



europeanpatients'forum

“ A STRONG
PATIENTS' VOICE
TO DRIVE BETTER
HEALTH IN EUROPE ”



WHO IS EPF?

The **European Patients' Forum**, more widely known as **EPF**, is a non-profit and independent non-governmental organisation based in Brussels, Belgium. It was set up in 2003 to become the strong and united **collective patients' voice** to put patients at the centre of EU healthcare policy and programmes.

EPF is the **umbrella organisation** of pan-European and national patient

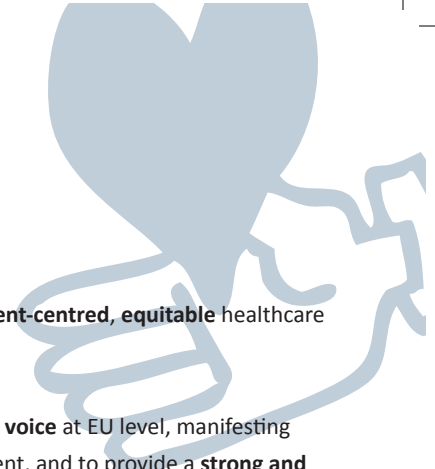
organisations active in the field of European public health and health advocacy. Through our strong advocacy activities, we strive for **patient-centred** and **equitable access** to **high-quality healthcare** for all citizens throughout the EU. EPF facilitates exchange of good practices on patients' rights, equitable access to treatment and care, and health-related quality of life between patient organisations at the European level and at Member State level.



EPF MISSION STATEMENT

- **VISION** / Our vision for the future is **high-quality, patient-centred, equitable** healthcare throughout the European Union.
- **MISSION** / Our mission is to be **the collective patients' voice** at EU level, manifesting the **solidarity, power** and **unity** of the EU patients' movement, and to provide a **strong and united patients' voice** to put patients at the **centre** of EU health policy and programmes.

Equitable
Independent Inclusive
Empowering Patients Holistic Transparent
Patient-Centred Non-discriminatory Consultative



EPF MEMBERSHIP

EPF currently has **55 members** that are **pan-European patients' organisations** and **national platforms of patient organisations**.

To become an EPF full member, organisations have to fulfil criteria relating to **legitimacy, representation, democracy, accountability** and **transparency**.

Organisations that do not meet the five Full Membership criteria but intend to do so in the foreseeable future will become **Provisional Members**. If they do not meet the criteria within two years, then they will be considered as **Associate Members**.

To be a member of EPF offers added value:

- To **influence** EU policy that will affect directly all patient groups
- To **exchange** ideas, good practices and experiences with sister organisations throughout the European Union
- To be an active part of the **European Patients' Movement**
- To access EPF's **events** (Annual General Meetings, training seminars...)
- To access EPF's **information tools** (monthly e-newsletter, policy documents, blog testimonials, e-mails updates)



EPF'S WORK

EPF has both a **proactive** and a **reactive** role. We act as a catalyst and consultative partner for positive change in EU healthcare systems and as a watchdog that closely monitors EU policy and legislative initiatives.

Our five strategic goals:

1. EQUAL ACCESS FOR PATIENTS

To promote equal access to best quality information and healthcare for EU patients, their carers and their families

2. PATIENT'S INVOLVEMENT

To ensure meaningful patient involvement

in EU health-related policy-making, programmes and projects

3. PATIENT'S PERSPECTIVE

To ensure a patients' perspective, including issues around human rights and quality of life, is heard in developments at EU level on health economics and health efficacy

4. SUSTAINABLE PATIENT ORGANISATIONS

To encourage inclusive, effective and sustainable representative patient organisations

5. PATIENT UNITY

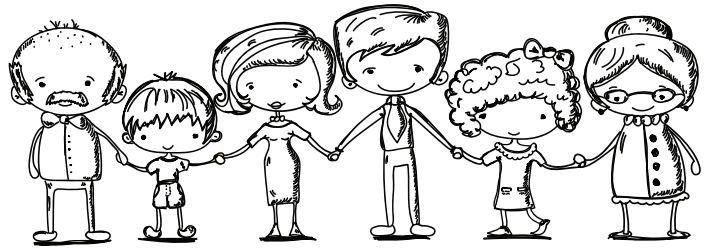
To nurture and promote solidarity and unity across the EU patients' movement



EPF fosters the **empowerment** and **involvement** of patients, both as a core value and an essential element of sustainable health systems that deliver high-quality, patient-centred chronic disease management. Promoting **health literacy** is a key strategy to equip patients with the knowledge and skills needed to take an

active role in managing their health and healthcare.

EPF receives financial support from a broad range of public and private sources in accordance with our code of ethics and funding framework on **transparency** and **independence**.





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Disclaimer: The content of this leaflet reflects only the author's views and the Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.