



EpiCARE

EpiCARE DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

The goal of our newsletter is to keep you informed about **actions related to the European Reference Network on rare and complex epilepsies, EpiCARE**.

You will find information about our next events, educational and research activities and calls, but also news from the coordination team, our different members and our ePAG community.

NEXT WEBINAR

Learn more every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month with EpiCARE!



PRRT2 and self-limited epilepsy in infancy

January 13th at 17:00 CET

Federico Vigevano
&
Federico Zara (It)

Link to register will be provided soon. Subscribe to the **webinars mailing** to get a reminder a few days before each webinar.

[Subscribe to the webinars newsletter](#)

LATEST NEWS

Best wishes from the coordination team !



We will be back to work on January 3rd, ready for a new year of EpiCARE projects and collaborations!

13 new members will join EpiCARE in 2022!

We just received the great news from the European Commission : **13 new members have been approved, and will join EpiCARE in 2022!**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming them officially. Stay tuned to meet our new members, we will present each of them very soon!



EpiCARE



Speaking of the European Reference Networks and rare diseases at the HCL!



→ les liens entre les associations, valoriser l'innovation, consolider la recherche et la formation...

Cette organisation en réseaux s'étend à l'échelle européenne. Vingt-quatre réseaux européens de référence (ERN), financés par la commission européenne, réunissent les professionnels de santé des différents États membres de l'Union. La France assure la coordination de sept ERN maladies rares, dont l'ERN Epicare traitant les épilepsies rares. Ce réseau est coordonné aux HCL depuis 2019 par le Dr Alexis Arzimanoglou, chef du service d'épileptologie clinique, des troubles du sommeil et de neurologie fonctionnelle de l'enfant à l'HFME.

« La France, via la DGOS, a accordé un soutien supplémentaire de 60 000 euros par an aux coordinateurs français des ERN, ce qui n'est pas le cas dans les autres pays », relève Laurène Mathey, responsable des affaires européennes à la direction de la recherche en santé. « Les équipes de santé des centres de référence peuvent faire appel à notre service pour constituer leur dossier de candidature à un réseau européen. » L'intérêt ? Pouvoir accéder à une mine d'informations ! L'ERN Epicare, par exemple, ouvre les portes de 43 centres hautement spécialisés dans 24 pays européens. Et autant de possibilités d'échanger entre experts, de développer des recherches innovantes, des outils de formation, des recommandations sur les traitements et de partager des expériences de patients.

UNE ORGANISATION QUI A FAIT SES PREUVES

À titre d'exemple, l'amélioration de la prise en charge de la mucoviscidose est particulièrement éloquente. Dans les années 90, les patients adolescents et adultes atteints par la mucoviscidose arrivaient dans les services hospitaliers en détresse respiratoire, chétifs et fatigués. Mais à partir de 2002, la prise en charge a évolué. Le dépistage néonatal est généralisé à l'ensemble du territoire national et les centres de ressources et de compétences sur la mucoviscidose sont créés⁽²⁾.

« Le dépistage néonatal évite les retards de diagnostic et permet donc de traiter les enfants dès leurs premières semaines de vie. Le suivi dans les centres experts assure la mise en place des traitements qui pré servent l'état nutritionnel et respiratoire des patients. Grâce à cette surveillance rapprochée et aux traitements, l'état clinique des enfants et des jeunes adultes a pu être amélioré », explique la Pr Isabelle Durieu, cheffe de service de médecine interne à Lyon Sud, coordinatrice de la filière nationale de la mucoviscidose et responsable du centre de ressources et de compétences depuis 2002. En 2014, la création des filières de santé maladies rares⁽³⁾, qui ont pour mission d'améliorer la prise en charge, la recherche, l'enseignement, la formation et l'information, renforce un peu plus encore la mise en réseau des connaissances et des compétences. Actuellement les HCL coordonnent trois filières nationales : Muco-CFTR



Pr Damien Sanlaville,
chef du service de génétique.



Laurène Mathey,
responsable des affaires
européennes à la direction
de la recherche en santé



Pr Alexandre Belot,
chef de service adjoint en
néphrologie-rhumatologie-
dermatologie pédiatriques à l'HFME



Pr Isabelle Durieu,
cheffe de service de médecine
interne à Lyon Sud

Our institution, the [University Hopitals of Lyon \(HCL\)](#), has published a great article on [rare diseases and the care pathways](#). EpiCARE, as an ERN coordinated at the HCL, and

its coordinator Prof. Alexis Arzimanoglou, are mentioned. Let us use this opportunity to thank the HCL for their support!

You can read the article here, page 12 (in french only):

Magazine Tonic

ePAGs



The leaflet for AHC is available!

We are glad to share that the leaflet and patient's journey for Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood has been posted on our website!

Many thanks to the [IAHCRC](#) and [AHCUK](#) for their great collaboration!

Leaflets & patient's journeys



Ahead of Christmas, patient representatives clamoured for more attention to the complexity of conditions beyond epilepsy from the scientific community as part of the 'Building the EpicARE 2027 Horizon' workshop in Rome.

The interaction of shared comorbidities/overall disability in the 4 major areas of COGNITION, SOCIAL, BEHAVIOURAL, AUTONOMY will have to be further studied in the coming years and where possible, solutions proposed for affected patients to achieve a better quality of life.

With this message of hope, the ePAG patient representatives wish the whole community best wishes for the festive holidays and we look forward to connecting with you more in 2022.

In this wonderful time of the year, we hope your days will be filled with sparks of joy

and love. This Christmas we wish that all your wishes come true, and we wish you a happy and successful New Year! - the EpiCARE Patient Representative Group.

EVENTS



The second edition of the **Rome Workshop : "in search of lost time"**, on December 16th-18th, was a great success!

Participants were glad to be able to discuss central topics like clinical trials, guidelines for epilepsy surgery, patient's input on main endpoints of CTs and education and training of the future leaders. Discussions were lively and very instructive. It was also a great occasion to discuss more about the future of EpiCARE, with many members present.

Thanks again to Federico Vigevano and Nicola Specchio from the Bambino Gesù hospital in Rome and PTS Roma for the organisation of this workshop!

We will share a more comprehensive recap of the event on our website soon!

EpiCARE SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS



You can consult recent publications on rare and complex epilepsies, epilepsy surgery and other topics on our [scientific publications webpage](#).

CASE DISCUSSIONS

EpiCARE Case Discussions are scheduled every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 4:00pm to 5:30pm CET.

Both **surgical and non-surgical cases** are discussed by panels of experts, full or affiliated members of EpiCARE. [See the agenda on our website](#).

To receive the link to join the case discussions, you must register. Registration is only required once to be placed on the mailing list. [Follow this link to register](#).

WHAT IS NEW FOR YOU?

Any news you would like to share, events planned, publications in the works?

Share with us any information you would like us to include in the next newsletter at
a.robert@epi-care.eu

Follow us on social media !



European Reference Network
for rare or low prevalence
complex diseases
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