



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF PSORIASIS ASSOCIATIONS

Putting psoriasis on the global agenda

International Federation of Psoriasis Associations to attend UN High-level meeting on noncommunicable diseases

Stockholm, Sweden
September 16, 2011

On September 19-20, 2011, Heads of State, Parliamentarians, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Health and representatives from over 280 civil society organizations will be gathering to address an emerging health issue with a major socio-economic impact – noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). The International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA) will be representing the global psoriasis community at the meeting.

The objective of the meeting is to ensure commitment from Member States to address the prevention and control of NCDs, focusing on developmental challenges and socio-economic impacts. NCDs are the biggest cause of death worldwide, with more than 36 million deaths (63% of global deaths) annually. The primary focus will be on preventable NCDs such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, but the meeting will also include other serious and chronic diseases.

Where does psoriasis fit in?

Psoriasis is a chronic, noncommunicable, autoimmune-related systemic disease that has a great impact on the daily lives of the more than 125 million people worldwide who suffer from the disease. Psoriasis is also linked to a number of co-morbid conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and gastrointestinal disease. Up to 42% of persons suffering from psoriasis also have psoriatic arthritis, a condition that can be severely crippling.

IFPA at the UN High-level meeting

Representing IFPA at the meeting in New York will be Lars Ettarp, IFPA President, and Kathleen Gallant, Secretary of the IFPA Executive Committee and Chairman of IFPA's Task Force on noncommunicable diseases. Lars Ettarp underlines the importance of the High-level meeting for IFPA and the global psoriasis community:

"It is a great step for IFPA to, a mere month after receiving special consultative status to UN ECOSOC, be able to attend and participate in this landmark meeting on noncommunicable diseases. This meeting will surely be of great import to the global psoriasis community, as it will to other groups afflicted by chronic diseases. This meeting fits very well in with our strategic work involving among others the WHO, the UN and regional organs to have psoriasis recognized as the serious, chronic disease it is."

For more information, please contact:

IFPA Secretariat, ifpa@pso.se, tel. +46 8 522 083 15/ 556 109 14

Lars Ettarp, President IFPA, ifpa@pso.se, tel. +46 708 59 21 12

Kathleen Gallant, Secretary IFPA EC, kathleenlgallant@gmail.com, +1 724 470 5161

About IFPA

The International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA) is a nonprofit umbrella organization made up of psoriasis associations from around the world. Today IFPA has 43 member associations. IFPA unites psoriasis associations so that their global campaign for improved medical care, greater public understanding and increased research will improve the lives of the more than 125 million people who live with psoriatic disease. For more information about IFPA, please visit our website www.ifpa-pso.org or contact the IFPA Secretariat at ifpa@pso.se.