



# GARD Newsletter

## A new active life has begun, Dr. Billo!

Prior to taking the position as a Medical Officer at WHO, Dr Nils Billo was a very innovative Executive Director of the International Union and was head of the Epidemiology Section of the Federal Office of Public Health in Switzerland.

Dr Billo joined the WHO Department for Management of Noncommunicable Diseases, Disability, Violence and Injury Prevention (NVI) in March 2016 as a Medical Officer and manages the GARD. During his tenure at WHO, Dr. Billo worked tirelessly, forming and serving as a significant and strong bridge between GARD and WHO. With Dr. Billo's dedication and support, GARD has continued to flourish!

On behalf of all members of GARD, we congratulate Dr. Billo for his outstanding career achievement that had a profound effect in the field of respiratory medicine and tobacco control. We thank him for a superb job that he has done for GARD and we look forward to continuing working together in the future. Happy retirement Dr. Billo!

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### GARD Publications (<http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications/>)

The GARD section in the *Journal of Thoracic Disease* (<http://jtd.amegroups.com/>) was created in July 2017. GARD participants are welcome to submit original research articles, reviews and/or reports featuring local GARD activities. We thank the journal editors Drs. Nanshan Zhong and Guangqiao Zeng for waiving the publication fee. Drs. Yousser Mohammad and Alvaro Cruz are the current GARD section editors.

The following are the latest publications about GARD (last 5 months, Nov 2017 to Feb 2018):

- **Alvaro A. Cruz, Paulo A. Camargos, Marilyn Urrutia-Pereira, Rafael Stelmach.** Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD) Brazil success case: overcoming barriers. *Journal of Thoracic Disease*. Accepted in December 2017. In press: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21037/jtd.2018.01.40>
- **Nikolai Khaltaev.** GARD, a new way to battle with chronic respiratory diseases, from disease oriented programmes to global partnership. *Journal of Thoracic Disease*. Vol 9, No 11 (November 2017).

## Upcoming Relevant Conferences & Events

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:

- 19 May - 23 May 2018 - **ATS International Conference**, San Diego, USA (<http://ats-conference.org/>)
- 26 May - 30 May 2018 - **EAACI 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress**, Munich, Germany (<http://eaacicongress2018.org/>)
- 31 May - 2 June 2018 - **9th IPCRG World Conference**: Porto, Portugal (<http://www.theipcr.org/>)

### NATIONAL CONGRESSES:

- 23 March 2018 - **EU SUMMIT**, Vilnius, Lithuanian Parliament (Air pollution and m-health: Prevention and control of chronic respiratory diseases (<http://www.euforea.eu/>))
- 27 March 2018 - **GARD Italia General Assembly**, Ministry of Health, Rome, Italy
- 11 April - 15 April 2018 - **TTS (Turkish Thoracic Society) 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Congress**, Antalya, Turkey (<http://www.toraks.org.tr>)

### EVENTS:

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

### To submit items for the upcoming newsletter or to subscribe:

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