



*EAACI's 60 years celebration – Dedicated to allergy science, committed to your health*

## **On the road to prevention and healthy living**

- **European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) celebrates 60 years at the forefront of allergy science and patient care**
- **Allergies and asthma constitute a public health concern of pandemic proportions that requires immediate and concerted actions. Prevention and control is the best cost-efficient way to decrease the disease burden**
- **Healthcare professionals, National Allergy Societies, patients and policy makers need to engage in reframing the conversation from disease burden to prevention and health promotion**

**Zurich, 15 March 2016** – The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. EAACI has dedicated all its resources to improving the health of people affected by allergic diseases and asthma.

### **Reframing the conversation from disease burden to prevention and health promotion**

Allergic diseases and asthma constitute a public health concern of pandemic proportions that requires immediate and concerted actions. By 2025, more than 50 percent of all Europeans will suffer from allergy. Asthma and allergic rhinitis alone are estimated to result in more than 100 million lost workdays and missed school days in Europe every year.

Disease prevention is vital to controlling this growing public health burden. As the primary source of expertise in Europe for all aspects of allergic diseases and asthma, EAACI calls on all healthcare professionals, patients, National Allergy Societies and EU and national policy makers to engage and act to coordinate actions to improve prevention and allergy and asthma care, as well as support the allocation of resources and the development of Allergy Speciality.

### **Cost-efficient prevention and control of allergies and asthma are available**

If patients in Europe were treated appropriately with available cost-effective treatments, savings of €142 billion each year could be made. A number of specific interventions can lead to prevention of allergy, especially of atopic dermatitis and food allergy. Two randomized open-label trials and a real-world setting trial indicated that allergy immunotherapy prevents the onset of asthma in patients with allergic rhinitis. However, more research needs to be carried out before advice can be given in clinical practice.



### **About EAACI**

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) is a non-profit organisation active in the field of allergic and immunologic diseases such as asthma, rhinitis, eczema, occupational allergy, food and drug allergy, and anaphylaxis. EAACI was founded in 1956 in Florence and has become the largest medical association in Europe in the field of allergy and clinical immunology. It includes over 9,000 members from 121 countries, as well as 52 National Allergy Societies.

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