

EAACI Patients Organisation Committee

The EAACI Patients Organisation Committee aims to be the Patients reference body in the field of Allergology, representing patients of all nationalities and promoting patient-centred healthcare in the specialty.

The committee aims to build cross-sector alliances and working collaboratively with EAACI members (like-minded medical and health professionals, academics, and researchers), policy makers, and industry representatives.

The EAACI Patient Organisation Committee (POC) is an initiative of the EAACI Board of Officers. The Committee's first meeting was held in 2011 in Venice, in 2012 the POC held its first official meeting in Geneva, where the first board was nominated and established. The POC is driven by its members which are patient support organizations working at the local, national, regional and international levels.

List of member patients organisations

Objective 1: Collaboration

The EAACI-POC, as a network of patient support organizations, will be strengthened by increased collaboration amongst its members, with the aims that:

- Members identify with being part of the International Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Alliance (IFAAA) and the European Federation of Allergy and Asthma Patient Associations (EFA)
- The membership's visibility as a network of patient organizations is enhanced

Objective 2: Outreach

The reach of the EAACI-POC will be enhanced through:

- Increased opportunities for patient organizations from across Europe / the world to engage with the EAACI-POC
- Increased connections with other relevant organizations

Objective 3: Credibility

- The credibility of the EAACI-POC will be enhanced by its membership whose organizations are supported by local medical experts in the field of allergy/immunology.

Being viewed as a credible committee will serve to:



- Establish the EAACI-POC as the EAACI anaphylaxis and allergy patient support Committee and the first reference point for this expertise.
- Encourage key healthcare stakeholders and patient organizations to collaborate with the EAACI-POC members

Objective 4: Sustainability

- The EAACI-POC membership base and engagement with members will be strengthened when Members:
 - Contribute to EAACI-POC activities such as making presentations and preparing reports for the EAACI-POC annual meeting and participating in post-meeting activities
 - Value their participation in the EAACI-POC
 - Feel valued by the EAACI-POC

The benefits of EAACI-POC membership:

- Participation in a network of like-minded patient organizations with opportunities to learn from best practices which helps to better utilize resources (i.e. financial and time)
- Collaboration with patient organizations around Europe / the world gaining different perspectives on key issues
- Engaging in international advocacy efforts on common issues
- Attend annual meeting interacting with world-renowned experts in the field of allergy/immunology, food science, food labelling regulations, and other key areas
- Reach a global audience of stakeholders and promote activities and events
- Share EAACI-POC information and materials with your constituency

The benefits of your organization becoming a member of the EAACI-POC:

- Greater representation from organizations worldwide
- Opportunities to learn from other organizations' experiences and "borrow" materials (after permission and with acknowledgement to the source)
- Networking with local experts such as researchers, industry experts and so forth
- EAACI-POC members can refer their own members to local organizations for specific inquiries such as travel information, food labelling regulations, and so forth

Membership Application

For patient organisations to become members the application process is split into two:

1. One has to become an individual member of the EAACI as the legal representative of the Patient organisation and
2. Institutional membership of the EAACI-POC, where the representative will have to have an executive position in the applying organisation

Individual Membership:

- To become a member of the EAACI the legal representative of the Patient Organisation indicates interest in EAACI membership and should send a formal application to EAACI Secretary General.
- The application of the representative in the POC must be approved by the EAACI Executive Committee, by a majority vote.

Institutional Membership:

Member Patient Organisations: Any Patient Organisation of Allergy and Clinical Immunology interested in allergy and/or clinical immunology from an European or a non-European country can apply to join the Academy as a Member Patient Organisation

- For a Patient Organisation to become member of the EAACI-POC the legal representative will have to complete the Membership Application Form. This will be reviewed by the EAACI-POC Membership Committee. Please contact the Membership Committee if you have questions
- Only one Patient Organisation per country can have voting rights, if another Patient Organisation, from a country which is already represented by a Patient Organisation from that country, wants to become member of the POC, they can apply and they may be admitted as Associate Members of the POC without voting rights.
- Members of these Patient Organisations are not "ipso facto" individual members of the Academy
- List of Patient Organisations admitted as members of the Academy is available on EAACI website.
- Any other benefits of the Patient Organisation membership shall be determined by the EAACI Executive Committee and publicised on EAACI website."

The EAACI-POC Standard Operating Procedures

Board Members election procedure

The Board of the EAACI-POC consists of

Food Allergy Research and Education USA	Mary Jane Marchisotto (Chair)
Association Asthma et Allergie France	Yanne Bolloh (Secretary)
Anaphylaxis Campaign UK	Lynne Regent
Anaphylaxis Australia Inc.	Maria Said
Allergy New Zealand	Mark Dixon
Deutsche Allergie und Asthma Bund	Sabine Schnadt
European Anaphylaxis Taskforce / Nederlands Anafylaxis Netwerk	Frans Timmermans (Senior Advisor)

The initial EAACI guidance would come from
EAACI HQ guidance comes from

EAACI VP Communications
Chiara Hartmann

The EAACI-POC BOARD (composition, election, term of office)

The board of the EAACI-POC consists of 7 members who together will nominate the chair, co-chair, and secretary, the remaining members are members-at-large.

The chair will also manage the finances.

The Board members election process could and should be the same as used in the EAACI structure.

The members of the EAACI-POC with voting rights are eligible to vote.

The Chair and Co-Chair will be directed by the EAACI Board of Officers out of the board members.

The election of “the Secretary” will be done by the EAACI-POC Chair out of the nominated board members.

EAACI-POC members can indicate whether they are available for one of the management positions and indicate their preference.

The EAACI-POC members will vote for each position of member-at-large and indicate out the applicants who has their vote to fulfill that position. The applicant with the most votes will be appointed standing the meeting for the next period.

The term of office of the board members is two years with the possibility of re-election for two other periods, so the total term of office of a board member can be six years.

The change over of the board members is consecutive to ensure continuity of the expertise and management of the activities.

The Mission of the Patient Organisations Committee is:

To be the liaison platform for scientific and societal interactional excellence in research, education, communication and management of allergy and anaphylaxis.

The Vision on how to strive to fulfil the mission would be:

Through initiation and participation of projects at the intersection of scientific research outcomes and translational processes for implementation on a (inter)national level.

Projects and details will come forth out of the interaction with existing EAACI bodies, societal and regulatory trends

Finances:

The EAACI-POC will be allocated by EAACI a yearly running costs budget. As per standing operating procedure this allocated budget is only to be used for the cost of running the Committee managerial and project meetings activities.

All other POC activities will have to be financed by seeking funding externally.

POC returning Activities

This list of POC Activities is not exhaustive and activities may be added / developed in due course.

When the finances allow for POC members to attend the EAACI Annual Meeting or Any EAACI focused Meeting like FAAM or PAAM the Patient Organisation Committee board is responsible for:

- Organising the Practical Allergy Management Workshop at the EAACI Annual Meeting;
- Participation in the Clinical Village, where a booth will be occupied;
- Participation in the National Allergy Societies Village;
- The yearly main POC business meeting;