordinator and executive manager of the final managers and the administration of the CRM and Secretary General for the CRM at RIZIV/NIHDI. He is a delegate for the Minister of Social Affairs at the Pricing Committee. He is also a lecturer in Health Policy at the University of Antwerp. He trained as a pharmacist at Ghent University.

Jim Attridge is a Research Fellow in the Business School at Imperial College, London and an independent consultant. His current research interests include the industrial economics of the pharmaceutical industry; in particular the effects of globalisation of both the supply and demand side of the sector.

He was formerly Head of Government & Economic Affairs at AstraZeneca plc. He has served as a member of EFPIA, PhRMA and IFPMA committees on Economic and Social Affairs, Intellectual Property and Trade Policy over many years and continues to act as an advisor to these associations. He has published and lectured extensively upon the economic regulation of the pharmaceutical industry and is an acknowledged expert on national pricing and reimbursement systems. He was also a member of the World Bank Health and Nutrition Division Advisory Group on Medicines and the Pharmaceutical sector.

He is a graduate of the University of Leeds, was awarded a Doctorate in Organic Chemistry from the University of Manchester and did post-doctoral research at MIT.

Mary Baker is President of the European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA), a European umbrella organisation which brings together neurological patient advocacy groups, to work with other associations in the field of neurology, including the European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS), in what has been termed a "Partnership for Progress".

Mary is Chair of The Working Group on PD which was formed by the World Health organisation (WHO) in 1997, to develop guidelines for the WHO-led international efforts to control PD. She is Patron and Immediate Past President of the European Parkinson's Disease Association. She is Director at Large for the World Stroke Association, and former patient editor of the *BMJ*. She has received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Surrey in recognition of her work within the world of Parkinson's disease. Mary has also received numerous awards in recognition of her work in the field of Neurology, and PD in particular, including the European Woman of Achievement Award 2000, and the Human Communication International Award 2001.

Nicola Bedlington was the first Director of the European Disability Forum, an umbrella organisation uniting over 70 European disability NGOs and National Councils of Disabled People to advocate for the human rights and inclusion of disabled citizens in Europe. Prior to this she headed the NGO unit within the HELIOS Programme, a European Commission Action Programme promoting equal opportunities for disabled people. From She led the Environment and Schools Initiatives Secretariat (ENSI), an international government-based network set up by OECD, focussing on innovation, action research and policy development in the field of Education for Sustainable Development. She has also worked as an independent consultant/evaluator, specialising in European social and development policy and health advocacy.

She joined the European Patients' Forum as its first Executive Director in June 2006, setting up the secretariat in Brussels. Since then, EPF's membership has grown to almost 50 umbrella organisations of national patients' platforms and disease specific organisations, representing the collective interests of over 150 million patients with chronic diseases across the European Union in EU healthcare policy and programme development.

Gustaf Befrits is a health economist with the Dental and Pharmaceutical Benefits Agency of Sweden. He spent almost 10 years within the pharmaceutical and medical device industry in marketing and market access positions. He holds a BSc in Economics from Lund University and a MSc in Health Economics from the Karolinska Institute (KI).

Baroness Julia Cumberlege was a Junior Health Minister and for five years covered all health and social services matters in the House of Lords. She has been commissioned by two Governments to produce two national reports: Neighbourhood Nursing – a *Focus for Care* and *Changing Childbirth*. She is involved in a number of charities and is Patron of the National Childbirth Trust, Julia is also a Vice President of the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Midwives. Julia has been awarded an honorary degree from London University.

In 2000 Julia formed her own company, Cumberlege Connections, which specialises in working with the health sector, designing and delivering a wide range of leadership and political awareness programmes.

Hans W Friederiszick is a managing director at ESMT Competition Analysis and a former member of the chief economist team at DG Competition. Dr Friederiszick has extensive experience in advising clients in all fields of competition economics. While working at the European Commission, he was one of the main contributors to the ongoing reform in the field of EC state aid control, including contributions to the State Aid Action Plan and the R&D&I Guidelines. Dr Friederiszick has published widely and is a regular speaker at international antitrust conferences. Recent publications include a study on innovation in the pharmaceutical industry, on intermodal competition in the railway industry, on economic methods for damage calculations, on the economics of state aid control and on internet neutrality.

