



Report on Patient Training Workshop April 2022

The ERA-NET NEURON, would like to increase the involvement of people affected by neurological disorders in its activities.

Following a successful inaugural event in 2021, NEURON collaborated with the European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) once again to host an intensive two-day workshop, aimed at preparing anyone interested in becoming a lay reviewer for their latest funding call on cerebrovascular disorders. This virtual event took place on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th April, 2022.

The workshop agenda was developed in close cooperation with former workshop participants and experienced NEURON patient reviewers, resulting in a programme that was warmly received by the attendees. These attendees included a mixture of patients, carers and medical professionals, from eight different countries.

Pre-event preparation included video/eLearning content and reading, while the workshop itself involved plenary lectures, practical breakout sessions, group discussions and a 'mock' review panel session.

Day one provided an overview of Patient and Public Involvement [PPI] across health research and an overview of the funding application process in ERA-NET NEURON, while on day two a mock review panel discussion was conducted to provide the participants with a real hands-on experience as NEURON lay reviewers. Day two was facilitated by a communications trainer, to improve communications skills among the group.

Response to the workshop was overwhelmingly positive, with attendees reporting a clear understanding of the role of a lay-reviewer and the benefits of Patient and Public Involvement in research, as well as greatly improved confidence in communicating with scientific experts.

Overview:

When

April 25th, and April 26th, 2022
Two day online training

Organizers

- Orla Galvin (EFNA, Ireland)
- Elizabeth Cunningham (EFNA, Ireland)
- Claire Nolan ([MediPaCe UK](#), freelancer supporting patient involvement)
- Hella Lichtenberg (DLR-PT)
- Christina Müller (DLR-PT)

Programme development

Supported by former NEURON patient reviewers:

- Henk Lindeman
- Anja Minheere
- Rebecca Lydon

Aim

Joining patients, carers, experienced patient reviewers, patient organizations, funders to discuss the role of PPI, and to **train and recruit future NEURON patient reviewers.**

Participants

- 14 registered participants
- 3 representatives of patient organisations
- 12 people living with a neurological disorder
- 4 patients
- 7 carers/family members
- 3 researchers/HCPs

