EPSO

40th EPSO Conference Malta
16-17 June 2026, Valetta
- **15 June 2026**
  EPSO TRAINING DAY
  (Data and AI for Regulation)
- **18 June 2026 (morning)**
  EPSO WG End of Life/AD

EPSO **OPSA** **40TH EPSO CONFERENCE**
MALTA JUNE 16 - 17 2026

#EPSOMalta2026

Hosted by

OPSA
Older Persons
Standards Authority

EPSO: European Partnership for Supervisory Organisations in Health Services and Social Care
to improve the quality of health care and social care in Europe;
to connect between supervisory organizations and their individual members;
to improve exchange of ideas, outcome of research, information and good practice;
to promote co-operation on topics such as education and dissemination of knowledge.

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If you have questions, please feel free to ask info@epsonet.eu or office@epsonet.eu

First Draft Programme of the

40th EPSO Conference
16 & 17 June 2026, Valletta, Malta

15 June EPSO Training Day
18 June EPSO Working group EoL/AD

Hosted by: The Older Persons Standards Authority OPSA
(with participation of the EPSO - APAC (Asia-Pacific) network)

**'Working towards better health in a changing world with a view to
high quality of regulation looking forward and adapting to future demands;
learning from recent research and from our EPSO colleagues.'**

Venue: The Old University of Malta (Valletta Campus)
St Paul Street, Valletta VLT 1216, Malta ([Maps](#))

Conference Presenter: Carry Maria klein Gunnewiek (EPSO)
Opening introduction speech: Georg Fenech (CEO OPSA)
Opening speech: Minister for Health and Active Aging Malta

Keynote Opening speech on Social Isolation – Loneliness: dr. Maria-Aurora Fenech
and dr. Roberta Sultana, University of Malta - Social Isolation

'Evolving Regulation' for better health and care in a changing world'

This conference will address key challenges for health and social care Regulation and Inspection, emphasizing the importance of learning and looking to the future to adapt to future demands.

Main Conference Themes:

Theme 1 Social Isolation and Loneliness

A top priority and important policy issue for public health across all age groups!

- Worldwide recognition by WHO and other international bodies and national authorities
  - New research
  - Findings from regulatory practice

Theme 2 Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care and Long-term care.

- Challenges and handling perspectives

Theme 3 Leadership in Learning from experience (including adverse events)

- Learning from experience around Regulation and Enforcement of Quality, Safety and Innovation by EPSO Regulatory Network Partners; what methods & instruments are used by our colleagues for regulation and inspection. What are the learnings?

Theme 4 Data infrastructure and the use of data and AI by Regulators, Inspectorates and Supervisory organisations

- How to use existing data infrastructure and manage new developments in data analyses and the use of AI

40th EPSO conference in Valletta, Malta
About the EPSO Conferences in general

- EPSO sessions will be introduced from the various perspectives around the world by Regulatory Leaders from our EPSO Network and other speakers invited by EPSO. The sessions aim to be interactive and will be followed by one or more break-out sessions; the sessions alternate with group discussions.
- EPSO conference and conference dinner are free of charge for EPSO delegates, (invited) partners from the EPSO-APAC network, speakers and other (invited) guests.
- Participation in-person in the conference is in principle limited to a maximum of 3 participants per EPSO-partner organisation/country and a maximum of about 50 delegates in total.
- In-person participants are requested to complete the online registration form for our 40th EPSO Conference in Valletta, Malta. **To register for this conference (16-17 June 2026 please click on this link https://forms.gle/FwbwtzPH2mzxdvwP7** Registration will be closed when the maximum is reached
- **Registration for our End of Life / Assisted Dying peer Working group 18 June - morning is open**; To register for the working group- please send a mail to Office@epsonet.eu and Click here to register
- **Registration for the Pre-conference Training Day 15 June is open**   - please send a mail to Office@epsonet.eu or to register Click here ; Registration will be closed when the maximum is reached.
- Travel and hotel must be organised by yourself; all costs are at your own expense.
- Participation online is limited to EPSO partners and - by EPSO- invited guests; please use the link to our Microsoft Teams meeting that will be sent to you. All online participants -except speakers – are requested to have their cameras on and microphones muted.
- If you want to join us online in the conference or the working group, please let us know in advance at info@epsonet.eu who you are (name/ country/ organisation) and which sessions you want to follow.
- Participation in the conference means that you accept the exclusion of all liability from EPSO and from our hosts for loss or theft of your assets and for possible liability resulting from damage caused by shortcomings of the organization; however, as usual with our EPSO conferences, the organisation does everything it can to ensure that the conference runs smoothly and safely.
- Please note that we take photos in the conference and use these for EPSO purposes only, such as in our website (password protected); please let us know if you do not want your pictures to be recognizable.

