



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Best expertise vs conflicts of interests: Striking the right balance

Speaker profiles

A public workshop hosted by the European Medicines Agency
in London on 6 September 2013



Conflicts of interests workshop

Speaker profiles

Guido Rasi

Executive Director, European Medicines Agency

Professor Guido Rasi has been Executive Director of the European Medicines Agency since November 2011, and was a member of its Management Board for three years before that. He was Director-General of the Italian Medicines Agency from 2008 to 2011, and a member of its Management Board from 2004 to 2008.

From 1990 to 2008, Professor Rasi worked in research at the Institute for Experimental Medicine of the National Research Council in Rome. He had a teaching and research experience at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1999.

Professor Rasi holds a degree in medicine and surgery, with specialisation in internal medicine, allergology and clinical immunology from the University of Rome. He was made full professor of microbiology at the University of Rome 'Tor Vergata' in 2008.



Fernand Sauer

Member of the French Academy of Pharmacy



Fernand Sauer is a member of the French Academy of Pharmacy and provides advice to European institutions, agencies and associations on a non-remunerated basis. He has no direct or indirect conflict of interests in accordance with European Medicines Agency guidelines.

Previous positions

- Member of the French High Council for Public Health (2007–2011).
- Director for public health, DG SANCO, European Commission (2001–2005).
- First executive director of the European Medicines Agency (1994–2000).
- In charge of EU and ICH pharmaceutical harmonisation, European Commission (1979–1994).

Anne Glover

Chief Scientific Adviser to the President of the European Commission

Professor Anne Glover joined the European Commission as Chief Scientific Adviser to the President in January 2012, and is the first person to hold this position.

In this role, she advises the President on any aspect of science and technology, liaises with other science advisory bodies of the Commission, the Member States and beyond, coordinates science and technology foresight, and promotes the European culture of science to a wide audience. She also chairs the recently established Science & Technology Advisory Council of the President.

Previous positions

- Personal Chair of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of Aberdeen (current).
- Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland (2006–2011).



Matthias Groote

Chair of the European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety



Matthias Groote is a German politician and has been a Member of the European Parliament since October 2005. He is a member of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, which is a part of the Socialist Group in the European Parliament.

He is the current chair of the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and the delegation for relations with Japan. He is a substitute on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and the delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

Noël Wathion heads the EMA's Patient Health Protection unit, which contributes to health protection from the multiple perspectives of pharmacovigilance, risk and crisis management, patient and healthcare professional information, inspections (for both human and veterinary medicines) and appropriate regulatory compliance. The unit is also in charge of EU procedures for both centrally and non-centrally authorised products.

Noël is a former member of the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products and the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, and representative on the Pharmaceutical Committee, Standing Committee and Notice to Applicants working group.

He first worked as a retail pharmacist, and was later a Chief Inspector at the Pharmaceutical Inspectorate of the Belgian Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Health, and Secretary of the Belgian Medicines Commission.

Noël Wathion

Head of Patient Health Protection, EMA



Wolf-Dieter Ludwig

Member of the Management Board of the EMA



Prof. Dr. Wolf-Dieter Ludwig is Medical Director and Head of the Dept. of Hematology, Oncology and Tumor Immunology at the HELIOS Clinic Berlin-Buch, in Berlin.

Since 2013, he has been a representative of doctors' organisations on the Management Board of the EMA. He has also participated as an expert in meetings of the Scientific Advisory Group-Oncology.

Previous positions

- Full Professor of Hematology/Oncology and Applied Molecular Biology, Humboldt University of Berlin (since 1994).
- Chairman of the Drug Commission of the German Medical Association (DCGMA) (since 2006).
- Full member and chairman of the Panel of Experts at the German Ministry of Health dealing with off-label use of drugs (2002–2005).

Conflicts of interests workshop

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Rory Breathnach

**Head of Small Animal Medicine, University College
Dublin School of Small Animal Medicine**

Rory Breathnach qualified from the Dublin Veterinary School in 1986. After a small-animal internship in Dublin, he spent 5 years in clinical practice before returning as a lecturer at the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine. He has an MSc in drug toxicology (London) and a PhD in clinical dermatology (Dublin).

Rory currently teaches all aspects of internal medicine and dermatology at the University Teaching Hospital, and heads the Small Animal Medicine unit.

In addition, Rory is a member of the Advisory Committee for Veterinary Medicines (Irish Medicines Board) and the CVMP; he is currently Chair of the Scientific Advice Working Party (Veterinary) and also acts as a GLP inspector in Ireland.



