

15 February 2017



Dear members of the EAHL,

The 6th Conference of the EAHL (Bergen, Norway, 28-29 September 2017) is well under the way. Registration is open for submission of abstracts and attending the Conference. Early registration (= before 1 May 2017), will save you E 100; students E. 150. Registration includes lunch and coffee-breaks. Via the conference website eahl2017.org, under 'Registration', you will find the access code to the registration-form <http://axacoair.se/go?CL7ycGCs>. Payment for participation is in principle via credit card. But an alternative payment possibility is available. If there is any problem with registration or payment, or when you need an invoice please address the company responsible for the administration of the conference: post@kongress.no You can also find hotels with discount prices on the conference web-site.

Abstracts (presentations must be original ones) are to be submitted before 1 May 2017. See the conference website for instructions. As usual, poster presentations are also welcome.

The PHD seminar takes place 27 September 2017, 9.00 O'clock. There is a possibility to apply for scholarship. All relevant information can be found on the conference website.

If you have any questions the company responsible for the administration of the conference cannot answer, you may contact EAHL Administration.

You will by now have received the e-mail on payment of 2017 fees (same as in 2016). Whether the present structure of fees will remain the same in 2018 will depend on decisions to be taken by the General Assembly (to be held during the EAHL 2017 Conference).

The EAHL website will shortly be updated with news on health related European legislation and events. Particularly noteworthy in relation to the 2017 EAHL conference theme is the OECD meeting of health ministers (17th January 2017) on the next generation of health reforms, preceded on January 16 by a high level policy forum 'putting people at the centre as the new normal in health systems'. The outcome of the policy forum of the need for shifting from a health system centred on providers to people centred care was recognised by the Health Ministers who identified several areas of policy research in this respect. The Health Ministers also adopted a Recommendation of the OECD Council on Health Data Governance. The Recommendation identifies core elements to strengthen the health data governance and thereby maximise the potential of using health data while protecting individual's privacy. Given this new Health Data Governance Framework, which comes in addition to those of the Council of Europe and the European Union, a workshop organised by the EAHL interest group on Data Protection on the various data protection frameworks applicable in Europe during the EAHL 2017 conference would be indicated. As there is a lack of standards for European ethics review of data and sample access requests for cross border research projects, as was noticed in a recent report on ethics review of European Biobank Research ('towards mutual RECOgnition'), BBMRO-EROC Common Services ELSI, a workshop organised by the EAHL interest group of bio-banking is also indicated. Both workshops would fit into the subtheme 'innovative responses'.

Though the official deadline to give notice of special meetings has passed already, there will still be possibilities to fit EAHL interest group workshops into the programme. Please notify as soon as possible.

The EAHL Board looks forward to innovative (poster) presentations at the 2017 EAHL Conference.

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