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Michael Poelzl is a patient advocate and volunteer with RHEUMALIS Austria, where he leads communications, public outreach and international networking. Motivated by his family's experience of paediatric rheumatic disease, he supports children and families navigating chronic illness while advocating for greater patient involvement in healthcare, research and policy. He also serves as a Board Member of ENCA and a patient representative within ERN RITA, helping to bring the experiences of children and families into European discussions on rare and complex disease