40th EPSO Conference
Draft Programme Day 1
Tuesday 16th June 2026

Conference opening

- o Registration & Welcome: Group Photo session in the conference room & welcome
- o Introduction and housekeeping by conference presenter Carry Maria klein Gunnewiek
- o Roundtable introduction in-person delegates
- o Opening & welcome speech by the supporting Ministers of Malta
- o Welcome by EPSO

Theme 1: Social Isolation and Loneliness, a top priority and important policy issue for public health across all age groups!

- o Opening **Keynote speech and setting the stage** for Theme 1 Social Isolation; new research and findings from regulatory practice to improve wellbeing.
- o Sessions 1.1 – 1.11: Sessions on Social Isolation and Loneliness from various perspectives and countries
- o Session 1.12: Q&A Session

Theme 2: Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care and Long-term care

- o Session 2.1: Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care in Norway and EU
- o Session 2.2: Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care in networks in various countries
- o Session 2.3: Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care in Malta
- o Session 2.4: Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care in Wales
- o Session 2.5: Q&A Session

   End of Day 2
- o **Guided Tour Valletta**
- o **Seated Conference Dinner on invitation of our host OPSA**

Day 1	Agenda	Presenters
8.30- 9.00	**Registration – Aula Magna, Valletta Campus,** Old University Building, St Paul Street, Valletta	**All delegates**

09.00 – 09.20	**Group Photo session in conference room & welcome coffee inside the Aula Magna, Old University of Malta**	**All delegates together with hosting officials (Ministers of Malta etc.) Photos by OPSA**
09.20 - 09.25	**Housekeeping messages**	Conference presenter **Carry Maria klein Gunnewiek**
09.25 – 10.00	**Roundtable introduction** of all delegates by themselves	All in-person delegates (name, function, country/ region)
10.00 - 10.20	**Introduction and welcome by the Chief Executive Officer of OPSA** **Opening speech by –** • **Minister of Health and Active Ageing** • **Parliamentary Secretary for Active Ageing**	**George Fenech** **Hon. Jo- Etienne Abela** **Hon. Malcolm Agius Galea**
10.20-10.30	**Welcome by EPSO**	Chair EPSO Board **Jooske Vos /or Indra Dreika Member of the Management Board**
Theme 1 **10.30 –13.30**	**Social Isolation and Loneliness, A top priority and important policy issue for public health across all age groups!** • Worldwide recognition by WHO and other international bodies and national authorities • New research • Findings from regulatory practice	
Session 1.1 **10.30 – 11:00**	**Keynote introduction speech and setting the stage for Social Isolation**	**Maria Aurora-Fenech** [in-person] **and Roberta Sultana**[in-person] University of Malta
Session 1.2 **11.00- 11.20**	**WHO Social Isolation and loneliness** are increasingly being recognised as priority public health problem and policy issue across all age groups. Social isolation and loneliness have serious and still under-recognised impacts on our health and lifespan. New estimates suggest that loneliness accounts for approx. 871000 death a year – WHO	**Ledia Lazëri**[in-person]**,** WHO regional advisor for Mental Health at WHO, Regional Office Europe, Tirana University, Faculty of Medicine, Copenhagen Denmark (not yet confirmed)
11.20 – 11.35	**Comfort Break**	
Session 1.3 **11.35- 11.55**	**Loneliness and Social Isolation** Over the last decade, Kieren Egan's research has explored loneliness and social isolation across informal carer and dementia communities, with a particular focus on digital health solutions and evidence-based intervention development.	**Kieren Egan** [in-person] - University of Strathclyde - Principal Research Fellow Digital Health and Wellness Group/Future Hospital initiative/Strathclyde Living Lab Kieren Egan — University of Strathclyde

