## PRESS RELEASE

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## Men's Health and Primary Care: Improving Access and Outcomes Gibraltar 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015

In collaboration with the Gibraltar Health Authority (GHA), the School of Health Studies and the European Men's Health Forum (EMHF), the first ever Men's Health and Primary Care: Improving Access and Outcomes conference and roundtable event is to be held in Gibraltar.

Men's health across Europe is irrefutably and unnecessarily poor. One important reason for men's poorer survival rates is that they are less likely than women to visit a doctor when they are ill and to report the symptoms of a disease or illness. A major challenge is to engage with the many men who do not access health services. The GHA will address these issues at the symposium aiming to improve men's use of primary care services in Gibraltar, identifying the barriers to men's optimal use of primary care and the actions needed to overcome them. Primary healthcare services are central to strategies to improve men's health in terms of prevention, early diagnosis and treatment.

EMHF is the only European organisation dedicated to the improvement of men's health in all aspects. Its vision is a future in which all men in Europe have an equal opportunity to attain the highest possible level of health and well-being.



There will be over 30 attendees from a wide range of settings, including GHA, health charities, sport, patient and professional organisations and general practice. The roundtable will begin with a series of short presentations on men's use of primary care services from different perspectives. Participants will then meet in small workshop groups to discuss the barriers to men's effective use of primary care and potential solutions, followed by a plenary discussion.

This roundtable event will be followed by a report summarising the discussion and conclusions.