

Living with schizophrenia: hearing the different perspectives

Webinar
24 May 2023 | 11.00 – 12.30 (CET)

Programme

- 11.00 - 11.05 Webinar opening - **Peter Kéri, GAMIAN-Europe's President**
- 11.05 - 11.10 Welcome and overview by moderator – **Dr Matt Muijen, GAMIAN-Europe's Board Member**
- 11.10 – 11.20 Brief presentation of 'Developing trust and effective care for people with schizophrenia' key findings and recommendations – **Dr Chiara Samele, Senior Associate GAMIAN-Europe**
- 11.20 – 11.30 Living with schizophrenia: a patient perspective - **Päivi Rissanen, Expert by Experience, Finnish Central Association for Mental Health**
What is it like to live with schizophrenia day to day?
What are the positive experiences?
How can challenges concerning symptoms and treatment be overcome?
- 11.30 – 11.40 Caring for someone with schizophrenia: a carer's perspective – **André Decraene, Vice President, EUFAMI**
What are the main concerns for carers?
What are the positive experiences?
- 11.40 – 11.50 Relationships between patients, carers and psychiatrists: a psychiatrist perspective – **Prof. Dr Peter Falkai, Past President, European Psychiatric Association (EPA)**
What helps create positive therapeutic relationships between patients, carers and psychiatrists?
What does the latest research in schizophrenia tell us?
- 11:50 – 12:00 Improving mental health services: a policy-maker's perspective – **MEP Tomáš Zdechovský, European Parliament**
What key improvements can be made to mental health services to help support patients, carers and mental health professionals?
- 12:00 – 12:25 Questions and answers
- 12:25 – 12.30 Closing remarks



Keynote Speakers

Dr Chiara Samele is a social scientist and epidemiologist by training. Chiara is the co-Director of Informed Thinking. After a decade at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience in London, she transitioned to third sector research and policy work. At Informed Thinking, she has led numerous research projects and produced influential reports for various organisations, including NHS Trusts and the European Commission.



Päivi Rissanen works as a special expert and expert by experience in the Finnish Central Association for Mental Health. She has done two academic thesis based on her experiences: Licentiate thesis Recovery from Schizophrenia (2005) and PhD (2015) A Hopeless Case?: An Autoethnography of Getting mentally ill and Rehabilitation of it.

André Decraene, Vice-President of EUFAMI, holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Leuven. After a successful international business career, he volunteers at EUFAMI, the organisation that unites all families of persons affected by serious mental ill health in Europe. Together with his wife, they care for one of their children, who has been living with a mental health condition for over 15 years. Mr Decraene is a former President of Abbeyfield Belgium and Trustee of the Abbeyfield Society (UK), a global non-profit dedicated to helping the elderly.



Prof, Dr Peter Falkai is a recognised psychiatrist with more than 30 years' experience. He is currently a Professor and Chairman at Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich. Specialising in the neurobiology of psychotic disorders, particularly schizophrenia, he actively contributes to international scientific societies like SIRS. As former President of the EPA, he led diverse research teams investigating neurobiological underpinnings, pathomorphology, and treatment options for psychotic disorders.

Tomáš Zdechovský is a Czech politician, member of active reserves, crisis manager, media analyst and author. He is serving his second term as a member of the European Parliament in the European Peoples Party Group (EPP). He is a Vice-Chair of Budgetary Control Committee and a member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs. He is a member and deputy leader of the Czech governing party of KDU-CSL (Christian-Democratic Party). As a co-chair of MEP Alliance for Mental Health, he actively brings mental health issues on the EU agenda.

