

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CORE PRINCIPLES FROM THE PATIENT'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE PRICING AND REIMBURSEMENT OF INNOVATIVE MEDICINES

BRUSSELS, 18 April 2016 – The European Patients' Forum publishes a preliminary statement on the pricing and reimbursement of innovative medicines.

The European Patients' Forum (EPF) issued today a preliminary paper on the key concerns of the EU patient community regarding current pricing and reimbursement models for medicines. Prepared by the EPF board and supported by its membership, this important document is part of our on-going contribution to current EU level debates on pricing and reimbursement.

Providing a patient perspective on the "value" of innovation, the statement highlights core principles that the pharmaceutical industry, national decision-makers, the EU Institutions should commit to in order to ensure equitable access to treatment based on need, not means, while supporting the long-term sustainability of our health systems.

The European Patients' Forum's vision is that all patients with chronic and/or lifelong conditions in the EU have access to high quality, patient-centred equitable health and social care. Timely access to accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment not only improves patient health and well-being but can also offset significant costs to the health and social systems as a result of avoidable exacerbation of a health conditions.

Marco Greco, EPF President said today *"There is an urgent need to identify effective and concrete actions and collaboration at EU level to close the current gap on health inequalities, to enhance access to high-quality, affordable treatments – I think we all recognise the current situation is unacceptable and untenable. Solutions must be found without delay"*.

This statement will be subject to further review with our members, also reflecting current debates, and a further consensus document will be released by the end of June 2016.

<http://www.eu-patient.eu/whatwedo/Policy/pricing--reimbursement/>

- END -

The **European Patients' Forum (EPF)** was founded in 2003 to ensure that the patients' community drives policies and programmes that affect patients' lives to bring changes empowering them to be equal citizens in the EU.

EPF currently represents 67 members, which are national coalitions of patients organisations and disease-specific patient organisations working at European level, and. EPF reflects the voice of an estimated 150 million patients affected by various chronic diseases throughout Europe.

EPF's vision for the future is that all patients with chronic and/or lifelong conditions in the EU have access to high quality, patient-centred equitable health and social care.

The EPF strategic goals focus on areas such as health literacy, healthcare design and delivery, patient involvement, patient empowerment, sustainable patients' organisations and non-discrimination.

www.eu-patient.eu

Contact persons:

Press & Communications Inquiries

Laurent Louette

Communications Officer

laurent.louette@eu-patient.eu

+32 (0)2 280 23 35

Policy-related Inquiries

Nicola Bedlington

Secretary General

nicola.bedlington@eu-patient.eu

+32 (0)2 280 23 34

Kaisa Immonen-Charalambous

Director of Policy

kaisa.immonen.charalambous@eu-patient.eu

+32 (0)2 280 23 36

