

Memorandum of Understanding

I. Purpose

While people living with pulmonary hypertension in different nations are subject to different laws and rules and regulations governing medical insurance procedures, drug approval processes and use and more, those suffering with PH around the world face familiar struggles with this dread disease. It is to our mutual benefit to define common issues, work toward creating world-wide attention and awareness about the disease and to focus attention on PH patients' struggles and needs. It is to our mutual advantage to enable patients, family members and physicians the world over, through development of organizations like PHA, to deal with these issues, improve the quality of life for PH patients, and promote a worldwide search for the cure.

This memorandum of understanding provides a framework within which the Pulmonary Hypertension Association, located in Silver Spring, Maryland in the United States and PULMONARY HYPERTENSION ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (PHA CANADA) , located in VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA will cooperate for the benefit of pulmonary hypertension patients, worldwide as outlined above.

II. Statement of Basic Mutual Responsibilities

The Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) in the United States is the first and largest association of PH patients, family members and medical professionals. As such it recognizes that it has a special responsibility to help foster the creation and growth of similar PH organizations in other nations where there is a group of people or a fledgling organization that indicates a desire to create an organization dedicated to the same principles and mission as that of PHA. In such instances PHA is prepared to exercise its responsibility through the sharing of its best practices, guidance in developing organizational infrastructure for the new organization and by providing access to its education and awareness materials. This will be a relationship that will be mutually beneficial to both parties.

PHA CANADA is likewise committed to the development of an organization of and for pulmonary hypertension patients their family members and medical professionals in CANADA and to sharing best practices and access to materials.

III. Coordination of Effort in fulfilling the mutual responsibilities

PHA agrees to:

1. Make reference and provide links to PHA CANADA on its website and other appropriate publications, such as PHA newsletters
2. Encourage PHA leaders, members and other patient associations with which it maintains MOUs to work cooperatively with PHA CANADA
3. Seek funding to support a coordinating manager for PH organizations throughout the world to be housed at PHA's office in Silver Spring, MD

4. Invite PHA CANADA to participate in an International PH organization discussion council. PHA will establish a listserv for this purpose
5. Share best practices
6. Maintain a cooperative spirit to foster the development of additional opportunities for coordination and collaboration

PHA CANADA agrees to:

1. Make reference to PHA on its web site and other appropriate publications, such as newsletters
2. Encourage its leaders, members and other patient associations with which it maintains MOUs to work cooperatively with PHA
3. Make its members aware of PHA
4. Participate in an International PH organization discussion council established by PHA
5. Share best practices
6. Maintain a cooperative spirit to foster the development of additional opportunities for coordination and collaboration

This memorandum is a guideline for the relationship between PHA and PHA CANADA and may be voided at any time by either party by a letter from a legitimate representative of either organization stating their board's desire to terminate the memorandum.

Signed by: 

Representing: PHA (USA)

Name (print): Pino Aldrigiotti

Date: June 4, 2009

Signed by: 

Representing: PHA CANADA

Name (print): Danner Bell

Date: July 7, 2009.