GARD Activities – Sakha Republic

**Sakha Republic (Yakutia)** is a huge territory republic of the Russian Federation, situated at 66° 24’ N 129° 10’ and populated by about 1 million inhabitants. Its capital is the city of Yakutsk. It is also well known for its extreme and severe climate, with the lowest temperature in the Northern Hemisphere being recorded in Verkhoyansk and Oymyakon, and regular winter average commonly being below -35° C (-31° F) in several population centers, including Yakutsk. The impact of extreme climate on human health is an everyday life challenge to the Yakutia population. These unique climate conditions prompted the consideration of GARD Russia expansion to this republic.

**Key elements** of the project were discussed among officials and GARD, including:

- Early diagnosis of COPD
- Measuring and monitoring prevalence of CRD and NCD risk factors
- Promoting antimicrobial and antiviral vaccination as a “best buy approach” for secondary prevention of COPD, bronchial asthma and allergic rhinitis

**Research group of GARD Yakutia** is keen to collaborate with GARD on these initiatives.
GARD Events:

**European Strategic Forum on Allergic Diseases, November 17, 2018, Zürich**

This Forum hosted by European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (www.EAACI.org) focused on prioritizing research challenges and funding for allergy, asthma and the need for translational research. Representing GARD, Dr. Arzu Yorgancioglu attended and presented at the European Strategic Forum on Allergic Diseases which took place in Zürich on 17th November 2018. Dr. Yorgancioglu showed case the GARD activities in combating NCD and CRDs and also emphasized the importance of keeping them on the global health agenda. Details of the agenda of the meeting and PPT presented by Dr. Yorgancioglu can be found on the GARD website: [https://gard-breathefreely.org/meetings-news-events](https://gard-breathefreely.org/meetings-news-events).

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**GARD Symposium, Cono Sur Congress, Latin American Society of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology (SLAr), November 9-10, 2018**

Facilitators: Maximiliano Gomez, Marilyn Urrutia Pereira

- The evolution and presence of GARD programs in Latino America: Juan Carlos Sisul
- Importance of the new technologies for the Pack / WHO management in the countries of Latin America: Alvaro Cruz
- Knowledge of new technologies for the management of patients with allergic rhinitis (MACVIA / ARIA): Marilyn Valentin Rostan
- Training of primary care physicians on environmental contamination in the prevention of noncommunicable chronic diseases: Marilyn Urrutia Pereira

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OTHER RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS BY GARD COLLEAGUES:
(To download these publications, go to http://gard-breathefreely.org/publications; last 5 months, July to November 2018)


- **Balli Fabio**. Game Jams to Co-Create Respiratory Health Games Prototypes as Participatory Research Methodology. Forum: *Qualitative Social Research* 2018. [http://dx.doi.org/10.17169/fqs-19.3.2734](http://dx.doi.org/10.17169/fqs-19.3.2734)

- **Balli Fabio**. Developing Digital Games to Address Airway Clearance Therapy in Children With Cystic Fibrosis: Participatory Design Process. *JMIR Serious Games* 2018. [http://dx.doi.org/10.2196/games.8964](http://dx.doi.org/10.2196/games.8964)