



**INFLUENZA  
PREVENTION  
STRATEGIES**  
*for people  
with diabetes*

S Y M P O S I U M

**25 OCTOBER 2017**  
FACULTY CLUB  
UNIVERSITY  
OF LEUVEN

WHERE  
SCIENCE  
MEETS  
PRACTICE

**People with diabetes face a higher risk for influenza and its complications. National and international guidelines therefore advise that diabetes patients be annually vaccinated against influenza.**

The evidence that underpins these guidelines has long been fragmented and underexposed. Consequently, attention for the impact of influenza on diabetes patients is low and so is the influenza vaccine uptake in this group, despite WHO's target to routinely vaccinate 75% of all people at high risk. In fact, estimations from recent years indicate vaccination rates for diabetes patients between 50% and 62% in the US, but only 10% in Poland and 40% in Germany.

It was therefore high time to assemble all currently available data about the impact of influenza on diabetes patients and to review current influenza prevention strategies. ESWI has undertaken this important endeavour and in its recently submitted paper (Vaccine Journal), ESWI has reviewed the scientific base for recommending routine vaccination of diabetes patients against influenza to find that flu vaccination is undoubtedly justified. But clearly, efforts should be made to increase vaccination coverage. Conventional vaccination programmes appear to be inadequate to reach high risk groups and hence other strategies should be considered.

The diabetes community and ESWI therefore join forces to discuss strategies to better protect diabetes patients against the flu. We kindly invite patient organizations, healthcare professionals and academic experts to join us in a one-day symposium. Through various lectures and a moderated audience debate, the colloquium aims to:

- review the scientific evidence that underpins vaccination recommendations for diabetes patients
- discuss the role in influenza prevention of organisations working with/for patients with diabetes
- explore pathways to raise flu awareness amongst patients and their environment

An organization of

European  
Scientific  
Working group on  
Influenza

F E N D

Foundation of European Nurses in Diabetes

## VENUE

The symposium will be held at the Faculty Club of the University of Leuven, which is located in Leuven's 13th-century Grand Beguinage. The site has been recognized as UNESCO world heritage since 2000. The venue is only a 20-minute car journey away from Brussels Airport.

## REGISTRATION

Participation in the colloquium is free of charge, but places are limited. For more information and free registration, visit our webpages at [www.eswi.org](http://www.eswi.org)

## ABOUT ESWI

The European Scientific Working group on Influenza (ESWI) is a network of independent influenza experts and organizations of public health officials, healthcare professionals, at-risk patients and the elderly. Together, we aim to reduce the burden of influenza in Europe.

## CONTACT

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*The following partners have provided unrestricted grants to support the colloquium on influenza vaccination for diabetes patients. Unrestricted grants imply that the partners financially support the colloquium, but have not been involved in the preparation of the event in any way.*

SANOFI PASTEUR 

*The symposium enjoys the active participation of*



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

### CHAIRS

- Mrs. Anne-Marie Felton, President Foundation of European Nurses in Diabetes (FEND)
- Prof. Ab Osterhaus, RIZ, Tiho Hannover/chair European Scientific Working group on Influenza (ESWI)

10h00-10h30	<b>Introduction: what is influenza and why is it of importance to people with diabetes?</b> Symposium chairs
10h30-11h00	<b>Scientific review "Benefits of flu vaccination for people with diabetes": main messages</b> Dr. Marco Goeijenbier, Havenziekenhuis Rotterdam, The Netherlands
11h00-11h30	<b>Should people with diabetes be vaccinated against influenza?</b>
11h30-12h00	<b>The role of primary care physicians in preventing influenza</b> Prof. Xavier Cos, chair Primary Care Diabetes Europe (PCDE)
12h00-12h30	<b>The role of pharmacists in protecting people with diabetes against influenza infection</b> Mr. Jamie Wilkinson, Director of Professional Affairs, Pharmacist Group to the European Union (PGEU)
12h30-13h30	LUNCH
13h30-14h00	<b>Improving the efficiency of current influenza vaccination programs for at-risk patients</b> (WHO and ECDC)
14h00-14h30	<b>What can organisations working with/for people with diabetes do to protect them against influenza?</b> Anne-Marie Felton, President Foundation of European Nurses in Diabetes (FEND)
14h30-15h30	<b>Focus on the diabetes community: introduction, challenges and future prospects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• International Diabetes Federation (IDF and IDF Europe)</li><li>• Prof. John Nolan, European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)</li><li>• Mrs. Anne-Marie Felton, Foundation of European Nurses in Diabetes (FEND)</li><li>• Prof. Xavier Cos, Primary Care Diabetes Europe (PCDE)</li></ul>
15h30-16h30	<b>Audience debate and conclusions of the meeting</b> Symposium chairs



10-13 SEPTEMBER 2017  
RIGA, LATVIA

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