



**A message from Kjeld Hansen, Chair of the European Lung Foundation:**

Dear friends,

First, I want to wish you a happy New Year. I hope that you have been able to take some time off towards the end of the year to reflect upon the events of 2020, which by all standards have been remarkable, and that you are ready to come together with us to make 2021 a great year for lung health.

We do feel that there is much to look forward to in 2021. We will continue our work towards becoming more patient led by developing patients' priorities and offering more opportunities for patients to collaborate with other stakeholders. We are working closely with our disease-specific patient advisory groups (PAGs) to achieve this and I felt very privileged to join some of them for meetings during November and December. I was very impressed with their sense of community, desire and dedication to advance lung health, which makes me proud and optimistic for the future and we feel very proud to work with them.

Both ELF and ERS are dedicated to developing new digital resources to support patients and professionals. Both organisations will be launching new websites in the beginning of this year, and we hope this can strengthen our ability to inform, engage and involve patients. Don't forget to submit a photo that represents you living with a lung condition to the ELF Photo Contest, so we can accurately represent all lung conditions on the new website.

On 27 January we have the great pleasure to introduce the virtual MEP Lung Health Group event "Towards a European Health Union - BREATHE Vision for the future", which is a collaborative effort with European lung health organisations across disease areas. In the event we will present our shared vision for how we can inform European policies in the area towards 2030. [Register here.](#)

We wish you a great 2021!

**Key dates:**

- Bronchiectasis Patient Conference registration open: 12 January - 27 February
- Healthy Lungs for Life grant applications open: 13 January. First cut-off date: 28 February
- Next MEP Lung Health Group meeting and launch of Breathe Vision 2030: 27 January at 10:00-11:15 CET



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Patients and healthcare professionals identify research priorities for Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency

[Find out more](#)

The impact of COVID-19 on people with asthma

[Find out more](#)

Study shows beneficial impact of lockdown measures for IPF patients in Greece

[Find out more](#)



## MENTAL WELLBEING AND LUNG HEALTH FACTSHEET NOW AVAILABLE IN 18 LANGUAGES

Our factsheet designed to help people with lung conditions to manage and improve their mental wellbeing is now available in 18 languages.

Download the factsheet in: [Bulgarian](#), [Czech](#), [Danish](#), [Dutch](#), [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Greek](#), [Hungarian](#), [Italian](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Romanian](#), [Russian](#), [Serbian](#), [Spanish](#), [Turkish](#), [Ukrainian](#).

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## JOIN THE ELF PATIENT ORGANISATION NETWORK OR UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

Are you part of the ELF patient organisation network? Then it's time to update your details to include on the upcoming new ELF website. If you are not part of the network, join now!

[Find out more](#) and [update your details or join the network](#)



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## APPLY FOR A HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE GRANT

Applications to apply for a grant of up to €1,000 to support Healthy Lungs for Life activities are now open

for 2021. Applications will stay open and will be collected and judged after two cut-off dates: 28 February and 31 July.

[Find out more and apply for a grant](#)



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## BRONCHIECTASIS PATIENT CONFERENCE – REGISTRATION OPEN

The first ever ELF-EMBARC Virtual Bronchiectasis Patient Conference will take place on Saturday 27 February 2021. This event will give people affected by bronchiectasis an opportunity to hear patient-focused talks from individuals with bronchiectasis and experts in the field.

[Find out more](#) and [register](#)

A promotional banner for the Bronchiectasis Patient Conference. It features a grid of video call windows showing participants. Text on the banner includes: 'Bronchiectasis Patient Conference', 'Saturday 27 February 2021', '10:00 - 16:00 CET', and a list of topics: 'Basics of bronchiectasis', 'Treatment and self-management', 'Latest research', and 'COVID-19'. At the bottom, it says 'Registration open!' with a URL and logos for ELF, ERS, and EMBARC.

**Bronchiectasis Patient Conference**

Saturday 27 February 2021  
10:00 - 16:00 CET

- Basics of bronchiectasis
- Treatment and self-management
- Latest research
- COVID-19

Registration open!  
<https://bronchiectasis-patient-conference.eventbrite.co.uk>

ELF ERS EMBARC  
The European Bronchiectasis Registry

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## COVID-19 VACCINATIONS Q&A SESSION WITH PROF. ANITA SIMONDS, ERS PRESIDENT

European Respiratory Society (ERS) president, Prof. Anita Simonds, recently held a question and answer session to address some of the most common questions about vaccines against COVID-19. We have put together her answers to the questions put forward for you to access.

[Read the Q&A](#)



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## ERN-LUNG: HELP AND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH RARE CONDITIONS

ELF is part of the European Reference Network (ERN) for the lung (ERN-LUNG). ELF has been working with EURORDIS and other patient organisations that form the ERN-LUNG Patient Advisory Group (ePAG) to develop patient journeys.



[Find out more about ERN-LUNG and how you can get support](#)

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## EMA PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) recently held an event for the public about the approval and roll-out of vaccines against COVID-19 in the European Union. The event focused on the key aspects of how the Moderna and Comirnaty (Pfizer/ BioNTech) vaccines have been assessed, approved and will be rolled out across the EU.

[Read the summary of the event here](#)



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## KEY MESSAGES FROM THE ALLIED RESPIRATORY PROFESSIONALS AT THE ERS CONGRESS 2020

Here you can read a summary of the most important findings that the allied respiratory professionals' group presented at the ERS International Congress 2020. This group consists of lung function scientists, physiotherapists and nurses.

[Read a summary of the findings](#)



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## BEST ABSTRACT AWARDS: FREE REGISTRATION TO ERS CONGRESS 2021

ELF will be offering free registration to the ERS International Congress 2021 to the author of the best abstract in patient-centred research and the best abstract in one of the topics covered by the Healthy Lungs for Life campaign.

[Find out more](#)



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## ELF AND BREXIT

The United Kingdom left the European Union with a UK-EU trade and cooperation agreement in place, which ensures some certainty and security and helps protect patients. Although ELF is based in the UK, Brexit will not affect ELF.

[Find out more](#)



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## ENTER THE ELF PHOTO CONTEST

We have already received some excellent images for the ELF photo contest. Don't forget to submit a photo that represents you living with a lung condition. The photos will be entered into a random prize draw to win an iPad and may be featured on the new ELF website!

[Submit a photo](#)



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## MEP LUNG HEALTH GROUP UPDATE

The next event of the MEP lung health group, entitled "Towards a European Health Union - BREATHE Vision for the future" will take place on Wednesday 27 January at 10:00-11:00 CET. It will be the launch of Breathe Vision 2030.

[Find out more and register](#)



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## INTERVIEW WITH KJELD HANSEN, ELF CHAIR

Kjeld Hansen is the Chair of ELF. He has been transitioning into the role for about a year now and officially started in post in September 2020. In this interview you find out about his background, plans for his mandate and what he would like to achieve with ELF. We also learn about the interesting sport of stair racing!

[Read the interview](#)





## PATIENT ORGANISATION ROUND-UP: JANUARY 2021

In this month's patient organisation round-up, you can read all about patient organisations' biggest achievements in 2020 and their exciting plans and goals for the year ahead, as well as their latest news.

[Read the full round-up](#)



The European Lung Foundation (ELF) was founded by the European Respiratory Society (ERS) in 2000 with the aim of bringing together patients, the public and respiratory professionals to positively influence respiratory medicine.

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