Jens Grueger is Vice President and Head of Global Market Access Primary Care at Pfizer, based in New York and London. He was previously Head of Global Pricing & Health Economics at Novartis Pharma. Before joining Novartis, he founded Diversified Health Systems, a start-up company providing internet based disease management services to physician networks in Europe.

Jens holds an undergraduate degree in Mathematics, a Masters degree in Medical Statistics and Theoretical Medicine, and a PhD in mathematical statistics from University of Dortmund, Germany. He has authored more than 40 publications in biometrics, cancer epidemiology and health economics.

Ansgar Hebborn is Roche Pharma's Head of Payer + HTA Program Policy based in Basel, Switzerland. In addition, he leads a multidisciplinary team tasked with the development of global pricing and reimbursement strategies as well as accompanying clinical, health economic, and other outcomes research programs in a number of disease areas. Ansgar is a member and active contributor to national and international pharmaceutical policy forums and professional associations. He is a current member of the Board of Directors of ISPOR. For the past couple of years Ansgar has taken an active role as advisor and stakeholder representative in various HTA collaboration networks and research initiatives. Ansgar has authored or co-authored publications in the areas of health policy, health economics and pharmaceutical outcomes research as well as a popular monograph on the German health care market.

Rainer Hess is the impartial chairman of the Federal Joint Committee (G-BA), a position he has held since January 2004. After studying mathematics and law, Dr. Hess became a legal advisor to the Association of Senior Hospital Physicians. He received a PhD in fiscal law in 1972 and became a legal advisor at Germany's medical association and the Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians. Prior to assuming the chairmanship of the G-BA, Dr. Hess was the general manager of the National Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians (KBV) for 15 years.

Albert J. Jovell is a specialist in Preventive Medicine and Public Health. He holds the degrees of Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, Master of Science in health Policy and Management and Doctor in Public Health from Harvard University; a Master of Arts in Social and Political Sciences from the University Autonomus of Barcelona and a Doctor in Sociology from the University of Barcelona. Currently, he is the General Director of the Josep Laporte Library Foundation; Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the University Autonomus of Barcelona, President of the Spanish Patients' Forum and Director of Patients' University. He is an academic of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Catalonia and ASHOKA fellow. He is the author of several books including a novel and writes regularly in several newspapers. His fields of expertise are health policy and management.

Panos Kanavos is Senior Lecturer in International Health Policy in the Department of Social Policy and Head of the Medical Technology Research Unit at LSE Health. He is also Visiting Professor at the University of Lausanne. He has acted as advisor to a number of international governmental and non-governmental organisations, including the World Bank, the World Health Organisation and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the American Association for Retired Persons and Ministries of Health in over 21 transition and developing countries. He is currently participating in the European Pharmaceutical Forum as advisor to the European Commission. His research interests comprise comparative health policy and health care reform; pharmaceutical economics and policy; quality in health care; and the socio-economic determinants of health.

Krzysztof Landa is currently an independent consultant, the President of Watch Health Care Foundation, CEO of HTA Audit and lecturer in the Public Health Center, Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management in Warsaw. He is also the author of numerous publications, lectures and presentations, including "Basic Features and Development Principles of Health Benefit Packages in the Selected Countries" and "Pricing – Prices of Drugs on Reimbursement Lists, Negotiations and Risk Sharing".

Thomas Lönngren recently retired from his position as the executive director of the European Medicines Agency. He qualified as a pharmacist from the University of Uppsala, Sweden Faculty of Pharmacy. He holds a master of science in social and regulatory pharmacy, and a diploma in health economics from the Stockholm School of Economics. He served with the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare, Department of Drugs from 1978 to 1990.

Thomas was elected an honorary member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in 2003, and he was made an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 2004. He was granted an honorary doctorate from the University of Uppsala in January 2008, and received the Drug Information Association's Distinguished Career Award in March 2008.