Session 1.4 11.55 – 12.15	**Social Isolation and Loneliness in France and Policy approach IGAS** Overview of reports on social isolation in France and some ideas about policy to tackle these - A report on mental health which addressed the issue of isolation in psychiatric hospitals. - A report on long term care and social isolation of older people (J.-B. Frossart, J. Emmanuelli, B. Vincent). - A report on the ageing of people in precarious situations.	**Louis-Charles Viossat**(in-Person) Inspector general for social affairs IGAS France
Session 1.5 12.15 – 12.35	**Ireland MHC- Loneliness and social isolation in Mental Health and other areas of health and care in Ireland – age factors – demographics – risk factors- impact and action.** What are the recent findings? Do we see this in all age groups? What are the policy plans of the governmental loneliness taskforce?	**John Farrelly** (in-person) or colleague Director at Mental Health Commission Ireland
Session 1.6 12.35 – 12.55	**England- Social Isolation and Loneliness in Mental Health England**. Is Social Isolation and Loneliness in Mental Health a topic to put on the agenda and priority list of regulators and inspectorates? What about social isolation and loneliness in other areas of health? Is social isolation and loneliness also seen in all age groups in England? If yes, how do we tackle this topic in England? Has CQC a special role?	**Charles Rendell / Vicky Howes or Kim Forrester** (in-person)– director of Mental Health at CQC (not yet confirmed)
12.55 – 14.00	**Lunch Break**	
Session 1.7 14.00 – 14.20	**Ireland TUSLA Loneliness and Social Isolation** - Adolescent and youth care regulation	**Fiona McDonnell** (in-person) Tusla Ireland (not yet confirmed)
Session 1.8 14.20 – 14.40	**Singapore -** Is Social Isolation and Loneliness a topic to put on the agenda and priority list of regulators and inspectorates? If yes, how do we tackle this topic in Singapore?	Department of Social Affairs **NN** (in-person); Ministry of Health (MOH)
Session 1.9 14.40 – 15.00	**Japan - Social Isolation and Loneliness in Japan** A policy approach in Japanese social care for the aging society	**Shin Ushiro** (in-person) or colleague Deputy Director, Professor and Director of the Division of Patient Safety at Kyushu University Hospital. Executive board member Japan Council for Quality Health Care (not yet confirmed)
Session 1.10 15.00 – 15.20	**Netherlands Integrated Care – Social Isolation / Loneliness** - Can monitoring and oversight of networks help us detect and address social isolation and loneliness? - Are social isolation and loneliness a priority of the systematic approach of the so-called 'integrated care approach'?	**Sander Merkus** (in-person) Senior Researcher at Vilans Netherlands – VU university / Tilburg University

Session 1.11 15.20 – 15.40	**E health -Digital Health– Social Isolation / Loneliness** Can digital health and e-health provide solutions for social isolation and loneliness? Digital catch networks?	**Anushka Mehrotra** (in-person) Doctorcareanywhere.com
Session 1.12 15.40 – 16.00	**Q&A panel with speakers** Discussion in response to questions raised in the presentations of session 1.1 -1.11	**Moderators:** - **Prof. Misja Mikkers** (in-person) EPSO Advisory Board member; Health Systems Engineering, University of Twente**.** The Netherlands - **Alex van Vorstenbosch**(in-person) NZA - **Martin de Bree**(in-person) EPSO Advisory Board member; Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands
16.00 – 16.15	**Comfort Break**	
Theme 2 **16.15 – 18.00**	**Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care and Long-term care.** - Challenges and handling perspectives	
Session 2.1 and setting the stage for the topic 16.15 - 16.35	**Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care in the EU-challenges and consequences of handling this at a local level.** Siri has a lot of attention for her scientific work in this field and will talk about regulation as a key factor for handling elderly care Handling elderly care at a local level is very challenging. In Norway municipalities are responsible for elderly care in nursing homes and homecare and the regulation is the same all over the country The rules and standards are the same no matter size of the local level managers' area. However, the resources and competences to deal with it are very different.	**Prof. Siri Wiig** (in-person) University Stavanger - Faculty of Health Sciences, Quality and Safety in Healthcare Systems- University of Stavanger, Norway; SHARE, Centre for Resilience in Healthcare
Session 2.2 16.35 - 16.55	**Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in elderly and long-term care**; challenges and consequences of working in networks. A practice-oriented comparative country study on the supervision of social issues/networks/partnerships. Involving approximately six countries: the Netherlands, Norway, Canada, Wales, the UK, and Scotland.	**Sander Merkus** (in-person) Vilans
Session 2.3 16.55 - 17.15	**Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Elderly care in Malta** **- Challenges and Learning around regulation of Quality-of-Life Regulation** Malta has done quite some interesting research around Wellness and Quality of Life in Elderly care Letizia will talk about her ideas and findings in this field	**Letizia Marmara** (in-person) Director Quality assurance at OPSA, Older Persons Standards Authority (OPSA), Malta,

