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19 December 2011

Dear Doctor Wiegersma,

On behalf of the Executive Council of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) it is my pleasure to inform you that we recognize the importance of your activity regarding the institution of a Qualitative Health Research Center for patient experiences as initiated by the Health Experiences Research Group of Oxford University and fully endorse your activities to the end of founding a European Center.

We agree that this is a timely and highly policy relevant issue. The need of exploring through qualitative interviews patients' experiences in order to improve care quality is more than clear and we are sure your activities can have a significant impact on this.

Furthermore it is our conviction that a European Centre as described by you will enable the comparison and increase of existing research and be an important tool to establish a permanent research group.

Where appropriate you can mention the fact that the EUPHA endorses this initiative and where relevant, the EUPHA will refer to it.

We wish you success in the pursuit of your goals,

Sincerely,

Prof. Walter Ricciardi,

President