Ulf Persson is Professor in Health Economics at the Institute of Economic Research, School of Economics and Management, Lund University and CEO at the Swedish Institute for Health Economics (IHE). He has 30 years' research experience in the development and application of economic evaluation methods in health care. His main research areas are health economics, pharmaceutical economics, economic evaluations, and transport economics. He has published more than 200 articles, books and reports in health economics and economics of transport safety. He is a member of the Swedish Dental Benefit Board and has over seven years' experience on the Swedish Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement Board.

Christophe Roeland is a policy officer in the European Commission's Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry. He works in the unit responsible for healthcare industries and biotechnology, where he is mainly involved in European policy initiatives relating to pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement, access to medicines and competitiveness. His tasks also include the management of internal market legislation, in particular Directive 89/105/EEC on the transparency of pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement measures. He studied political science, EU policies and international relations in Strasbourg, Washington D.C. and Paris. He also holds a masters' degree in European administration from the College of Europe in Bruges.

Andrzej Rys is Director in Directorate C – “Public Health and Risk Assessment”, in the European Commission. He is a medical doctor specialising in radiology and public health. He established and directed the School of Public Health at the Jagiellonian University. From 1997-1999 he took up the post of director of Krakow’s city health department. In 1995-1999 he was the Polish director of the “Harvard-Jagiellonian Consortium for Health” – a project focusing on local governments’ role in health care. In 1999-2002 he became the deputy Minister of Health in Poland and developed a new system of emergency medicine and new education system for nurses. He was a member of the Polish accession negotiators team. In 2003 he established and directed the Center for Innovation and Technology Transfer at Jagiellonian University. He was also director for development of Diagnostic Ltd., executive director of the Polish Association of Private Health Care Employers and chief editor of the *Journal of Health and Management*. He joined the European Commission in June 2006.

Kerstin Westermark received her MD and PhD at the Uppsala University Faculty of Medicine in Sweden, specialising in internal medicine and endocrinology. She was head of the Department of Clinical Trials at the Medical Products Agency in Uppsala, Sweden. She was the Swedish delegate to the Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP) at the EMA and was one of the COMP representatives to the Scientific Advice Working Party (SAWP) at the EMA. In 2006 she was elected chairperson of the COMP. She also holds a position as adjunct professor at the Uppsala University Faculty of Medicine.

Wolfgang Wein is Executive Vice President of Global Business Unit Oncology and a member of the Executive Management Board at Merck Serono. Previously Senior Vice President for Global Oncology Commercialization, he joined Merck KGaA in 2004. Dr. Wein is a medical doctor and was lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology at the University Hospital Vienna. He also studied journalism and philosophy, earning a second doctorate. After a postgraduate education in hospital management, he switched to a career in industry in 1993. Initially working for Nycomed and later Eli Lilly, he held positions in both the medical and marketing fields, working in diverse regions such as Europe, CEE/ME/Africa and Japan. Prior to joining Merck he was the Oncology Marketing Leader for Europe at Lilly, based in the UK.

Nils Wilking graduated from the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden. He worked for many years in the field of surgical oncology, later focusing on medical oncology and then on breast and GI cancer. He headed the breast and GI cancer unit at the Karolinska hospital during 1992-1998. During this period he also set up and headed the clinical trial unit at the department of oncology. In 1998 he joined Eli Lilly as a senior research physician. In 2001 he moved to BMS where he held a European position in their oncology team. Since 2003 he has worked on research linked to the Karolinska Institutet. He now also serves as Senior Strategic Advisor for the Southern Health Care Region in Sweden. His main focus has been on research in relation to health service delivery. This work, in collaboration with Professor Bengt Jönsson at the Stockholm School of Economics, has resulted in a number of reports with a focus on patients’ access to cancer therapy.

Stefaan Van der Spiegel is currently responsible within the European Commission for European legislation and policy on Substances of Human Origin (organs, blood, tissues and cells). He was previously responsible for the European Commission Policy on pricing and reimbursement of pharmaceuticals, including the Pharmaceutical Forum. He is an alumnus of McKinsey & Co, a medical doctor and holds an MBA.