



Rare Disease Day 2016.

29th February 2016.

It's a leap year, and 29 February - the rarest day in the calendar - is designated as Rare Disease Day, raising awareness amongst the general public and decision-makers about the impact of rare conditions on patients' lives.

The relative lack of scientific knowledge about rare diseases, and the fact that symptoms tend to differ not only from disease to disease but also from patient to patient, often result in delayed diagnosis. Furthermore, the range of treatments available can be very narrow, resulting in heavy social and financial burdens on patients.

The 6000 rare diseases in existence affect as many as 30 million people in the EU alone. A disease or disorder is defined as rare in Europe when it affects fewer than 1 in 2000 people. In the USA, the definition of a rare disease is one which affects fewer than 200,000 Americans at any given time.

Since the vast majority of rare diseases are genetic, the increased interest in them over the last few years has led to a better understanding of genetic diseases in general, and this benefits everybody. The MedAnnex team would like to congratulate all of our colleagues working in this area and we invite you to join us in celebrating Rare Disease Day.

Find an event near you here: <http://www.rarediseaseday.org/events/world>

About MedAnnex

MedAnnex Ltd, based in Scotland, is a dynamic biotechnology company developing new treatments for people with autoimmune diseases. The company's lead product - Annexuzlimab® - is a humanised monoclonal antibody which, in extensive non-clinical testing, has shown significant activity in rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis and systemic lupus erythematosus.