

TC
Palatucci Advocacy

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It is crucial to emphasize the fact that without Brain Health there is not health of the individual. Neurological diseases encompass many conditions which affect our lives and in many with devastating consequences.

As advocates we should spread the message across the world that without active intervention from those responsible for health care we can not progress. The WFN works closely with the WHO to achieve our goals in influencing governments to act in prevention and management of brain diseases. The process may take time to achieve but with persistence and clear explanations of the issues goals can be reached.

The World Health Assembly in June to this year approved the declaration on Epilepsy, which is a culmination of years of work by the ILAE with full support of the WFN. This declaration was the theme for this year's world brain day celebrated on the 22nd July annually.

Another example is the huge commitment of many government to the field of Dementia which is not receiving excellent financial and scientific support following the G8 London declaration in December 2013 to have a treatment or a disease modifying therapy by 2015. We should keep emphasizing the issue of prevention of many causes of dementia as part of the WHO/UN noncommunicable diseases prevention strategies. For now we should work with in the four on four WHO strategies of reducing salt intake, cutting down alcohol, reducing weight and stopping smoking. There is no doubt that we should think and work globally to achieve our goals.