

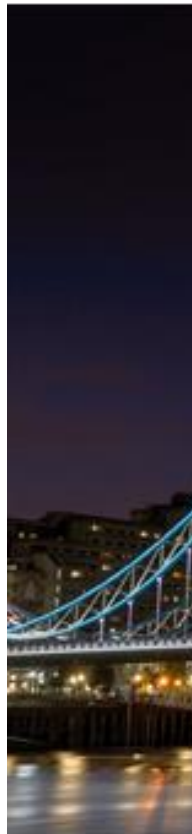
# Activities 2020



# 2020 Visit our countries



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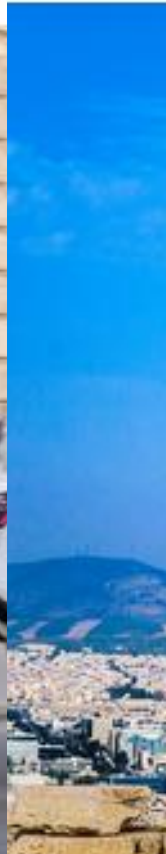
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NF Patients United

Gepostet von Michaela Artner · 26. April ·

✂ Visiting countries virtually ✂

**NFPU in Italy**

NF Patients United is about bringing together patients with Neurofibromatosis and Schwannomatosis from all the corners of the continent. In these difficult times, we stand together stronger than ever. Our members come from different countries each having its own rich and unique cultural background. Today, we invite you to travel across the borders and enjoy the cultural treasures of Italy:

Visit Uffizi Galleries in Florence: The... [Mehr ansehen](#)





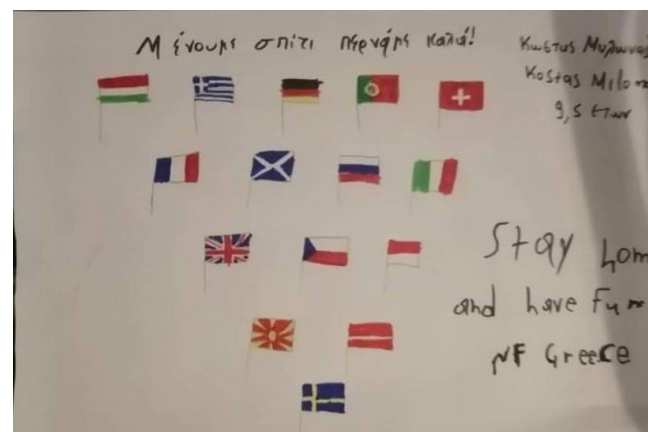
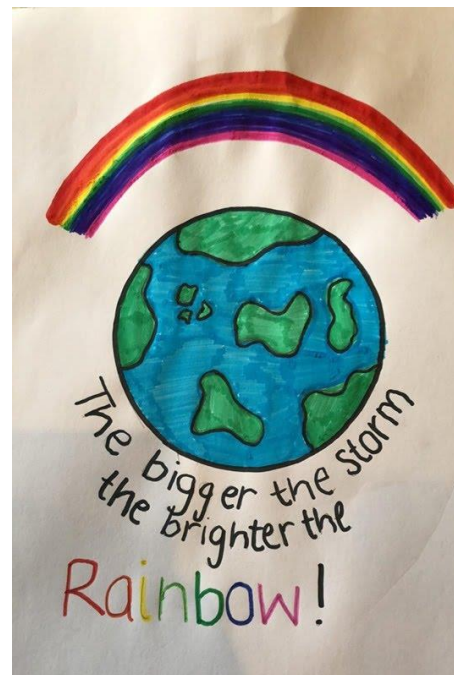
# 2020 Corona Creativity



NF Patients United hat ein Video in der Playlist Corona Creativity gepostet.  
Gepostet von Michaela Artner · 16. April ·

\*Corona Creativity\*

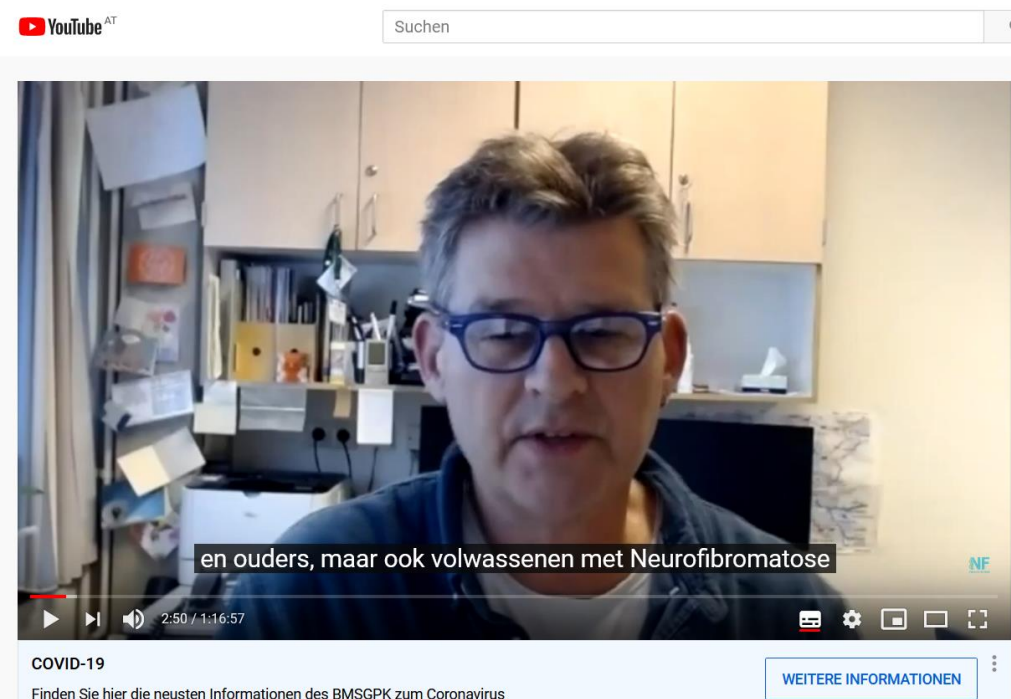
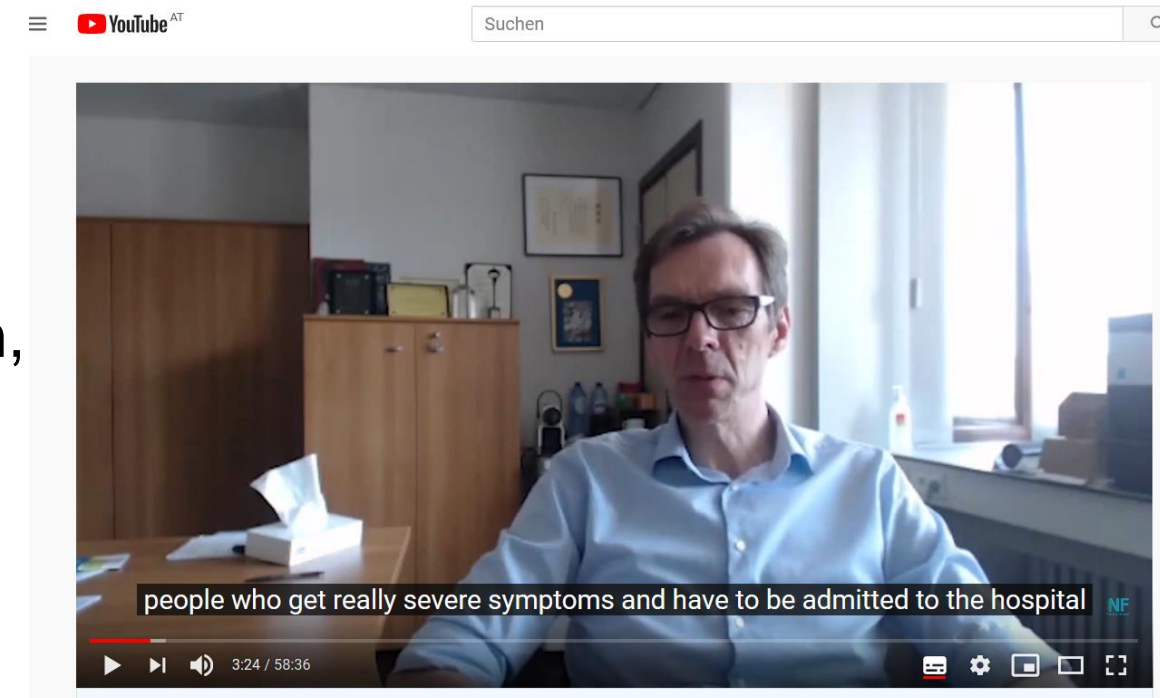
NF Artists from all over Europe:  
Pictures painted by NF Russia and  
Music performed by Portuguese Association for NF!... Mehr ansehen



