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THE LEGAL AND MEDICAL SITUATION OF ME (MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIS) AND CFS (CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME) PATIENTS

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) was accepted by the WHO as a neurological disease in 1969.

In some countries ME is referred to as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS). In 1993 CFS was added as an addendum to ICD-10 but the "fatigue"-based definition of CFS still causes confusion and problems for patients, as was stated by Mrs. Androulla VASSILIOU, former European Health Commissioner.

ME can occur in outbreaks: one was described for the first time in 1934. Experts have placed ME in the same category as cancer and late stage AIDS regarding quality of life and suffering.

We therefore request the following:

- to respect the WHO ICD-10-Code G93.3 for ME as a neurological disease and ensure that the Member States implement this in their Health Care System;
- to respect the rights of ME patients – including children - in all Member States;
- to endorse as diagnostic criteria for ME the Canadian Consensus Criteria and the developing International Consensus Criteria;
- to encourage the development of biomedical research.

An estimated 1.200.000 very sick ME patients in Europe are waiting for parliament to recognise the WHO ICD-10-Code G93.3.

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G93.3 Postviral fatigue syndrome
Benign myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME)

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For further information

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For an objective view of the establishment intrigue surrounding ME we recommend:

Magical Medicine: How to Make a Disease Disappear by Professor Malcolm Hooper [www.investinme.org/Article400%20Magical%20Medicine.htm]

Professor Hooper has made a formal complaint to the Minister of State responsible for the Medical Research Council.