avoiding more dimensions in the graph than in the data. Visualisation in Tables is further discussed in my recent article that is freely downloadable.6 This year’s course will extend introductory material available via YouTube clips on the ARD website [ard.com]! Direct link: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?lis-1=PLXU14EQbU_V8JpmolAKsaCC0V_jBzbxAN Note that you can also sign up for a special lecture, “Theory of poster design and presentation” followed by a poster tour after the session, devoted to poster design!

Session Title: EULAR Projects – Challenging Projects in Education and Training
Date/Time: Saturday 16.06.2018 08:30–10:00
Room: Room: E108/E107
Followed by Poster Tour, signup required!

REFERENCES:

Disclosure of Interest: None declared

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE 2018

Challenges of patient organisations’ in the 21st century

SP0081 PATIENT ORGANISATIONS’ CHALLENGES IN A WORLD THAT IS GETTING OLDER – LESS – MORE COLOURFUL

W. Koesters, Independent, Bergheim, Germany

We have to see the demographic facts. The most important fact continues to be the birth rate, that is, how many children are born in a country. Because only when children are born, they can start their vocational training or go to college 16 to 18 years later and will be available as qualified workers a few years later. Only those people can in turn have children and bring them up in a way that is sustainable. Only those can become a member of a patient organisation, can be engaged voluntarily.

When you look at the 28 countries in the EU, you will notice that on the one hand the average birth rate is 1.55 (2013) while on the other hand there are still significant differences even within Europe. To keep a population stable, we need 2.08 children per woman aged 15 to 49 years.

The consequences are evident: in almost all European countries the population will shrink without further immigration from abroad or no longer grow on its own. In almost all countries more people will die than be born. This will also have repercussions on the ageing of society and naturally on the demand for products and services too, but also on the potential labour force. This will have consequences for patient organisations too.

At the same time the needs will change because in all countries people continue to get older and live longer. In their old age they will therefore require services for a longer period of time than previous generations: health, nursing care, culture, leisure, housing, support and assistance, travel.

The economy, all companies and professions, the public health, the organisation of daily life will have to face profound changes with long-term effects as well as the associated challenges.

This also against the background of medical doctors becoming older and scarcer as well.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared

SP0083 GAPS IN PATIENT TREATMENT – WHAT PATIENT ORGANISATIONS CAN DO?

K. Koutoogeorga, on behalf of the Arthritis Foundation of Crete. The Arthritis Foundation of Crete, Heraklion, Crete, Greece

Background: Access to healthcare is a basic human right and one of the fundamental principles of European health systems, together with safety, quality, and equity. Unfortunately due to economic crisis and the cuts in healthcare budgets in many countries, inequalities in healthcare have been made worse. Furthermore the healthcare systems are facing increasing demands due to demographic change and the fact that the number of patients with chronic diseases is growing.

Objectives: To identify the inequalities in healthcare system and the degree to which the standards of care are affected.

Methods: Describe the gaps in patients’ access to health care and the degree of their satisfaction from the offered health care services as reflected by the relative EPF survey conducted in 2016 among patients in European countries.

In these challenging conditions, patient organisations should help to fill the gaps and suggest specific solutions by raising awareness about the problems of the patients and the consequences of inadequate healthcare. At the same time they should develop collaborations with the scientific and academic community as well as with other patients’ organisations.

Conclusion: Patients with chronic and long term conditions have valuable experiences as a result of their interaction with the healthcare system and can identify important gaps and propose solutions in order to improve access to healthcare.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared