**Brussels, Belgium**

**GARD Annual Meeting**

The 11th GARD General Meeting was held at the Academie Royale de Medecine de Belgique: Brussels, Belgium November 9-11, 2017. Over 200 GARD members attended this annual meeting. A joint GARD-EUFOREA session focusing on air pollution and mHealth was part of this year’s program in collaboration with the Reference Site Network of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. Details of the meeting agenda can be found in [http://gard-breathefreely.org/meetings-news-events/](http://gard-breathefreely.org/meetings-news-events/).

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**2017 GARD Election Executives & Planning Committees**

During the 2017 GARD General Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, the GARD Planning Group and Executive Committee were elected. **Executives:** Drs N Khaltaev (Chair), A Yorgancioglu (Vice-Chair), N Billo, J Bousquet & T To. **Planning Committee:** E Bateman AB Kheder, G Viegi, P Hellings, B Samolinski, J Correia de Sousa, A Vallulis, A Cruz, TA Winders, H Sagara, R Stelmach, N Chavannes, B Gemicioglu & K Whorlow. See details in [http://gard-breathefreely.org/about/elections-exec/](http://gard-breathefreely.org/about/elections-exec/).

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**GARD Website**


The GARD website entitled [gard-breathefreely.org](http://gard-breathefreely.org/) was officially launched during the 11th GARD General Meeting. The website offers up-to-date information about GARD, activities at local GARD countries, GARD publications, a list of affiliated organizations and their URL links. The website embedded the google translator, so the content can be viewed in multiple languages. Since the launch in November 2017, the website has over 12,000 views from across the world.

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**GARD Poster Presentations & Winners**

A total of 23 posters were presented at the 11th GARD General Meeting. These posters can be viewed and downloaded at the GARD website ([http://gard-breathefreely.org/poster-pwd-page/resources-poster/](http://gard-breathefreely.org/poster-pwd-page/resources-poster/)). Five posters were selected as the best posters (alphabetical order by country): Paulo Camargos (Brazil), Elisabeth Nunes (Mozambique), Jose Rosado Pinto (Portugal), Yousser Mohammad (Syria), and Lan Le Thi Tuyet (Vietnam). Congratulations to the winners!
GARD Country Activities - Bangladesh

Better Breathing Bangladesh, a World Health Organization (WHO) Global Alliance against chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD) demonstration project. Better Breathing Bangladesh (BBB) is making strides in improving respiratory health care in the country

http://www.theipcrg.org/display/TeachColleagues/Better+Breathing+Bangladesh

World COPD Day 2017

GARD Publications

DESIGNATED GARD SECTION IN THE JOURNAL OF THORACIC DISEASE

The following are the latest publications about GARD:

(http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/)


Upcoming Relevant Conferences & Events

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:

- 19 May - 23 May 2018 - ATS International Conference, San Diego, USA
- 26 May - 30 May 2018 - EAACI 37th Annual Congress, Munich, Germany
- 31 May - 2 June 2018 - 9th IPCRG World Conference: Porto, Portugal

EVENTS:

- 1 May 2018 - World Asthma Day
- 14 November 2018 - World COPD Day

To submit items for the upcoming newsletter:

Contact the GARD Newsletter Production Team: Drs Teresa To (teresa.to@sickkids.ca) & Stefania La Grutta (lagrutta@ibim.cn.it)