Session 2.4 17.15 - 17.35	**Regulation of Quality, Safety, and Leadership in Wales -** Challenges and consequences of handling social isolation and loneliness in health and social care in Wales	**Wales NN** **(**Not yet confirmed)
Session 2.5 17.35 – 18.00	**Q&A panel with speakers** Discussion in response to questions raised in the presentations of session 2.1 -2.4	**Moderators:** • **Siri Wigg** • **NN** **Online group moderator: NN**
18.00	**End of Conference Day 1**	
Guided Tour Valetta	Information will follow	
Seated Dinner 18.30 - 20.30	**Official Conference Dinner at San Giovanni, Valletta (seated)** Situated in the heart of Malta's Capital, Valletta. San Giovanni is the ideal place to enjoy Mediterranean cuisine in a unique environment that oozes character, charm & history. The menu highlights the colourful flavours that distinguish Mediterranean recipes, offering clients a vast selection of traditional and contemporary dishes. The restaurant is in the open air, with all the tables and chairs beneath sunshades. San Giovanni is indeed the place to be.	**All delegates, speakers and guests** are invited by our host OPSA to join us for a seated dinner. **Dress code:** 'smart casual' or 'conference dress' (no need to change after the conference).

40th EPSO Conference
Draft Programme Day 2
Wednesday 17th June 2026

Day 2
- o Introduction and housekeeping
- o Opening of day 2

Theme 3 Data- infrastructure and the use of data and AI by Regulators, Inspectorates and Supervisory organisations

How to use existing data infrastructure and manage new developments in data analyses and the use of AI?

- o Session 3.1: Outcomes EPSO training day on AI and Regulation (15-6); Setting the stage for conference session 3
- o Session 3.2: Data Infrastructure for Health – an ongoing worldwide challenge for many countries; overview from the perspective of OECD and EU.
- o Session 3.3: New developments on data information management - a Singapore perspective on the interoperative use of health data- new legislation in place.
- o Comfort break
- o Session 3.4: AI and regulation - Recent article on the use of AI
- o Session 3.5: Data and the use of AI - How does France (IGAS) view the coming AI era
- o Session 3.6: What is the impact of AI on digital health
- o Session 3.7: How are Medicines Agencies looking forward at the upcoming AI era
- o Session 3.8: Does AI and the use of data have a major role in preparedness for the future of Terviseamet?
- o Session 3.9 Discussion in Groups in response to questions raised in the presentations of session 3.1 -3.8

Theme 4 Leadership in Learning from experience (including adverse events)

- o Session 4.1: Challenges & Learning from Adverse Events in Norway
- o Session 4.2: A Learning supervisory context
- o Session 4.3: Learning incentives in Supervisory systems
- o Session 4.4: Discussion in Groups - How to look at systems of regulation and enforcement from a learning perspective

Wrap up - Closing session and preparing for next conferences

- - End of Day 2

Excursion to Vittoriosa (by ferry) and dinner at the marina

Day 2	Agenda	Speakers
08.45 – 8.55	**Gathering delegates** at Conference room & **Welcome coffee**	**All delegates**
08.55 – 9.00	**Introduction and Housekeeping**	**Conference speaker**
Theme 3 **9.00 – 13.00**	**Data infrastructure and the use of data and AI by Regulators,** **Inspectorates and Supervisory organisations** - How to use existing data infrastructure and manage new developments in data analyses and the use of AI	**Theme 3** **9.00 – 13.00**
Session 3.1 **Opening speech and wrap up of EPSO Training Day on regulation and AI** 9.00 – 9.30	**Setting the stage for conference session 3** **Outcomes of the EPSO training day on AI and Regulation** – wrap up and looking forward	**Prof. Misja Mikkers** [(in-person)] **and asst. Prof. Kavitha Palaniappan**[(in-person)]
Session 3.2 **Interactive Keynote session** 9.30 – 10.15 **Including discussion with the group**	**Data Infrastructure for Health – an ongoing worldwide challenge for many countries** A situation overview from the perspective of OECD and EU - How to assess and measure performance of the health systems? How to use the existing data and infrastructure for policy issues. Niek has advised many countries on these topics including Estonia Czech Republic Ireland, Luxembourg Slovakia	**Prof. Niek Klazinga** University of Amsterdam-Academic Medical centre Amsterdam, OECD Paris [(in-person)]
Session 3.3 10.15– 10.35	**New developments on data information management** - a Singapore perspective on the interoperative use of health data- new legislation in place. What is the role of AI in the new system?	**Weng Chee CHAN** [(in-person)] **– dep director engagement and transformation MOH Singapore** (not yet confirmed) **or** **Ivan KOH** [(in-person)] or colleague Head of Directorate Regulatory Policy & Legislation Ministry of Health (MOH), Singapore Surveillance and Enforcement Division (SED), Ministry of Health (MOH) (not yet confirmed)
10.35 – 10.50	**Comfort break**	
Session 3.4 10.50 – 11.10	**AI and Regulation**	**John Farrelly** [(in-person)] Director at Mental Health Commission Ireland
Session 3.5 11.10– 11.30	**Data and the use of AI** How does France (IGAS) view the coming AI era; what challenges do you foresee? What policies are already in place that you can share with our regulatory partners?	**Juliette Berthe** [(in-person)] IGAS/INSPECTANTS, France

