

Classification of good practices for replication

Feasibility has been reviewed for the Finnish Asthma Plan (Table 6). It is expected that AIRWAYS ICPs following the expertise raised in ARIA and GARD will have a similar feasibility.

Facilitating partnership for scaling up

Collaborator's role

The ARIA programme includes over 300 members and AIRWAYS ICPs includes 445 members. The paper describing the AIRWAYS ICPs proposal is co-authored by 250 members (all stakeholders: health care professionals, social carers, patients, government officers, methodologists, etc.) [3]. All of the members are very committed to the implementation of AIRWAYS ICPs. National and regional groups have been initiated in all but 2 European Union countries. In countries where health care is regionalised [59], many regional groups are in place.

Role of scientific societies

AIRWAYS ICPs is in line with the mission and vision of scientific societies which aim to (1) promote research, (2) collect, assess and diffuse scientific information, (3) represent a scientific reference body for other scientific, health and political organisations and an advocate towards political organisation and the general public, (4) encourage and provide training, continuous education and professional development and (5) collaborate with patients and lay organisations in the area of their field in order to lead the way towards better understanding, prevention, management and eventual cure of diseases. The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI), the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the European Rhinology Society (ERS), the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society (EUGMS), the International Academy of Pediatrics and the International Primary Care Respiratory Group (IPCRG) are the major societies in Europe of their respective field and are all members of AIRWAYS ICPs. A recent meeting on precision medicine in airways and allergic diseases was held at the European Union Parliament with these societies [77, 78]. The activities of IPCRG are summarized in Additional file 1.

Role of patient's organisations

The goal and rationale of patient involvement in medical decisions is patient empowerment. Empowered patients know their disease. Patient empowerment commences with the initial consultations at the primary care level encompassing discussions about the patient's ideas, concerns and expectations coupled with patient education about the specific disease process, what can be done to ameliorate the disease and ultimately self-management. Patients have the skills and motivation to take good care

in their everyday life, to adjust their treatment, and are prepared for new or potentially exacerbating situations. They are able to detect side-effects, contact healthcare professionals when necessary and they adhere to the treatment regime. Many tools support empowerment, shared decision making models and patient education. Patient empowerment should be included in the health care professional's curriculum. For an optimal dissemination of good practices, there is a need for patient involvement and empowerment.

There are recommendations to secure patient organization/patient involvement at national (e.g. The Netherlands ZonMW) and also at European Union level [79, 80].

EFA (European Federation of Allergy and airways diseases patient's association), the major patient's organisation for respiratory and allergic diseases in Europe, has been very active for AIRWAYS ICPs [77, 78].

Diffusion of good practices

All European Union countries should be included.

The European Geriatric Medicine, the official organ of the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society (EUGMS), has initiated a column of the EIP on AHA to publish important activities of the EIP on AHA in order to inform the medical community [2]. Several papers have already been published [2, 29, 44, 81–85].

- *Reference Site Network*: The Reference Site Network is already committed to AIRWAYS-ICPs (decision taken during the Montpellier meeting).
- *Action Groups*: Area 5 of Action Group B3 is leading AIRWAYS ICPs.
- *Event and dedicated scaling up/twinning sessions*: Several events have already taken place (Table 7).
- *Network of excellence centres in respiratory and allergic diseases*: It includes the Commitments for Action (EIP on AHA action Plan B3), Reference Sites of the EIP AHA, the Global Allergy and Asthma European Network (GA²LEN) and members of AIRWAYS ICPs. GA²LEN, a Sixth European Union Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6) Network of Excellence, was created in 2005 as a vehicle to ensure excellence in research bringing together research and clinical institutions to combat fragmentation in the European research area and to tackle allergy in its globality [89]. The GA²LEN network has benefited greatly from the voluntary efforts of researchers who are strongly committed to this model of pan-European collaboration. The network was organized in order to increase networking for scientific and clinical projects in allergy and asthma around Europe.