

## Volume 16 - Issue 3, 2016 - Spotlight

### EAHM Congress Preview

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Everybody in healthcare across the C-Suite, clinician, policy-maker, nursing and IT spectrum is aware of how critical the situation is by now; healthcare in Europe is just not sustainable. The demands facing European healthcare systems are becoming greater with increased life expectancy, new pathologies and the rise of chronic disease. Added to this is a highly-monitored environment and increase in awareness of patient rights and, quite rightly, higher expectations from this body. At the same time, technology is swiftly developing alongside advances in diagnostics. This all should point to better patient outcomes but the bottom line is that few hospital budgets can sustain the related costs in a time of public cuts.

The 26th European Association of Hospital Managers (EAHM) Congress organised jointly with the National Association of Hospital Medical Directors (ANMDO), will put all of these issues in the spotlight under the title of Sustainable Healthcare, Needs, Responsibility and Competence with an array of eminent experts invited from around the continent to provide insights into how to effectively manage the changes taking place in healthcare.

"It is this gap between the health systems 'inputs' and 'outcomes' that hospital management have to bridge – that is our responsibility," say EAHM and ANMDO about the theme for this year's event. "We can confidently predict that the demands on and for healthcare will only continue to increase, the gap will widen and the challenges will grow if left unchecked. This requires appropriate solutions both now and in the future to prevent a crash of our health systems and to guarantee sustainability. This challenging responsibility for hospital management demands competence and leadership to expertly steer internal processes efficiently and effectively." Speakers will share their experience on how to meet the challenges of sustainability in healthcare in the immediate and longer-term future.

"Through such expert collaboration and shared learning we can articulate the required competencies to contribute to a sustainable health care system and convince our politicians and stakeholders, that public financing of healthcare is not purely a question of cost but also an undeniable investment in the future welfare of people."

Additionally, participants will get the opportunity to exchange ideas during podium discussions and interactive breakout sessions in an exploration of specific themes and a search for solutions.

The congress takes place in mid-October. Satellite professional and social programmes will enhance the two-day congress and offer further opportunities for networking amongst participants.

The gathering will start with a pre-congress event on the theme of Future Hospitals organised with Sias on Wednesday, October 12. It will cover themes that include future trends in hospital functions, the future of single-speciality hospitals, the building flexibility, structure and management efficiency (routes, transportation and supplies) and elements characterising the quality and comfort for patients and medical practitioners. At the end of the seminar there will be a technical visit to the cardiothoracic vascular Medical Centre at Saint Orsola Malpighi University Hospital in Bologna. On the same day there will also be a meeting amongst board members and Excom members.

The congress proper will open on Thursday, 13 October with a performance by the Choir Collegium Musicum (Alma Mater Studiorum) University of Bologna. EAHM President, Gerry O' Dwyer and ANMDO National President Gianfranco Finzi will introduce the event. A keynote speech by Paolo Biscottini, "Il corpo dell'uomo", will introduce the first session of the congress, Sustainability and the Future of Healthcare Systems. Presentations on the future-oriented welfare systems, new paradigms in medicine and in ethics, the example of oncology; how to measure appropriate expenses and a panel discussion will follow.

On the morning of Friday, October 14, the congress will open with a session on Values and Liability of Professionals. A rich range of topics bound to be of interest to healthcare professionals include values and liability of professionals, quality in healthcare 2030: a challenge for hospitals, ethics in management and patient outcomes. This will be followed by a panel discussion of healthcare leaders and experts.

The third session of the congress is on Friday afternoon. Focusing on Leadership and Competence of Managers, themes covered include the role of CEO's in improving the quality of hospital outcomes, leadership needs for sustainability of healthcare, facing up to the challenges of System Leadership, a diffused leadership for high-value healthcare. Two satellite sessions will focus on the central topics of IT health

Information Exchange in a range of European countries and Mental Health.

Bologna is a historic spot so congress organisers have prepared an opportunity for family or friends who are accompanying congress participants to enjoy the town itself and surrounding cities with optional tours to Florence, Parma and Ferrara at an additional cost.

On both days partners from the healthcare industry will provide an overview of their products and services in an attractive exhibition, presenting innovations and imparting specialist knowledge in their own workshops.

Before and after the day programme participants will have the chance to engage in further intensive exchanges of ideas, discussions, and networking with a Gala Diner on Thursday kicking off these opportunities.

The 26th European Association of Hospital Managers Congress takes place from October 13 – 14, 2016 in Bologna Italy at the Palazzo dei Congressi. For more information and registration go to: [www.eahm-bologna2016.com](http://www.eahm-bologna2016.com)

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