Daniel Brasseur

Chair of the Paediatric Committee, EMA



Professor Daniel Brasseur is an Associate Professor of Paediatrics and a Professor of Nutrition at the Faculty of Medicine, Free University Brussels (ULB).

He has also been very active in the work of the European Medicines Agency, having been chair of the Paediatric Committee (since 2007), chair of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (2001–2007) and chair or member of various expert groups and working parties over the years.

Previous positions

- Responsible for European and Paediatric expertise at the Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products, Belgium (since 2007).
- Consultant in Nutrition & Pharmacology, University Children's Hospital Queen Fabiola, Brussels (since 2004).

Anja Holm has been a member of the CVMP since 2004, and its chair since 2010.

Previous positions

- Senior scientific officer at the Danish Medicines Agency, involved in centralised, MRP and national procedures, clinical trials and pharmacovigilance (2002 to present).
- Research in DNA-vaccines at the Virology Dept of the Danish Veterinary Institute (2001–2002).
- Assessor at the Danish Medicines Agency for safety and efficacy of veterinary medicines, including immunologicals (1998–2001).
- Veterinary practitioner (small and large animals) in Denmark (1994–1998).
- Department of toxicology at H. Lundbeck A/S, Copenhagen (1991–1993).

Anja Holm

**Chair of the Committee for Medicinal Products for
Veterinary Use (CVMP)**



Serge Bakchine

Chair of the Scientific Advisory Group on Neurology, EMA



Serge Bakchine is a professor of neurology at the University of Reims-Champagne (France). His specialisation is in neuropsychology and behavioural disorders.

For the past 10 years, Serge has directed the Centre of Neuropsychology and Language Disorders at Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris (France). Since 2000, he has headed the Department of Neurology at the University Hospital of Reims (France). He also chairs a Resource and Research Centre for Memory disorders, Alzheimer Disease and Related Disorders.

Serge has served for more than 10 years as an external expert at the French medicines agency (AFSSAPS-ANSM), and he currently chairs the Scientific Advisory Group on Neurology at the EMA.

Nikos Dedes

Founder and Chair, Positive Voice

Nikos Dedes is Founder and Chair of Positive Voice, the Greek Association of People Living with HIV. He is a past Chair of the European AIDS Treatment Group and past Co-chair of the Patients' and Consumers' Working Party at the EMA.

Currently, he is a member of the EMA Management Board, the Steering Committee of the European HIV Clinical Trials Network, the HIV Treatment Guidelines Panel of the European AIDS Clinical Society, the Strategic and Technical Advisory Committee for HIV/AIDS at the WHO, the DIA Advisory Council of Europe (ACE) and various advisory boards for DG Research projects and at the ECDC.

Nikos advocates for universal access to evidence-based and cost-effective health and prevention services for all people as a moral imperative and precondition for a prosperous and fair society.



Richard Bergström

Director-General, EFPIA



Richard Bergström has been the Director General of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) since April 2011. Previously, he served for nine years as the Director-General of LIF, the Swedish Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry, following positions in Switzerland in regulatory affairs at the pharmaceutical companies Roche and Novartis.

Mr Bergström was also appointed by the Swedish Government to the Board of the Karolinska Institute. He is a pharmacist by training, receiving his MScPharm degree from the University of Uppsala, Sweden in 1988.

Martin Pigeon

Corporate Europe Observatory

Martin Pigeon holds an MA and an MBA. He has been a researcher and campaigner for Corporate Europe Observatory since 2008, working on corporate influence over water policies (publishing a book last year on the global remunicipalisation wave in the water sector), before expanding into agriculture, food and research issues.

Corporate Europe Observatory is a research and campaign group working to expose and challenge the privileged access and influence enjoyed by corporations and their lobby groups in EU policy making.



Pierre Chirac

Journalist, revue Prescrire



Pierre Chirac is a French journalist and author who has written hundreds of articles for medical magazines and journals.

Previous positions

- Section editor revue Prescrire (1988–2013).
- Publishing manager revue Prescrire (2012–2013).
- Maître de conférence Sciences Po Paris (2006–2011).
- Teaching in various medical and pharmaceutical universities, Paris, Lyon, Toulouse, Lausanne (1988–2011).
- Consultant, MSF's access to essential medicines (1999–2011).
- Working with different NGOs, e.g. Frères des hommes (1986–1999).
- Working in a medical biology lab, hospital in Paris (1984–1986).

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Speaker profiles
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