Session 3.6 11.30 – 11.50	**Digital health and AI** What is the impact of AI on digital health; Do we have to worry about Quality and Safety of Digital health because of AI?	**Kieran Seyan (**[in-person]**)** DICE UK- Lloyds online doctor.com (not yet confirmed)
Session 3.7 11.50– 12.10	**How are Medicines Agencies looking forward at the upcoming AI era** How to prepare for better use of data and challenges of fraud, and what are challenges in medicine distribution and regulation of medicine	**Indra Dreika** Director State Agency of Medicines of the Republic of Latvia **Sergejs Akulics** [in-person] Deputy Director in Pharmaceutics, State Agency of Medicines of Latvia, **Katrina Luksa,** [in-person] Head of Medicines Distribution Information Division, State Agency of Medicines of Latvia (not yet confirmed)
Session 3.8 12.10 – 12.30	**Does AI and the use of data play a major role in preparedness for the future and support of Defense preparedness by Terviseamet?** What policies are at the forefront.	**Birgit Lao/** **Andras Armväärt** [in-person] Head of Public health emergencies preparedness department at Terviseamet, Estonian Health Board, Estonia (not yet confirmed)
Session 3.9 **Discussion in groups** 12.30-13.00 **Plenary feedback** 13.00 - 13.15	**All in-person delegates** in six groups Discussion in response to questions raised in the presentations of session 3.1 -3.9	Moderated by: **Niek Klazinga, Martin de Bree, Misja Mikkers** and **Kavitha Palaniappan**
13.15 – 14.15	**Lunch Break**	
Theme 4 **14.15 – 16.30**	**Leadership in Learning from experience (including adverse events)** Learning from experience around Regulation and Enforcement of Quality, Safety and Innovation by EPSO Regulatory Network Partners; what methods & instruments are used by our colleagues for regulation and inspection. What are the learnings?	
Session 4.1 14.15 – 14.35	**Challenges & Learning from Adverse Events** The perspective of the Norwegian Health Board – What are the issues Helsetilsynet is facing with learning from adverse events.	**Einar Hovlid** [In-person] Helsetilsynet (Norwegian Board of Health supervision)
Follow up Session 4.1 14.35 - 14.55	**Challenges & Learning from Adverse Events** New research on its way.	**Siri Bækkevold** [in-person] Helsetilsynet Norway (Norwegian Board of Health supervision)
Session 4.2 14.55-15.15	**A Learning supervisory context** How could that be organised? What would that look like? New research findings.	**Martin de Bree** [in-person] EPSO Advisory Board member; Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Session 4.3 15.15 -15.35	**Learning incentives in Supervisory systems** How to look at systems of regulation and enforcement from a learning perspective	**Richard Hamblin** [(in-person)] Director of Health Quality Intelligence	Kaitohu Kounga Hauora/ Health Quality Intelligence, Health Quality and Safety Commission New Zealand (not yet confirmed)
Session 4.4 **Discussion in groups** 15.35 – 16.15 **Feedback and plenary discussion** 16.15 – 16 .30	**Discussion in groups** With all in-person delegates, in 6 groups	**Moderators:** • **Martin de Bree**, EPSO Advisory Board member; Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands • **Richard Hamblin,** New Zealand • **Prof. Alvaro Moreira da Silva**[(in-person)] EPSO Board member •**Einar Hovlid** • **Siri Bækkevold**
16.30 – 17.00	**Wrap up Conference** **Thank you and - Closing session and preparing for next conferences**	
17.15- 20.00	**Excursion to the peninsula Vittoriosa by ferry** **(those who must leave earlier you can take a taxi or public transport for instance to the airport from Vittoriosa)**	**All are invited to join**
20.00	**Dinner at D Centre, Main Gate, Vittoriosa** All are invited to join.	**All are invited to join at own cost** **Set dinner costs around 25 euro**

