## The European Dermatology Forum (EDF)

A non-profit professional organization dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare for Dermatology patients in Europe



European Dermatology Forum

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## **European Dermatology Forum (EDF)**

### WHAT IS THE EDF?

- a non-profit professional organization dedicated to improving the skin health of people in Europe.
- the EDF was founded in 1997 by a group of leading European Professors of Dermatology. The EDF is currently restricted to 200 active members consisting of heads of academic departments and key opinion leaders in dermato-venereology across Europe.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

 to implement actions aimed at preventing skin disease and improving the quality of healthcare for dermatologic & venereologic patients in Europe, notably by strengthening the position and reducing the health economic impact of dermato-venereology and its several subspecialties such as allergology and dermato-oncology to the benefit of our patients and our profession.

### AIMS

The specific aims of the EDF are to:

- Provide a visible and positive image for dermatology & venereology within the medical community, governmental agencies and society.
- 2. Strengthen the health economic impact of the specialty.
- Provide independent advice and facilitate communication between dermatologists and European governmental agencies, industry, academia and patient associations.
- Promote the highest possible standard of prevention and care for skin and venereal diseases. The EDF produces European guidelines for the management of skin and venereal diseases.
- Secure and expand the scientific basis of dermato-venereology by collaborating with sister societies (e.g. EADV, UEMS, ESDR, EADO, IUSTI and others).
- 6. Enhance and harmonize high quality dermatology & venereology training in Europe as exemplified by the annual Euroderm Excellence Course organized by the EDF, with the support of Lilly, for final year dermatology residents in Europe.

- 7. Improve and harmonize undergraduate teaching of dermatologyvenereology in Europe.
- 8. Provide platforms for web-based teaching, learning and personal Continuous Medical Education (CME).

## **EDF Structure**

### **LEGAL ENTITY**

The EDF is an independent, non-profit association registered in Switzerland.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors is comprised of 12 elected EDF members from 10 European countries. Members are elected at the Annual General Assembly:

Prof. Nick Reynolds, Newcastle, UK, President Prof. Alexander Enk, Heildelberg, Germany, Past – President Prof. Antonio Costanzo, Milan, Italy, Secretary-General & Vice-President Prof. Marie-Aleth Richard, Marseille, France, Treasurer Prof. Véronique del Marmol, Brussels, Belgium Prof. Alexander Navarini, Basel, Switzerland Prof. Michael Schön, Göttingen, Germany Prof. Kaisa Tasanen-Määttä, Oulu, Finland Prof. Josep Malvehy, Barcelona, Spain Prof. Miklós Sárdy, Budapest, Hungary Prof. Charlotta Enerbäck, Linkoping, Sweden Prof. Carlo Pincelli, Modena, Italy

#### MEMBERS

Membership is on an invitation basis. A maximum of 200 active members, all of whom are opinion leaders in dermatology, and EDF members representing 30 European countries constitute the EDF membership.

### **CORPORATE MEMBERS**

The EDF enjoys a strong collaborative partnership with Corporate members (12 currently) from the pharma- or biotech industry. Corporate members have the possibility to actively participate in the EDF Annual Meetings in various ways (e.g.- lecture in the industry symposium, privileged one-to-one meetings on an individual basis with the Board of the EDF).

# **Notable achievements of the EDF**

### **GUIDELINES**

The EDF in collaboration with Prof. Alexander Nast from the Division of Evidence-Based Medicine, Department of Dermatology, Charité University, Berlin has launched the European Centre for Guidelines Development. The Centre is advised and supported by renowned experts in the field. The project aims to foster high-quality guidelines through harmonized methodologies that ensure alignment with current gold standards, under a systemized structure and with a continuous update process. The governance includes a Board of Directors, with EDF having a majority

status. The project is already sponsored by Pharma companies and by an initial fund provided by EDF. Additional support is provided by national and international societies.

## **EDF WHITE BOOK**

In 2020, the 6th Edition of the White Book was published under the management of Prof Harald Gollnick (chief ed.) with the collaboration of Profs J. Barker, M. Bagot, L. Naldi, and N. Reynolds. The EDF White Book contains critical information about the all spectrum of dermato-venereology and describes the burden of skin and sexually transmitted diseases in Europe. It outlines the high impact of skin and sexually transmitted diseases and their management and provides up-to-date information on key areas of clinical and scientific advance. The current edition has particularly emphasized economics, morbidity and burden of disease, as well as new developments in diagnostics and therapies. The EDF White Book is structured to be of use and interest to dermato-venereologists, other physicians, the pharmaceutical indu-stry and policy makers including medical school and hospital administrators as well as health politicians and patient organizations. The 7th edition will be ready and distributed in 2023.

### **ANNUAL MEETINGS**

The EDF organizes a 2-day Annual General Meeting in January with a rich scientific program including plenary lectures, thematic symposia, industry symposia, EDF working group meetings and reports, as well as reports from its European Sister Societies. The annual meeting of the EDF is attended by over 200 delegates including EDF members, Corporate members and guests. The high quality scientific program and ideal platform for constructive networking make it a highlight for key opinion leaders in dermatology across Europe.

#### HARMONIZING EDUCATION

The EDF is actively working in order to promote and harmonize high quality education, teaching of dermato-venereology within the medical curricula for students across Europe. The EDF supports the internet platform Cyberderm DOIT (Dermatology Online with Interactive Technol ogy, www.cyberderm.net), a peer reviewed interactive, systematic and case-oriented, multilingual online dermatology e-learning platform for undergraduate students in Medicine which is also complemented by a webbook. This activity is also supported by a grant awarded by the EU Erasmus Plus Program for the project "Harmonized European Dermato-Venereology Undergraduate Blended Learning Implementation and Training (HEDU\_LEARN\_IT)".

## LOBBYING

The EDF invests considerable energy into promoting and defending the interests of dermatology and patients with skin disease in Europe. Besides the White Book as a communication tool, the EDF fosters active contact with leaders of opinion in academia, industry and politics at a European level.

## EUROPEAN DERMATOLOGY LIAISON COMMITTEE

A Liaison Committee for European Dermatology Societies meets under the umbrella of the EDF on an annual basis to define common goals and achieve consensus in strategic domains relevant to European Dermatology. Members are the EDF, EADV, UEMS, ESDR and ILDS, as well as ad hoc exchanges with other European societies.

## ANNUAL EURODERM EXCELLENCE COURSE

For 18 years the EDF has been organizing the Euroderm Excellence course for residents in dermato-venereology. The intensive course is delivered to a selected 100 final-year dermatology residents, by several Professors of Dermatology and specialists in their field from all across Europe. The aim is to contribute to a high-level of pan-European education in dermatology & venereology and its subspecialties. The EDF will continue to hold this course with the support of Lilly, as exclusive pharma partner for this event (www.eurodermexcellence.com).

## ANNUAL ADVANCED EURODERM EXCELLENCE COURSE

Since 2021, the EDF provides a novel program to better prepare young clinicians and clinician scientists for their upcoming professional life. 20-25 dermatologists who have previously participated in the EDF Euroderm Excellence course are selected each year to join a 1 day teaching course prior to the EDF meeting in January. The EDF Board of Directors selects participants based on their scientific and clinical achievements. The goal is to select the best young dermatologists in Europe and offer them specific training and mentoring to better prepare them as future leaders within our dermatological society. Renowned speakers from all over Europe are invited to offer in depth training about how to successfully run a dermatological department in the future. Participation is by invitation only and requires previous participation at the basic EDF Euroderm Excellence course.



President 2022 Prof. Nick Reynolds Newcastle, United Kingdom



Secretary-General & Vice-President 2022 Prof. Antonio Costanzo Milan, Italy

Prof. Véronique del Marmol Brussels, Belgium

Prof. Alexander Navarini Basel, Switzerland

**Prof. Michael Schön** Göttingen, Germany

Prof. Josep Malvehy Barcelona, Spain



Past President 2022 Prof. Alexander Enk Heidelberg, Germany



Treasurer 2021 – 2022 Prof. Marie Aleth Richard Marseille, France

Prof. Miklós Sárdy Budapest, Hungary

Prof. Kaisa Tasanen-Määttä Oulu, Finland

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