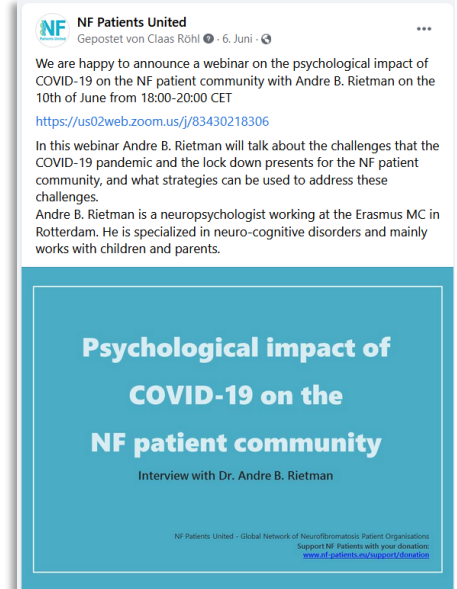


# Info webinars 2020

Webinar „The ongoing COVID-19 situation for Patients with Neurofibromatosis“  
by Dr. Erik Legius  
including translation/transcription from members into these languages: English, Spanish, German, Netherlands, French and Catalan



Webinar „Psychological impact of COVID-19 on the NF patient community“  
by Dr. Andre Rietman  
including translation/transcription from members into the languages:  
English, German  
and Netherlands





# 2020 Shine a light on NF from home

## Shine a Light on NF from Home

1. Prepare some green or blue dishes
2. Share the recipes and pictures of the meal by using #shinealightonnf or #endnf



## Shine a Light on NF from Home

1. Tinker window decorations in the NF colors green and blue
2. Label the artworks with #shinealightonnf or #endnf and share them on Facebook or Instagram



<https://www.facebook.com/events/1451243705037770>

## Shine a Light on NF from Home

1. Organize a small fashion show with your family, wearing green and blue clothing or make-up
2. Share a picture of it with us by using #shinealightonnf or #endnf



#endnf #endnf

## Shine a Light on NF from Home

1. Talk to friends and acquaintances about NF to create awareness

## Shine a Light on NF from Home

1. Illuminate your home with green or blue light bulbs
2. Share a picture of it with us by using #shinealightonnf or #endnf

*Tip: You can also hang a green or blue cloth in front of your lamps.*



LET'S ALL HAVE A  
**TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC**  
IN SUPPORT OF NF AWARENESS DAY 2020

This year is a bit different because we can't go out and spend time with our family and friends, but Childhood Tumour Trust would still like to spread NF Awareness and have some fun! We are therefore encouraging you to still have a Teddy Bear's Picnic on NF Awareness Day, the 17th of May, but within your own household. We'd love you to take part by having a picnic in your house or garden and sharing your photos with us.

