

Afternoon Seminar

Tackling Obesity in Europe: How to Fight an Emerging Crisis?

Presentation of speakers:

Michelle Brennan was appointed Company Group Chair at Johnson & Johnson Medical Devices EMEA in September 2015. During her successful 27-year career with J&J, Michelle has held senior executive positions in Europe and North America in all three sectors of the organization: consumer healthcare, medical devices, and pharmaceuticals. While performing these roles, Michelle has acquired a wealth and breadth of knowledge as well as a deep understanding of the EMEA region, where she previously served as leader of the Ethicon Endo-Surgery organization. Delivering quality and meaningful healthcare has remained a passion throughout Michelle's career, as highlighted by her ongoing collaboration and leadership role within the European medical device trade association, MedTech Europe, further demonstrating her commitment towards developing multi-stakeholder partnerships that lead to meaningful health outcomes for patients.

Dr. Roberto Bertollini is Chief Scientist and WHO Representative to the EU, World Health Organisation. Between 1993 and 2000 he was the founding Director of WHO European Centre for Environment and Health in Rome and before taking up his current post in 2010, Dr Bertollini was the coordinator of evidence and policy for the environment and health at WHO headquarters.

Dr. David Cavan is the Director of Policy and Programmes at the International Diabetes Federation. A former physician at the Bournemouth Diabetes and Endocrine Centre and Clinical Director at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, he is a world-know expert on diabetes and has written several books about how to take control over it.

Artur Furtado is the Deputy Head of Unit for Health Determinants at the European Commission's DG Health and Food Safety. His career has spanned private sector and government jobs in Portugal and EU institutions, and among his current tasks is to lead the Commission's work on health challenges.

Martin Koehring is Senior Editor at the The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), which he joined in 2011. He currently works on bespoke research and thought leadership programmes, with a focus on sustainability and healthcare. Until early 2014 he was Europe editor in the EIU's Country Analysis team, covering politics, economics and industry trends in Western Europe. Prior to joining the EIU, Martin worked as a Senior Economist at the business intelligence provider D&B.

Professor Francesco Rubino is Chair of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery at King's College London. He is renowned for his academic and clinical work and expertise in treating obesity, and is the author of over 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. Professor Rubino received his MD and completed his residency in general surgery at the Catholic University/Policlinico Gemelli in Rome, Italy. He completed fellowships in laparoscopic surgery at the European Institute of Telesurgery in Strasbourg, France; Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York; and the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr Alfred Sant is a Member of the European Parliament, A former Prime Minister of Malta, he has been an MEP since 2014. He is actively engaged in matters related to the economy and the growth of obesity, and is one of few MEPs that has used his time in the Parliament to raise awareness around obesity. Dr Sant is also a famous novelist.