

Dear Reader,

Pain Alliance Europe (PAE) is a pan-European organization of national/regional associations involved in chronic pain regardless of what the underlying condition may be. At this time, PAE has 34 members from 17 different EU countries which in turn represent over 350,000 individual chronic pain patients. PAE's mission is: improve the quality of life of people living with chronic pain in Europe. It sees itself as the voice of people with chronic pain.

PAE was founded in 2011 in response to the need of the stakeholders to have a patients' association to cooperate with. Since then, PAE has proven to be a transparent, trustworthy and reliable association. From those early days it has almost doubled its members and increased the involved member states by 50%. PAE realizes that there is still a long way to go to get all EU countries involved.

The main focus is on the European options regarding improving the quality of life of people living with chronic pain. In that way our involvement and cooperation with SIP is totally logical.

As well as the SIP activities, PAE has created the Pain Patients Pathway Recommendations project together with Active Citizens Network (ACN). It runs the Red Balloon project aimed to increase the awareness for chronic pain. It is the leading partner in a new grant project aimed on innovating patient-centered research. It is a member of the patients' liaison committee of the European Pain Federation (EFIC). It is a jury member of the ACN-lead European civic prize on chronic pain. It was a partner in a European project on E-Health for primary care physicians. It is a valued member in various research proposals in development.

PAE is also busy running surveys amongst European chronic pain patients which will be analyzed by the university of Rotterdam, Erasmus. We are aiming to do one survey each year on three different issues: health related, work related, one related to societal issues. All of which are also areas of work within the SIP structure. After completing the three surveys, we aim to repeat them to see if any improvements have been made.

PAE involves its members as much as possible in developing activities as they are the backbone of our association and they know the questions of the chronic pain patients best. Communication with members is via newsletters and personal letters.

PAE can be reached by:

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