



INTRODUCTION TO EUUCARE

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EUCARE History

EUCARE stands for European Concerted Action and Research in Epilepsy.

EUCARE was inaugurated in May 1998 as a partnership between the Commission of European Affairs of ILAE and the pharmaceutical company UCB Pharma.

IBE was added to the EUCARE partnership during the creation of the European White Paper on Epilepsy in 1999/2000.

EUCARE Outcomes

European White Paper on Epilepsy

Launched in March 2000 at the European Parliament. This summarises the medical and lifestyle issues relating to epilepsy in Europe.

EUCARE Outcomes

Call to Action –
accompanied the
White Paper and
invited European
governments and
other agencies to
address 3 specific
actions: -

- 1. Improve public understanding of epilepsy through education to reduce stigma.**
- 2. Legislate to provide protection against discrimination in the workplace for people with epilepsy.**
- 3. Increase investment in research into epilepsy.**

The New EUCARE

- In 2003, EUCARE was reconstituted and became a joint project of IBE and ILAE together, with sponsorship provided by UCB Pharma.

Mission

- To raise the profile of epilepsy across Europe through educational actions and public policy campaigning.

EUCARE Objectives

- **Improve the understanding of epilepsy with an emphasis on alleviating its social consequences;**
- **Promote the exchange of knowledge between all disciplines providing care for people with epilepsy;**
- **Support research into the evolution, investigation and management of seizure disorders;**
- **Highlight epilepsy as a public health priority among governments and health authorities.**

EUCARE Activities

- **The central activity of the new EUCARE is an observational study of pharmacological outcomes and lifestyle consequences of newly diagnosed epilepsy in different countries in Europe.**
- **The aim is to link the outcomes of the study to educational, scientific and public policy initiatives all designed to improve the quality of life of people with epilepsy in Europe.**

EUCARE Action Pack

- **The Action Pack is a natural development from the White Paper and the Call to Action and supports the aim of linking EUCARE research outcomes to public policy initiatives.**
- **It was created by a working group of IBE and ILAE members, chaired by Hilary Mounfield.**
- **The Pack provides Chapters of IBE and ILAE with support, tools, guidance and motivation to undertake successful public policy campaigns to influence decision makers and opinion leaders.**

EUCARE Action Pack

- **The Pack includes useful templates for adaptation and case study examples of successful public policy and public education activities.**
- **Just like the White Paper and the Call to Action, the Action Pack is a stimulant and a catalyst for change.**
- **But of itself, it will achieve nothing. It is what Chapters do with it that will determine how successful it is.**