REGISTRATION 40ᵗʰ EPSO Conference

IN-PERSON delegates

(please use online registration link)

Online participation on request via
info@epsonet.eu

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FOR IN - PERSON DELEGATES

Please register online for our Malta conference by using this registration form:
https://epso-net.eu/upcoming-conferences/registration/

Kindly note that registration is open exclusively to EPSO partners (maximum 3 per EPSO-partner), invited guests and speakers

Online participation via Teams is available on request only. If you want to join online, please contact us at info@epsonet.eu.

Thursday, June 18th, 2026
EPSO Working Group End of Life/ Assisted Dying

Thursday 18th June 2026 9.00- 12.00
Venue: Valletta Design Cluster, 25 Bull Street, Valletta (TBC)
Chaired by Dr Kristin Good, Registrar (assisted dying) and Chief Clinical Advisor, Regulatory Assurance Regulation and Monitoring, Ministry of Health, New Zealand.
Registration: Click here to register

The final Agenda for the Regulation of care for End of Life/Assisted Dying working group will be shared on request with those interested to participate (please ask at info@epsonet.eu). **For a preliminary agenda see below**.

Dear (online) EPSO friends and in-person participants in this working group please prepare for discussions and take notice of the below included pdf-documents shared by Kristin Good chair of the EPSO End of Life/AD working group. The EPSO End-of-Life/Assisted Dying Working Group will focus on regulation of care in the areas of End-of-life and Assisted dying. New developments, such as new legislation and related discussions in various countries, including France, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands, provide EPSO with opportunities for knowledge exchange and sharing experiences in these sensitive healthcare areas. **Final aim:** Creating a policy document based on the findings of our working group meetings. **The goal is to share our knowledge with governments to provide them with practical guidance**. EPSO suggests a potential leading role for France—given their expertise—in drafting this document, with the aim of finalizing it by Spring 2027 for the EPSO meeting in Paris.

Preliminary Agenda

09.00 – 09.05	**Short Intro by the chair** of the working group	**Kristin Good (chair wg)**
09.05 – 09.25	**Presentation of new research**	**Jeanne Snelling** (in-person) University of Otago (Health Law and Medical Ethics), New Zealand. (not yet confirmed)
09.25 – 09.45	**Follow-up on previous presentations** A follow-up on the information shared in Jersey and Dublin.	**Louis-Charles Viossat** IGAS – Inspectorate General for Social Affairs, France
09.45 –10.05	**Update on Regulation**	**Prof. Ben White** (online) QUT Queensland University of Technology, Australia; University of Oxford) and **Prof. Agnes van der Heide** (Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands) (not yet confirmed)
10.05 – 10.20	**Comfort break**	
10.20 – 10.40	**Developments in Scotland** Update on parliamentary debates and other developments.	**Catherine Calderwood** (in-person) University of Strathclyde, former CMO Scotland
10.40 – 11.00	**Research Project update** Strathclyde University, Glasgow	**Becky Sherrington** Jersey Care Commission / Strathclyde University, Glasgow (not yet confirmed)
11.00 – 12.00	**Discussion & Policy Document** Talking about this morning's sessions	**All participants**
12.00	**Drinks or lunch together**	**Networking and socializing for those who want to join**

PDF
Good Regulatory Practice - Governance
Regulatory Practice Governance Tool

PDF
Good Regulatory Practice - Governance
Regulatory Practice Governance Guidance

Monday, June 15, 2026
EPSO TRAINING DAY

AI in Regulation (Pilot)

Using Data and AI in Health Supervision: From Insight to Strategy – One-Day Training

Date: June 15th, 2026,
Location: Malta (Pre-conference day)
Facilitators: Prof. Misja Mikkers (University of Twente), asst. **Prof. Kavitha Palaniappan** (Duke NUS Singapore) **Alex van Vorstenbosch**- NZA- Netherlands & EPSO
Registration: Click here

AI Strategy & Policy for Regulators
Focus: Leadership, Governance, and Strategic Oversight

Data Utilization & Technical Application
Focus: Technical Experts, AI Specialists, and Practical Innovation

Overview:
This one-day interactive training equips supervisory authorities with practical and strategic tools to use data and AI responsibly and effectively.

