

Farewell to Access to Medicines Pioneer, Andrew Herxheimer

by TIM REED



With a heavy heart, I write with news of the passing HAI founder, life member of the HAI European network, and our dear friend, Andrew Herxheimer, who passed away on Sunday, 21 February, at the age of 90.

Andrew was a clinical pharmacologist by training—and an access to medicines activist at heart. For decades, he tirelessly campaigned for improved access to safe, affordable and effective medicines, not only in Europe, but for all people around the world. He particularly pressed for direct patient reporting to be enshrined in European Union legislation, as well as making science and medicine accessible to the public. His immense knowledge of medicines and medicines policy, coupled with his quick wit, made him a force to be reckoned with on the international stage.

In addition to championing the access to medicines cause, Andrew took great pleasure in teaching others. He mentored countless aspiring activists along the way. He was as patient and generous with them as he was passionate and strategic. This is what made him such a respected, trusted and effective advocate and colleague.

During this difficult time, we extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to Andrew's family—his wife, Christine, and his daughters, Charlotte and Sophie.

We will miss Andrew immensely and are thankful for the immense contributions that he made to improving access to medicines and their rational use.