

Petition for a European recognition of fibromyalgia disease

ENFA and the European Federation of IASP Chapters are joining together their efforts around fibromyalgia by launching a European petition. We are welcoming everyone to sign this major act of contribution to support the raise of awareness around fibromyalgia. With this petition, I am signing for a European Union in which the rights of 14 million people affected by Fibromyalgia are recognized.

AN INVISIBLE CHRONICAL PAIN IS STILL A PAIN

Petition for a European recognition of fibromyalgia disease

Fibromyalgia has been recognized by the WHO as a disease since 1992, as mentioned in the list ICD-10, M-79-7, even though it is still questioned by a number of medical professionals and some health authorities. Fibromyalgia is an invisible condition which is characterized by chronic pain and many symptoms, like morning myo-acampsia (morning stiffness), sleep disorder, a general tiredness, and fatigability of muscles.

In Europe, 14 million people are affected!

The reality of this situation, which affects all the European countries, is that the right of people affected by a chronic disease to have a good quality of life is being ignored. It is therefore called on the medical community, national and European policy makers:

- To fight against the skepticism around this disease

- To improve the quality of patients' lives

- To put in place an individual and interdisciplinary support programmes which allows the patient to stay economically and socially independent, and further avert any form of isolation

- To ensure in-depth training of this subject in the mandatory courses of medical experts and medical professionals

- To support and assist awareness programmes that will facilitate early diagnosis and early treatment, as well as access to care at any time.

- To allocate the adequate aid for scientific research against this pathology

- To put in place an EU programme on the exchange of best practices on Fibromyalgia

With this petition, I am signing for a European Union in which the rights of 14 million people affected by Fibromyalgia are recognized.

This petition is started in October 2008 and is stopped when it was signed by 35.338 people. The petition was presented to the European commissioner responsible for health affairs when the count reached 10.000.