The programme balances:
- Foundational understanding of AI
- Mapping and unlocking existing datasets
- Hands-on exploration using Studio LLM (with simulated and publicly available data)
- Ethical and strategic governance considerations

Participants will:
- Understand what AI is (and is not)
- Identify hidden potential in their organisation's datasets
- Explore how AI can support risk profiling and supervision
- Reflect on governance, ethics, human-in-the-loop design and cost considerations
- Develop medium-to-long term strategies for AI use within their organisations

This training combines theory, discussion and guided practical exploration.

Expectations from Participants:

1. **Please prepare a short-written overview** covering:
   a. The health regulation context in your country: what is being regulated, by whom, and under what legal or institutional framework.
   b. The role and mandate of your organisation specifically: what powers does it have, what decisions does it make, and who does it report to.
   c. An honest estimate of AI literacy within your organisation: are there dedicated data or digital teams? Has AI been discussed at a strategic level? Are staff generally comfortable with data-driven approaches or is this relatively new territory?
   These short overviews will be shared with all participants in advance of the training day, so please write them with

that peer audience in mind. Reading them beforehand will help everyone arrive with a sense of the diversity of contexts in the room and make the group discussions significantly more productive.

2. **Bring a laptop with Studio LLM installed**
An installation manual and step-by-step guide will be sent to all participants by email in advance of the training day. Please ensure Studio LLM is installed and working on your laptop before you arrive. If you encounter any difficulties during installation, please reach out to us so we can resolve this beforehand rather than on the day itself.

3. **Prepare a 2-page dataset description**
Each participant must prepare a 2-page description of one dataset from their organisation that they believe has the potential for extended use or AI application. Please note that a "dataset" should be interpreted broadly. It does not need to be a structured database of quantitative data. Relevant examples include quality reports submitted by healthcare providers, inspection findings compiled over time, complaint logs, audit narratives, or accreditation documentation. If your organisation systematically collects any form of information, even partially in narrative or paper-based form, that is worth describing.

   The dataset description can include the following information:
   a. Basic information:
   - a. Dataset name
   - b. Who collects it?
   - c. Why was it originally collected?
   - d. Frequency of collection
   - e. Format (structured, unstructured, mixed)
   - f. Digital or partially paper-based?

   b. Content description:
   - g. Main variables (or types of information)
   - h. Level of granularity (individual/entity/system level)
   - i. Time coverage
   - j. Estimated size

   c. Data quality and constraints:
   - k. Known limitations
   - l. Missing data issues?
   - m. Potential biases
   - n. Legal/privacy constraints
   - o. Access restrictions

   d. Current use:
   - p. How is it currently used?
   - q. Who uses it?
   - r. For what decisions?

Time	Preliminary[1] Programme	
Time	**Session Topics**	**Presenter**
09.45 – 10.00	**Opening Speech and introduction to the training day**	Indra Dreika Director of the State Agency of Medicines of the Republic of Latvia - EPSO Board member
10.00 - 10.10	**Welcome and Overview** of the Day Structure	Jooske Vos
10.00 - 12.00	**Foundations: What is AI and What is Data in Supervision?**	
10.10 - 10.40	**What is AI? (Demystified)** Lay explanation of what is AI, types of AI (rule-based systems, machine learning, generative AI), prediction versus causal inference, strengths and blind spots of generative AI, common traps in regulatory settings.	Asst. Prof. Kavitha Palaniappan

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[1] The final Programme will be shared with participants

