

ECCO-EFCCA Patient Guidelines PRESS RELEASE

Press conference at the 11th Congress of ECCO – Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

(Vienna, October 7, 2015)

The highly anticipated ECCO-EFCCA Patient Guidelines will be presented at the Press conference on March 16, 2016 at the RAI Amsterdam.

In December 2014 the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) organised a meeting with IBD Patient Association Representatives and ECCO National Representatives (both nurses and physicians) with the aim to improve patient care and the quality of life for patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Patients, physicians and nurses were assembled in focus groups and reviewed topics which are of high relevance to patients. The overall outcome of this meeting was that there was an imminent need for patient guidelines. These patient guidelines will help patients to understand the latest clinical research and to provide them with valuable information on their disease.



ECCO Patient Meeting, December 13, 2014 © ECCO

Following the meeting in December 2014, ECCO joined forces with the European Federation of Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis Associations (EFCCA) in order to develop the ECCO-EFCCA Patient Guidelines. Two taskforces, one focusing on Crohn's Disease and the other one on Ulcerative Colitis, were formed. Taskforces consist of patients, physicians and nurses from different European countries. The working groups are responsible for selecting statements from the existing ECCO Clinical Guidelines which are most relevant to patients and for translating these statements into patient language. The ECCO-EFCCA Patient Guidelines will be published on various channels (ECCO Website, EFCCA Website, IBD Patient Society Websites, ECCO News, Patient journals, etc.) in March 2016 and presented at the Press Conference on March 16, 2016 in Amsterdam.

Travel and logistics: **Contact the ECCO Office for further information**

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About ECCO

The European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) is the largest forum for specialists in IBD in the world. ECCO is a highly active non-profit association focusing on IBD, acting inside Europe and encouraging collaboration's beyond Europe's borders. ECCO produces the highly regarded scientific guidelines, organises educational activities, promotes

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research and represents IBD specialists in gastroenterology, surgery, paediatrics, pathology, radiology and allied professions, working with patient associations and industry to reduce the burden of disease for patients.

About the 11th Congress of ECCO

Around 5,500 delegates are expected to join the 11th Annual Congress of ECCO in Amsterdam on March 16-19, 2016. It is the largest IBD Congress in the world. Find more information on www.ecco-ibd.eu/ecco16 and watch the video of the 2015 Congress [here](#).

Public awareness campaigns

ECCO has organised the following campaigns to raise public awareness about IBD at past ECCO Congresses:

- Perspectives on IBD Quality of Care 2014
- Join the fight against IBD 2013
- Join the fight against IBD 2012

Please find further information [online](#).

About EFCCA

The European Federation of Crohn's & Ulcerative Colitis Associations (EFCCA) is an umbrella organisation representing 29 national patients' associations from 28 European countries and 3 associate members from outside Europe. EFCCA aims to work to improve life for people with IBD and give them a louder voice and higher visibility across Europe and beyond.