Childhood Tumour Trust

SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH NEUROFIBROMATOSIS TYPE 1 (NF1)

# NF Young Adults Patients Academy 2020



- Summer school for young NF patients and their siblings or young parents of children with NF (age 16-30)
- Conducted by NF Kinder (Claas & Michaela)
- 9 training modules
- Melpo Pittara joined the NFPU board as the Schwannomatosis patient representative



# NF Young Adults Patients Academy 2020



## DECLARATION OF THE NF ACADEMY 2020

Neurofibromatosis (NF) is a chronic, genetic and unpredictable disorder that can be a lifelong challenge for NF patients. We, the „Young voices for NF patients“, ask health professionals and all other stakeholders to acknowledge the huge challenges and unmet needs of NF patients.

### Adequate Care Infrastructure

Neurofibromatosis represents a complex set of separate genetic disorders known as Neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1), Neurofibromatosis type 2 (NF2) and Schwannomatosis. Early diagnosis is of utmost importance for NF patients, as they risk developing medical symptoms and psychosocial issues that can severely impact their quality of life. Recognizing that NF can impact many different organ systems and daily functioning, and due to the fact that there is no cure, comprehensive long-term follow-up-care is essential. Therefore we ask for the establishment of adequate long-term follow-up clinics, where NF patients can have access to personalized care, including long-term follow-up care.

### Multidisciplinary Care

Young NF patients require a multidisciplinary approach. We need a specialized NF team that coordinates our care among various specialists<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, researchers all over the world need to work together and share their knowledge. Personalized treatment for NF can vary greatly, due to the heterogeneity of the course of the disease. Therefore we need individualized treatments and monitoring plans. We want the opportunity for a shared decision-making approach, together with the NF specialist and the MDT.

### Transition Medicine

Without adequate transition from paediatric care to adult care, young adults with NF can easily get lost in the health system. It is of utmost importance that the full medical history of the patients is provided to the new case manager in order to guarantee a continuation of their medical and psychosocial care. Therefore we request that a transition model is in place at every NF clinic.

### Rehabilitation Programs

There is a very large number of NF symptoms that can have a severe impact on the quality of life of the patients. The manifestations of NF can require complex - and sometimes extensive - radical surgeries, medical treatments (including chemotherapy), and complementary therapies. Psychological and mental health issues can also require treatment or therapy. As NF patients can be out of their ordinary life for long periods of time due to these interventions, we highlight the crucial need for adequate rehabilitation programs.

### Psychosocial Support

We emphasize the importance, for patients and their family members, of trustworthy and empathetic psychosocial support, both in and outside of the clinic, starting at the moment of NF diagnosis and continuing throughout the patient's entire life. Therefore we ask all treating physicians to take our psychosocial issues seriously and work with a psychosocial team.

### Education on reproductive Medicine

Young adults with NF have important decisions to make when it comes to family planning. As new reproductive technologies and screening techniques become increasingly available, we ask the treating clinics to educate patients and families about available reproductive treatments.

### Equality

A majority of young NF patients are stigmatized and experience discrimination throughout their life. We ask for equal opportunities in society including, but not limited to, education, employment, and reimbursement of all necessary treatments.

### Awareness

Because NF are rare diseases which are not well known to the public, we urge you to work with us to create dedicated awareness programs. We need the solidarity of the public. Everyone should be aware of the risk of a child being born with NF in the next generation of their family. Better treatment options for NF patients should be in the interest of the public.

**With the support and commitment of all stakeholders, young NF patients can be actively engaged in society and live their lives to the fullest.**

<sup>1</sup> neurologists, surgeons, surgical oncologist, endocrinologist, neurosurgeons, geneticists, therapists and psychologists



# EU PEARL

- Co-development and dissemination of a survey for patient representatives to identify research priorities
- Conducted together by five members from NF Patients United
- Stakeholder workshop - 4 virtual meetings 08,22,26 and 29 October 2020 - [more information](#)
- Establishment of a patient advisory group for the duration of the whole project - NFPU involvement through 2 NF Patient United members