10.40 - 11.10	**What is Data in a Supervisory Context?** Types of regulatory data, structured versus unstructured data, missing data and bias, why and how data was collected matters.	Asst. Prof. Kavitha Palaniappan Some Examples from students of Prof. Misja Mikkers
11.10 - 12.00	**Analytics for Supervisors** Descriptive versus predictive versus prescriptive, risk profiling concepts, signal detection and compliance targeting (Irish example of inspectorate use?)	Prof. Misja Mikkers
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch	12.00 - 13.00
13.00 - 14.45	**Mapping your Data Landscape**	
13.00 - 13.30	Participants sharing on their datasets	Prof. Misja Mikkers & Asst. Prof. Kavitha
13.30 - 14.15	Probing for hidden potential – facilitated discussion	Prof. Misja & Asst. Prof. Kavitha
14.15 - 14.45	Group reflection on what collective tools could benefit the network	Prof. Misja & Asst. Prof. Kavitha
14.45 - 15.00	Tea Break	
15.00 - 16.30	**Practice Session: Using AI safely (Studio LLM Demonstration)**	
15.00 - 15.20	Introduction to Studio LLM Prompt engineering basics, what good prompts look like, limitations.	Prof. Misja Mikkers
15.20 - 16.00	Simulated Exercises Highlight prediction versus explanation, missing data distortions, bias emergence.	Prof. Misja Mikkers
16.00 - 16.30	Limitations and Controls Where can AI go wrong? How to audit AI systems?	Prof. Misja Mikkers
16.30 - 17.30	**Strategy, Ethics and Organisational Design**	
16.30 - 16.50	Core Ethical Principles for Regulators Accountability, transparency, fairness, proportionality, human-in-the-loop, defining boundaries without stifling innovation.	Asst. Prof. Kavitha
16.50 - 17.10	Organisational Strategy The topics can revolve around separate AI team versus integrated model; AI policy in partially paper-based systems, cost considerations and medium-to-long term roadmap	Asst. Prof. Kavitha & Prof. Misja Mikkers
17.10 - 17.30	Final Reflection and Action Points Each participant identifies one short-term step, one medium-term structural change and one ethical safeguard to implement	Asst. Prof. Kavitha & Prof. Misja Mikkers

Conference venue for the

40th EPSO Conference in Malta

Look here at Google Maps

16th & 17th June 2026

The Old University Building – Valletta
St Paul Street, Valletta VLT 1216, Malta

Venue Address: Aula Magna, Valletta Campus, Old University Building, St Paul Street, Valletta

Directions from Malta Airport

to the Conference venue:

The Old University Building in Valletta can be easily reached by Bus (direction Valletta), Taxi, Bolt or Uber. Malta Airport is at Luqa limits of Gudja

By Taxi

Taxis are available outside the Airport. However, Bolt and Uber Apps are available

By Public transport (bus)

Public Transport is available from Malta International Airport. More information available:

https://maltairport.com/transport/

Hotel and Booking information for the 40ᵗʰ EPSO Conference in Malta

Conference Hotels 16ᵗʰ -17ᵗʰ June 2026

Due to the availability of hotels in various sizes and price range we do not offer one specific hotel. We have not booked a conference hotel in advance. Therefore, we recommend choosing for instance one of the following hotels, depending on availability and preferences (as consulted on trip.com).

3 stars: Tritoni mini studios Valletta- 7.3 rating – 108 euro- 1.4 km walk to conference venue
3-star: King Charles Hotel -8.0 rating- 117 euro - 390 meters from conference venue including breakfast
3 stars: Osborne Hotel - 8.6 rating - 127 euro – 880 meters from conference venue
3 stars: Hpm Pjazza Merkanti – Boutique Living – rating 8.9- 176 euro 170 meters from conference venue - including breakfast
3 stars: Melior Boutique hotel – 8.6 rating – 185 euro - 620 meters from conference venue

4-stars: Tritoni Harbour Suites- 7.8 rating – 151 euro - 290 meter from conference venue
4 stars: Battery House – 9.4 rating –200 euro - 470 meters from conference venue
4 stars: Palazzo Rosaria Boutique Hotel – rating 9.4 – 205 euro – 410 meters from conference venue
4 stars: La Falconeria Hotel 8.6 rating- 214 euro -710 meters from conference venue- including breakfast
4 stars: The Embassy Valletta Hotel 7.9 rating - 319 euro- 400 meters walk to conference venue

5 stars: Grand Hotel Excelsior – 8.6 rating – 283 euro – 950 meters from conference venue

Distances are approximate to the conference venue. This is in the city center of old Valletta (University of Malta, Valletta Campus in Valletta); the prices of the hotels may vary depending on the booking site used.

We recommend checking your hotel reservation as soon as possible. Valetta is very busy during this early summer period and we notice that prices go up quickly

Travel to Malta

Getting to Malta International airport in is easy and directly from many airports in Europe and worldwide

Positioning Malta in the Mediterranean Sea

Positioning Malta in the Mediterranean Sea

Positioning of Conference venue :
Old University of Malta (Valletta Campus) and Malta International Airport