

Medical Therapies Commission

2023 Annual Report

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Stéphane Auvin (France)
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REGULATORY AFFAIRS TASK FORCE

Stéphane Auvin (France), co-chair
Dennis Dlugos (USA), co-chair
Jackie French (USA)
Alexis Arzimanoglou (France)

Lieven Lagae (Belgium)
Kelly Knupp (USA)
Eugen Trinko (Austria)
Emilio Perucca (Australia)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Commission met with EMEA during the 35th International Epilepsy Congress (IEC 2023) in Dublin, Ireland, September 2023, as well as during publication to unify the use of the ILAE terminology on seizures and epilepsy syndromes.
- The Plant Based Medicine Task Force presented a session at IEC 2023 in Dublin, Ireland, on 5 September 2023, and this was presented in parallel at the IBE and Epilepsy Ireland public session running on the evenings of 4 and 5 September.
- The Access to Treatment Task Force developed a list of indicators on country readiness for IGAP and reviewed the current work done by ILAE.

ACTIVITIES

- Finalization of the narrative review in Vit D and epilepsy.
- Formation of two ketogenic diet courses.
- Close collaboration with EMA on the new guidelines for conducting new studies in epilepsy.
- Finalization of procedures for guidelines development (Dravet syndrome, Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, epileptic spasms, and epilepsy surgery), in collaboration with EAN, EpiCare and EPNS.
- Undertaking of a global survey of ILAE Chapter leads to assess availability and affordability of cannabidiol as an antiseizure medication. Data from the survey, that was collected in the first half of 2023, is currently in preparation for publication.
- Assessment of the process of novel epilepsy treatments from conception to patient, compare to other conditions such as cancer, and identify barriers both due to regional variabilities and in general. Initial plans were presented at IEC 2023 in a parallel session, and final funding was obtained by fall 2023.
- Preparation of a narrative review on the use of valproate in men and risk for transgenerational developmental effects.
- Development of REST concept (rapid and early seizure termination).
- Preparation of a "call to action" paper to reduce VPA prescriptions during pregnancy worldwide.
- Preparation of a review article on contraception in women with epilepsy.

RESEARCH & ARTICLES PUBLISHED

Auvin S, Arzimanoglou A, Brambilla I, French J, Knupp KG, Lagae L, Perucca E, Trinka E, Dlugos D. [Call for the use of the ILAE terminology for seizures and epilepsies by health care professionals and regulatory agencies to benefit patients and caregivers](#). *Epilepsia*. 2023 Dec 17. doi: 10.1111/epi.17868. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38105624.

MEETINGS

The full commission (members plus task force chairs) had two meetings in 2023: one online (10 May) and one face-to-face meeting during IEC 2023 in Dublin, Ireland. The six task forces had a minimum of two online meetings during 2023.

Report submitted by Lieven Lagae