



57TH AESGP Annual Meeting

SELF-CARE

IN TIMES OF PANDEMIC AND BEYOND

26 – 27 May 2021 ———▶ **Online**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

COVID-19 has significantly disrupted our lives and the Industry. What started as a regional outbreak end of 2019, to quickly escalate as a global pandemic early 2020, forced us to regretfully cancel our 56th Annual Meeting, initially planned to take place in May 2020 in Milan, Italy.

It is evident that the many changes we have experienced in the last few months will stay with us for a while, in one way or another, and that life after the pandemic will be different from what we have been used to. We will have to adapt to a “new normality” in the way we connect, behave and maintain relationships, shaped by this experience.

AESGP is adapting, too! Our 57th Annual Meeting is going virtual.

We are inviting global Industry leaders and representatives of partner organisations to discuss opportunities, challenges and lessons learnt brought upon us by the global pandemic. Together with distinguished experts, we will be looking into the latest Industry trends and emerging individual behaviours in the post-COVID-19 reality. We will explore, for example, how lockdowns have sped up the uptake of technology and changed our health and wellbeing choices. We will also look into the economic recovery, with a particular focus on circular policies.

The crisis has demonstrated that self-care is a cornerstone of sustainable healthcare systems and healthy societies. It is more important than ever to continue promoting and advancing responsible self-care during these difficult times and beyond. On the occasion of the AESGP Annual Meeting, we will be presenting new evidence quantifying the value of self-care to people and society with the official launch of our new economic study. We sincerely hope that it will contribute to an improved, constructive policy dialogue between all stakeholders involved in making health systems more resilient and future-proof.



Birgit Schuhbauer

AESGP President & Vice President
Self Care EMEA Region and Developed
Market Cluster, Johnson & Johnson
Consumer Health Europe

PROGRAMME

All sessions will be recorded and made available after the meeting for a limited period of time to registered participants.

Wednesday, 26 May 2021

09.00 — 9.20 **OPENING: Welcome and Introduction Session**

09.30 — 11.00 **SESSION 1: Aftermath of COVID-19: what is next for the self-care market?**

Today the world is facing a new set of circumstances. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed priorities, spending habits and ability to maintain certain commitments. While slowly adjusting to new life and priority shifts after the lockdowns, people are focused on staying in control of their emotional, mental and physical health and wellness. This session will review market trends that have emerged during the pandemic and discuss the long-term impact of COVID-19.

11.30 — 13.00 **SESSION 2: The role of self-care in resilient healthcare systems**

The positive effects of self-care are many, from improved well-being and reduced work absenteeism at the individual level, to positive impact on health budgets and increased capacity for health systems at the national level. This was even more evident during the pandemic. When European healthcare systems faced an unprecedented number of patients requiring urgent care, actions taken at the individual level, such as social distancing, physical isolation and self-managing mild symptoms when sick, have helped to relieve part of that pressure.

The economic and societal value of self-care has been discussed in a number of studies around the world for years. The latest European-wide study dates back to 2004; now is the time to refresh and present new evidence of the economic and societal value of self-care.

Thursday, 27 May 2021

09.00 — 10.30 **SESSION 3: Communicating risk in times of uncertainty**

A degree of uncertainty is inevitable, at all times. A pandemic like COVID-19 has not been witnessed in a century, and much remains unknown and evolving about it. Uncertainty leads to fear; this is best illustrated by the panic buying of goods, including some self-care products, that happened at the beginning of the outbreak in Europe. Risk communication and engagement is key in effectively managing uncertainty and building public trust in products and health authorities. This session will draw from the lessons learnt on effective communication during the pandemic and will discuss how we can apply those lessons to risk and crisis communication post-COVID-19.

11.00 — 12.30 **SESSION 4.1: Day Two of the new Medical Devices Regulation: how are we doing?**

This session brings together legislators and regulators together with Industry stakeholders 2 days after the entry into force of the new Medical Devices Regulation in the EU. We will discuss lessons learnt and ways forward for building trust in the new framework.

11.00 — 12.30 **SESSION 4.2: ePharmacy: what has changed during COVID-19 and what is here to stay**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, ePharmacy sales have been growing way above the market average in line with the general development of online channels. This session will bring together market data, Industry and ePharmacy experts to examine trends that have emerged in online sales of self-care products during the pandemic as well as longer-term trends that may follow.

14.00 — 15.30 **SESSION 5.1: RWE/RWD in the self-care space: what is stopping us to use more of it?**

Access to digital tools and the vast amount of health information, available at everyone's fingertips, is changing our experience with self-care products. Nowadays, this experience can be captured and retained. This is a unique opportunity to collect real-world evidence on the use of products and use that evidence in order to develop new products, increase product safety and enrich regulatory knowledge. This session will bring Industry and regulators together to discuss how we can take full advantage of real-world evidence (RWE) and real-world data (RWD) in the self-care space.

14.00 — 15.30 **SESSION 5.2: Circular economy and sustainability: what is the role of our Industry?**

Tackling environmental sustainability issues is perhaps the most pressing global public policy challenge. This global challenge requires a collective response across all sectors and value chains. This session will bring together policy makers and Industry representatives to explore how, by working together and extrapolating best Industry practices, we can collectively meet the objectives of the European green agenda.

15.30 — 16.00 **Closing remarks and invitation to the AESGP in-person Conference on 25 November 2021 in Lisbon, Portugal**

PRACTICAL INFORMATION



CONFERENCE VENUE

AESGP's primary concern is the safety of speakers, members, staff and participants. Therefore, and still due to the current state of COVID-19 in Europe and the rest of the world, the AESGP 57th Annual Meeting will take place online.

REGISTRATION FEES

Conference participant: 450 Euro (excluding VAT*)

All sessions will be recorded and made available after the meeting for a limited period of time to registered participants.

** AESGP Conferences are subject to the VAT rules of the country where the conference takes place.*

HOW TO REGISTER?

Registration to the conference can be made online on the AESGP website.

Participants are encouraged to register by **1 May 2021**. For cancellations received after 1 May 2021, the whole fee is withheld.

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

For questions on participation and registration, please contact AESGP (info@aesgp.eu, www.aesgp.eu).

SAVE THE DATE!

AESGP Regulatory Conference

25 November 2021

Lisbon, Portugal



58th AESGP Annual Meeting

7-9 June 2022

Milan, Italy



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