# NF1 clinical guidelines

- Clinical guidelines on tumor management in NF1
- Conducted by ERN GENTURIS
- Started in spring 2020 - probably will be published mid 2021
- NFPU involvement through: Vera, Maria, Rena, Vanessa, Elis, Claas
- Several virtual meetings, focus group discussions, Delphi survey
- ongoing: lay summary of the guideline



# Schwannomatosis clinical guidelines

- Clinical guidelines on Schwannomatosis
- Conducted by ERN GENTURIS
- Started in autumn 2020
- NFPU involvement through: Melpo, Nicholas



# NFPU community award

- Premiere at European NF conference last week
- Category NF1 and NF2/ Schwannomatosis
- Jury with NFPU participation selected top 3 research projects which were presented at the public day - the audience voted for the winner
- Award was send to the winners with the request to get a photo back:





# NFPU Annual Meeting & Best practice

## nf patients united Annual Meeting 2020

Fri, Dec. 18th, 2020

### NFPU activities 2020

*Open meeting with life captioning*

**16:00 - 16:15** Arrival & Opening remarks  
(Claas Röhl)

*Overview on NFPU projects:*

**16:15 - 16:30** EU PEARL- Patient-centric  
clinical trials platform  
(Rianne Oostenbrink)

**16:30 - 16:45** Clinical guidelines tumour  
management in NF1  
(Matt Boltz Johnson)

**16:45 - 17:00** NF Young Patients Academy  
(Melpo Pittara - New  
Schwannomatosis Patient  
Representative NFPU )

**17:00 - 17:15** NFPU success story: direct  
help for NF patients. Case  
description of a young boy  
from Greece (Rena Poupaki)

**17:15 - 17:30** NFPU COVID19 support  
(Claas Röhl)

**17:30 - 18:00** Panel Discussion with  
presenters

Registration:  
[www.nf-patients.eu/nfbestpractice](http://www.nf-patients.eu/nfbestpractice)

## nf patients united Annual Meeting 2020

Sat, Dec. 19th, 2020

### Sharing best practices

*Open meeting with life captioning*

**10:00 - 10:15** Arrival & Opening remarks  
(Claas Röhl)

*National projects of NFPU members:*

**10:15 - 10:30** Roadmap for a psychological  
and educational support  
service dedicated to young  
people with NF1 - APNF  
(Elis Pires, Inês Fonseca)

**10:30 - 10:45** Coaching to improve  
executive functioning Skills  
on NF1: Feasibility  
Study - ACNefi (Maria José  
Gavarrete & Natalia Loose )

**10:45 - 11:00** Inclusion during lockdown -  
CTT (Clare Barklam)

**11:00 - 11:15** NF1, Families and Quality of  
Life - NFVN (Irene Caubo)

*National projects of non-NFPU members:*

**11:15 - 11:30** Community based specialist  
NF nurses and the national  
helpline - Nerve tumours UK  
(Karen Cockburn)

**11:30 - 12:00** Panel Discussion with  
presenters

Registration:  
[www.nf-patients.eu/nfbestpractice](http://www.nf-patients.eu/nfbestpractice)

# NFPU members 2017 - 2020

2017

2018

2019

2020

NFPU countries

Interested

Members



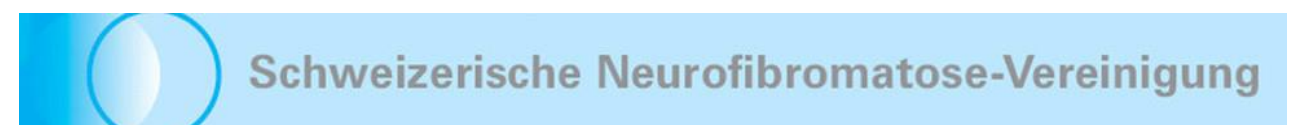
Created with mapchart.net



# NF Patients United is:



**NF Turkey**





# **NF Patients United**

**Global Network of Neurofibromatosis  
Patient Organisations**

[info@nf-patients.eu](mailto:info@nf-patients.eu)  
[www.nf-patients.eu](http://www.nf-patients.eu)