Thank you for your contribution to ERN PaedCan and ExPO-r-Net Conference

Dear Commissioner Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis,

On behalf of the European Society for Paediatric Oncology - SIOPE and the European Reference Network on Paediatric Cancer - ERN PaedCan, we would like to extend our utmost gratitude for your contribution to the ERN PaedCan Kick-off meeting combined with the concluding event of the ExPO-r-Net project, 29-30 June, Brussels.

It was a great pleasure and privilege to receive your video address, which has been instrumental to convey the unique value of the ERN initiative for children and adolescents with cancer.

Your message highlighted one of the principal challenges that the ERN PaedCan strives to address – the complex landscape that may lead to inequalities in childhood cancer outcomes across Europe. The European Commission and Member States enabled the ERN PaedCan to embark on the all-important mission of eradicating these inequalities. Without doubt, your support will continue to be crucial as we take the first steps towards this and other related priorities of the European paediatric cancer community:

- **Eradicating inequalities**: Recognising the support for targeted actions so far, the need is large and Europe needs to be ready to further invest towards a sustainable future where all children and adolescents can access the best possible treatment;

- **Access to innovation in cross-border clinical trials**: Complex or relapsed malignancies require innovative treatment, currently only available in clinical trials. For children and adolescents to benefit fully from cross-border initiatives, access to clinical trials thus needs to be ensured across different EU countries, and relevant reimbursement processes streamlined;

- **Survivorship Passport implementation**: The product of cooperation in a series of EU projects, the Survivorship Passport is an innovative tool to empower childhood cancer survivors and improve their quality of life and participation. As the number of concerned survivors is growing, the need is considerable. Securing the sustainability of the Survivorship Passport requires a robust eHealth model and effective partnerships, including at EU level.

The ERN model and the above points are part of the multi-stakeholder endorsed SIOPE Strategic Plan and its ongoing implementation. We would be delighted to provide you with further information and updates as the ERN PaedCan and related initiatives develop in the near future.

We thus very much look forward to continuing our valued dialogue and cooperation on childhood cancer - the leading cause of children’s death by disease above one year of age in Europe - and are strongly committed to work with you to further improve the European health landscape.

Once again, we thank you for your precious time and contribution to the ERN PaedCan launch.

Yours sincerely,
Dear Commissioner Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis,

On behalf of SIOPE – the European Society for Paediatric Oncology and the European Reference Network on Paediatric Cancer - ERN PaedCan, it is our great pleasure to invite you to deliver a Special address at the ERN PaedCan Kick-off Meeting combined with the final conference of the ExPO-r-Net project, Friday 30 June 2017, Brussels, Belgium.

Please find enclosed and copied here below the official Invitation Letter from the President of SIOPE and the ERN PaedCan Coordinator for your esteemed consideration.

For any additional information that you may require, SIOPE will be pleased to provide it to you accordingly.

We very much hope that you would be in a position to contribute your leading insights on this occasion and look forward to the opportunity and privilege of welcoming you.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration,

Yours Sincerely,

SIOPE

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Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis
EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Invitation to Deliver a Special Address: ERN PaedCan Kick-off Meeting and ExPO-r-Net final event

Dear Commissioner Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis,

On behalf of the European Society for Paediatric Oncology - SIOPE and the European Reference Network on Paediatric Cancer - ERN PaedCan, we are honoured to invite you to speak at the ERN PaedCan Kick-off Meeting combined with the final conference of the ExPO-r-Net project, Friday 30 June 2017, Brussels (Renaissance Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19), Belgium.

The European Commission had identified the paediatric cancer field for the all-important role of piloting the ERN concept. With this mission, the European Expert Paediatric Oncology Reference Network for Diagnostics and Treatment - ExPO-r-Net developed innovative modalities for better treatment, care, and expertise-sharing, thus demonstrating how ERNs can be successful in addressing healthcare inequalities for young patients with rare malignancies across Europe.

The newly approved ERN PaedCan will build on the achievements of ExPO-r-Net as a unique collaborative model between the paediatric cancer community and decision-makers at EU and national levels. Aligned with the SIOPE Strategic Plan – European Cancer Plan for Children and Adolescents and its Objective 4 – Equal access, the ERN PaedCan is set to be instrumental in realising continuously more and better cure for children and adolescents with cancer no matter where in the EU they may live.
As the ERN PaedCan is being launched in the presence of its community, ExPO-r-Net is coming to a successful conclusion. In light of your valued support of the paediatric cancer cause and the ERN model, we would be privileged should you be in a position to contribute your leading insights on this important occasion.

Please find the speaking role that we are delighted to put forward for your consideration:

- **Opening of Policy Session “The European Cross-border Healthcare Vision”**
- **Date and time**: Friday 30 June 09:10 - 09:30 CEST
- **Proposed working title**: “The role of ERNs - Overcoming Inequalities in Europe”

Enclosed you will find further information about the event programme. Kindly note that conference Day 1 will focus on project-specific and operational aspects, while Day 2 is fully dedicated to strategic and policy perspectives. Should you require additional input or have any questions or requests, it would be a pleasure to assist you accordingly.

We very much hope that you would be able to accept this invitation and would be most grateful for an indication of your availability, if possible by Wednesday 31 May. The SIOPE office will also follow up on this communication with your Cabinet in the near future.

Thank you for your ongoing support and the consideration of this invitation,

Yours sincerely,

SIOPE
Dear Commissioner Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis,

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It was a great pleasure and privilege to receive your video address, which has been instrumental to convey the unique value of the ERN initiative for children and adolescents with cancer.

Your message highlighted one of the principal challenges that the ERN PaedCan strives to address – the complex landscape that may lead to inequalities in childhood cancer outcomes across Europe. The European Commission and Member States enabled the ERN PaedCan to embark on the all-important mission of eradicating these inequalities. Without doubt, your support will continue to be crucial as we take the first steps towards this and other related priorities of the European paediatric cancer community:

- **Eradicating inequalities**: Recognising the support for targeted actions so far, the need is large and Europe needs to be ready to further invest towards a sustainable future where all children and adolescents can access the best possible treatment;
- **Access to innovation in cross-border clinical trials**: Complex or relapsed malignancies require innovative treatment, currently only available in clinical trials. For children and adolescents to benefit fully from cross-border initiatives, access to clinical trials thus needs to be ensured across different EU countries, and relevant reimbursement processes streamlined;
- **Survivorship Passport implementation**: The product of cooperation in a series of EU projects, the Survivorship Passport is an innovative tool to empower childhood cancer survivors and improve their quality of life and participation. As the number of concerned survivors is growing, the need is considerable. Securing the sustainability of the Survivorship Passport requires a robust eHealth model and effective partnerships, including at EU level.

The ERN model and the above points are part of the multi-stakeholder endorsed SIOPE Strategic Plan and its ongoing implementation. We would be delighted to provide you with further information and updates as the ERN PaedCan and related initiatives develop in the near future.

We thus very much look forward to continuing our valued dialogue and cooperation on childhood cancer - the leading cause of children’s death by disease above one year of age in Europe - and are strongly committed to work with you to further improve the European health landscape.

Once again, we thank you for your precious time and contribution to the ERN PaedCan launch.

Yours sincerely,