



# EURORDIS *Black Pearl* AWARDS

Tuesday, 20 February 2018  
The Hotel Le Plaza  
Brussels, Belgium

## ***About the EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards***

The EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards is a unique annual event which brings together key figures of the rare disease community to recognise the outstanding achievements and ground-breaking work of those committed to finding cures and improving the lives of people living with a rare disease.

Since 2012, EURORDIS-Rare Diseases Europe has organised this event to raise funds for its programmes and to highlight the successes of the rare disease community. It is an exceptional occasion to network with individuals, organisations and companies that are at the forefront of innovation/change and to learn about the actions being taken across the rare disease community.

Awards are presented to patient advocates, patient organisations, policy makers, scientists, companies and media for their work to improve conditions for people living with a rare disease.

## ***What is EURORDIS-Rare Diseases Europe?***

EURORDIS-Rare Diseases Europe is a non-profit alliance of over 700 rare disease patient organisations from more than 60 countries that work together to improve the lives of the 30 million people living with a rare disease in Europe. By connecting patients, families and patient groups, as well as by bringing together all stakeholders and mobilising the rare disease community, EURORDIS strengthens the patient voice and shapes research, policies and patient services.





### **Why is the event called the “EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards”?**

The formation of a natural black pearl is extremely rare. Black pearls are widely considered as the most valuable and beautiful kind of pearls in the world. Just like these pearls, the recipients of the EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards are unique and deserve our recognition for the work that they do.

Despite important advances, the rare disease community continues to face enormous challenges. The work and achievements of the awardees are of paramount importance to improving lives and finding cures for people living with a rare disease.

### **The impact of your support**

Ticket sales and corporate donations go towards supporting EURORDIS’ activities in the following areas:

- Increasing public awareness through information about rare diseases
- Breaking the isolation of rare disease patients and their families;
- Empowering leaders of rare disease communities through training, capacity-building activities and exchange to foster their research, therapeutic development and health policy activities.

### **Who attends?**

Over 200 key figure of the rare disease community - rare disease patients and advocates, clinicians, researchers, healthcare sector executives, media, national and international public officials, royalty and philanthropists gather at this educational and inspiring event.

#### **Find out more**

##### **EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards**

[blackpearl.eurordis.org](http://blackpearl.eurordis.org)

##### **EURORDIS’ International Initiatives**

[eurordis.org/international](http://eurordis.org/international)

##### **Rare Disease Day**

[rarediseaseday.org](http://rarediseaseday.org)

##### **The Rare Disease Cause**

[eurordis.org/content/what-rare-disease](http://eurordis.org/content/what-rare-disease)

### **Programme:**

- 19.00 - 20.15 EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards:  
Welcome Address & Seated Dinner
- 20.15 - 22.00 Presentation Rare Disease Day video  
& informative Awards Ceremony
- 22.00 - 23.00 Dessert buffet and after dinner networking



Please send any questions to  
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