

VIPOC Newsletter September 2024

Hello, Advocates!

As we transition into the vibrant season of change, we're excited to bring you updates, community highlights, and important announcements. September is a time for reflection, growth, and anticipation as we look forward to our upcoming fourth conference in Cairo this December. Let's dive into the latest news!

Message from President

As we gear up for our exciting conference in December, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering dedication and passion. Each one of you plays a vital role in our mission to improve the lives of vitiligo patients, providing them with essential information while promoting advocacy, greater understanding, and recognition of vitiligo. Together, we're working toward better care, advancing research, and driving advocacy within both the medical community and society. This conference is not just an event; it's a powerful gathering of voices united for change.



Let's make our presence felt and continue to uplift each other as we shape the future of vitiligo care together!

With warmth and appreciation,

Gaone Matewa, VIPOC President

VIPOC Fourth Conference - Cairo



Excitement is in the air! VIPOC is gearing up for its most exciting event yet—the upcoming 4th VIPOC Conference in Cairo this December! With patient leaders from all over the world coming together, it promises to be a groundbreaking moment for vitiligo advocacy. We can't wait to see the incredible ideas, collaborations, and progress that will unfold, pushing the movement for vitiligo care to new heights! This conference is set to be our biggest step forward yet!

What to Expect:

- **Connect with Global Leaders:** Build valuable relationships with leading experts and advocates in vitiligo care from around the world!
- **Dive into Interactive Workshops:** Get hands-on experience in dynamic sessions crafted to empower patient leaders and drive global change!
- **Discover Cutting-Edge Research & Treatments:** Stay ahead of the curve by exploring the latest breakthroughs in vitiligo care, straight from top researchers and medical professionals!

Pre-registration is closing soon! Pre-registration is open to patient leaders and representatives until the 30th of October 2024. Don't miss your chance to be part of this incredible journey. Register today!

[Register Today](#)



Top Left: Jean-Marie Meurant, Karen Férez, Nicolle Maquignon, and Georg Pliszewski. Top Middle Right: Paul Monteiro. Top Right: Nicolle Maquignon, Georg Pliszewski, and new VIPOC members from Sri Lanka. Bottom Right: Jean-Marie Meurant and Dr. Henry Lim

Four VIPOC board members, including Paul Monteiro (Netherlands), Georg Pliszewski(Germany), Nicolle Maquignon (France), and Jean-Marie Meurant (France), actively participated in discussions around the advancement of vitiligo awareness and treatment. The conference saw 15 communications, 51 posters, and 17 speakers, with notable meetings between JM Meurant and Dr. Henry Lim discussing coalition building, as well as productive engagements with pharmaceutical organizations like ABBVIE, INCYTE, and PFIZER.

The Europe Summit yielded promising support for advocating better recognition of vitiligo and ensuring equal access to treatments.

Additionally, the Vitiligo Task Force (VTF) meeting was led by Pr Nanja Van Neel and Julien Seneschal, covering pivotal topics such as FDA approval for cellular therapies like RECELL and the progress of the VITAL Project, aiming to standardize vitiligo assessment worldwide.

The VIPOC members also had fruitful meetings with Karen Férez from Mexico and new

VIPOC members from Sri Lanka, Vitiligo SriLanka and Skin SriLanka, some are committed to attending the Cairo conference, further solidifying the global collaboration for vitiligo advocacy and treatment.

[Read More Here](#)

Member Community Updates



40 Members



29 Countries



3 Conferences

The Vitiligo International Patient Organization is on fire with advocacy and awareness efforts, making incredible strides for the vitiligo community. With 40 members representing 29 countries, our global impact continues to grow. After successfully hosting three conferences in previous years, we're thrilled to see our global reach continue to expand, uniting patient leaders and driving change for vitiligo awareness worldwide! We are excited for the VIPOC Fourth Conference, get ready for an exciting wave of energy as VIPOC gears up for the upcoming conference!

