



Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends,

EABP Bologna Congress - Update Number 3 - Postponement

The Board and the CPC (Congress Planning Committee) would like to update you on our thinking about the Congress and what we identify needs to happen now. We remain committed to holding our next Congress in Bologna.

We are continually addressing the situation and having discussions regarding [a postponement of Congress 2020](#).

Therefore, we are working on our Plan B, it is clear that a Congress in September 2020 is no longer a possibility - given uncertainty about travel, timescales envisaged for people getting back to normal life and earnings, the financial risks and good governance reasons that need to be taken into account.

We are acutely aware also of the emotional and psychological costs of the current situation in many countries on our members, and also on ourselves - we all will need time to make some recovery and find anew our self-regulation and equilibrium, after the storm of the virus.

CPC and the EABP Board members are maintaining our dialogue for finding the best way forward in these uncertain times. *Please be reassured that we are focused on finding the best solution that will allow us to meet together as colleagues and friends once these necessary restrictions are lifted.*

The Board and CPC are committed to finding the way to allow the next Congress to be held in [Bologna in 2021](#).

The CPC already has done a lot of hard work for an event in Bologna, and we feel we must try to continue with this as the place of next EABP Congress. We are working with the Congress venue to find an alternative date for 2021, we will announce the new Congress dates and details as soon as the booking, accommodation and other details and financial considerations are finalised.

EABP members will recognise that Congress planning is always a gigantic task done by many, this is made even larger by the current global situation.

We have to pay attention to many things - including the impact this is having on members in different countries. Also various logistical, financial and contractual arrangements are being reassessed, and renegotiations are being undertaken by Maurizio Stuppigia and the other CPC members in Italy, and by the EB, Board and members of CPC outside of Italy. Also there is all



the background work being done by the Congress registration and website team. Once we know the details of the changes and the new date of the Bologna Congress all these people will be working very hard to make the new date a success.

We appreciate your understanding whilst we deal with all of these things.

At this stage we are asking that you please hold off from requesting a refund of your registration payment, at least until you know the details of Congress 2021 and you know that you do want to cancel. This will be very helpful to EABP as we manage all the above and also reduces our administrative costs. It also helps the CPC and Board as co-convenors of the congress to continue moving forward.

We will [*in our next announcement*](#) set out the information you will need on registration payments already made / being made now and how these will be recognised going forward to Congress 2021.

Soon after this notification, we will be in contact with the announcement setting out the final arrangements for the new dates and other details for EABP Bologna Congress 2021. We will write to you, make an announcement on each of the EABP websites (main website, Congress website and IBPJ website), and via social media.

[Please keep an eye out for this announcement.](#)

On behalf of CPC and the Board, I wish to thank all the volunteers, registration, secretariat and speakers who are on this difficult re-planning journey with us, they are all trying their best to make Congress 2021 a success for our members and for all participants.

With warm regards and wishing you all safe and well,

Carmen Joanne Ablack

President EABP