

PGEU PRESS RELEASE

29 March 2016

For Immediate Release

PGEU Publishes Annual Report 2015

The Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU) is the European association representing more than 400,000 community pharmacists.

PGEU's members are the national associations and professional bodies of pharmacists in 34 European countries, including EU Member States, EEA/EFTA members and EU applicant countries.

For more information, please visit the PGEU website www.pgeu.eu or contact pharmacy@pgeu.eu



The Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union today releases its Annual Report 2015. In addition to highlighting significant developments and activities in European community pharmacy in 2015, the report looks to the future and outlines some of the most important issues and changes facing the profession this year and next. The Report features a message from the outgoing PGEU President Mr Darragh O'Loughlin and a keynote interview with Mr Filip Babylon. A former PGEU President, Mr Babylon finished his three year term as a representative of healthcare professionals on the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee of the European Medicines Agency in February 2016.

The PGEU Report is entitled '*Pharmacy with you throughout life*' and features a number of patient stories emphasising the contribution of community pharmacists in the course of everyone's life. Through the provision of a wide range of pharmacy services including early screening for chronic diseases, adherence and medicines review services, pharmacists help to optimise health outcomes for their patients and, ultimately, improve quality of life. Pharmacists also assess and treat some ailments, encourage and support healthy lifestyles, as well as dispense prescriptions and advise on safe use of medicines.

Launching the report, PGEU Secretary General, Ms Jūratė Švarcaitė, said:
"European community pharmacists are responding to the challenges posed by an ageing society, the burden of chronic diseases, modern lifestyles and economic pressures on health systems. Modern pharmacy is about patients; our professional mission is to help maximise patients' outcomes, help healthy individuals to preserve their health at every stage of their life and ultimately to improve our patients' quality of life."