



We would like to thank you for your recent attendance at the first meeting of the Member of the European Parliament Interest Group on Brain, Mind and Pain Disorders on 6<sup>th</sup> November, focusing on the theme of equitable access to treatment, services and support.

During the event, we were honoured to hear from you and a range of other expert speakers discussing patient access, neurological disorders and the case study on multiple sclerosis. Together, you gave us a comprehensive view of the complexities around living with conditions of the brain, mind and pain, and the importance of meeting the needs of these people.

We learned that ‘access’ means so much more than the cost of medicines. Indeed, most Europeans struggle far more with accessing appropriate services and support than they do therapeutic products. And because many of their diseases – such as multiple sclerosis, stroke or epilepsy – are lifetime conditions, they will struggle with these access challenges their entire lives.

As we heard through compelling case studies, when Europeans don’t have equitable access to treatment, services and support, their quality of life may deteriorate dramatically. Conversely, relatively simple and economically viable interventions can have untold benefits for them and their carers.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that we meet the identified priorities for people with chronic neurological conditions, namely: timely diagnosis and personalised treatment; interdisciplinary and coordinated care; and adaptable support in daily life.

Shortly, we will share the meeting report and photographs on the website of the interest group: [www.brainmindpain.eu](http://www.brainmindpain.eu)