



fighting heart disease
and stroke
european heart network

Press release – Friday, 09 May 2014

For immediate release

Heart Failure Awareness Day: Is Your Heart Failing?

Today, Friday, is the European Heart Failure Awareness Day.

Heart failure is a medical condition where the heart does not pump blood around the body as well as it should, causing difficulties for people in their daily life activities. Around 1% of people under 65 years of age have heart failure, but 7% of 75-84 year olds have heart failure and this increases to 15% in people older than 85. More than 10 million people in Europe live with heart failure. However, if recognised in time and adequately treated, patients can continue to live with a good quality life.

The European Heart Failure Awareness Day is marked by numerous activities across Europe. They include lectures to patients in heart failure clinics.

Members of the European Heart Network (EHN) are committed to improving the conditions for patients suffering from heart failure. Heart foundations invest significant amounts in research into heart failure. Such research includes reconstruction of heart muscle tissue and novel biomarkers. Our patients' organisations provide support to the patients and their families.

With the ageing of the population, the number of people affected by heart failure is likely to increase in the years to come. EHN supports the initiative of the Heart Failure Association. "It is important to raise awareness about heart failure," says Susanne Løgstrup, Director of the European Heart Network, "we are proud of the research work that our member organisations fund."

Note to editors:

Here is a list of recent research projects on heart failure funded by EHN members

- British Heart Foundation
 - o [Mending broken heart campaign: replacing lost muscle heart](#)
- Danish Heart Foundation
 - o [Effects of angiotensin II receptor blocker treatment in pressure overload induced right ventricular hypertrophy and failure](#)

- [Effects of prostacyclins in heart failure](#)
 - [Effects of adrenergic receptor blocker treatment on pressure overload induced right ventricular hypertrophy and failure](#)
- German Heart Foundation
- [Exercise training attenuates MuRF-1 expression in the skeletal muscle of patients with chronic heart failure independent of age](#)

About the European Heart Network

The European Heart Network (EHN) is a Brussels-based alliance of heart foundations and likeminded non-governmental organisations throughout Europe, with member organisations in 24 countries. The EHN plays a leading role in the prevention and reduction of cardiovascular diseases, in particular heart disease and stroke, through advocacy, networking, education and patient support, so that they are no longer a major cause of premature death and disability throughout Europe. www.ehnheart.org

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