We're beyond excited to welcome three incredible new members to VIPOC: Vitiligo SriLanka, Skin SriLanka, and Vitiligo Argentina (comunidad hermanos de piel)! These organizations are joining us in our mission to amplify the voices of the vitiligo community worldwide!

Member Spotlight

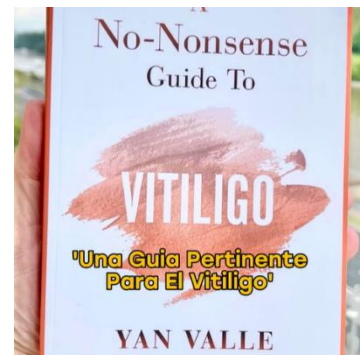
This third quarter, we're shining a light on incredible members! Thank you for your incredible contributions to our community. Your efforts inspire us all!



Achievements and Activities

USA

Exciting news! Yan Valle's "A No-Nonsense Guide to Vitiligo" is now available in Spanish! Dive into the world of vitiligo with this must-have resource, now accessible in both digital and print formats on Amazon. Don't miss out!

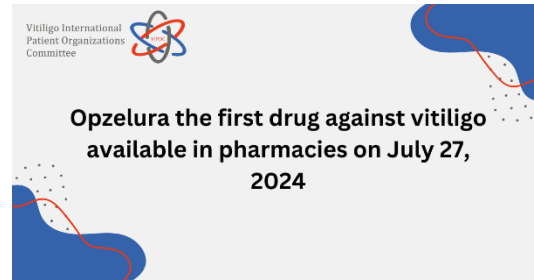


Germany



Deutscher Vitiligo-Bund e.V. (The German Vitiligo Association) is proud to announce that they have successfully met the prestigious NAKOS designation criteria for transparency and independence in self-help. This achievement underscores their commitment to maintaining the highest standards in supporting the vitiligo community.

Great news for France! The Official Journal of July 23, 2024, has just announced that the Ministry of Labor, Health, and Solidarity has signed an order on July 18, 2024, officially adding Opzelura to the list of medications reimbursable for social security beneficiaries. This is a significant step forward for patients and the vitiligo community!



France

Mexico



The Fundación Mexicana de Vitiligo (The Mexican Foundation of Vitiligo) hosted the fourth exciting activity of its Viti Summer Course on the 17th of August 2024! The Barbie Workshop, led by the talented Lic. Paulina Paz, was a hit, allowing attendees to unleash their creativity by customizing their very own Barbie with vitiligo. It was a fun-filled event that celebrated individuality and sparked joy among participants!

Upcoming events

USA

So Rare They Stare Celebrates 5 Years!

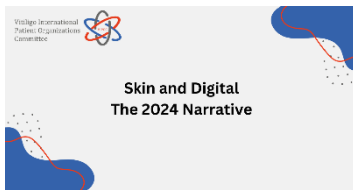
Mark your calendars! So Rare They Stare will be celebrating its 5th anniversary on October 26th, 2024, in Athens, GA. This will be a special day of reflection, connection, and excitement as they honor this incredible milestone.

St Martin

V.E.I.S.S 3rd Annual Mini-Conference!

Vitiligo Educate Inspire & Support SX is thrilled to announce its 3rd Annual Mini-Conference in beautiful St. Martin from December 6th to 8th! This year's theme is all about 'I' for Inspiration! This will be a transformative experience filled with insights and motivation. Don't miss out!

Latest Research Update



The global burden of skin diseases affects over 3 billion individuals, posing important public health challenges worldwide...

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Latest News



During the EADV conference held in Amsterdam from September 25 to 28, 2024, a total of four dedicated VIPOC board members took part in the event: *Paul Monteiro...*

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While the prevalence of vitiligo is similar across racial and ethnic groups, the effects of vitiligo vary by demographic group, culture, and skin color, with...

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