



AMR

PATIENT GROUP

The role and place of patients in the fight against AMR.

ABOUT US



- Launched in November 2020 as an **initiative of Health First Europe**.
- We represent **30 national and pan-European patient associations**.
- Our mission is to **empower patients** with knowledge on AMR and promote **responsible antibiotic use** as well as suitable **complementary solutions** to fight AMR.
 - Collaboration at the national and European level with WHO, ECDC, and EU institutions.
 - Active partnerships with local organisations and governments.
 - Promotion of pharmaceutical, medtech and complementary therapy solutions as well as mental health support for patients and families.
 - Growing network with healthcare professionals and pharmacists.

OUR MEMBERS

Our membership includes **international, European, and national patient groups** affected by AMR spanning from respiratory diseases to neonatal and sepsis. AMR is an issue that can affect everyone.



OUR GOALS

- 35,000 people die each year in the EU/EEA due to infections caused by resistant bacteria.

OBJECTIVE #1

Raising **awareness** about AMR, antibiotic stewardship & **empowering patients** with information. Part of this objective is also to **foster a positive relationship** between patients, healthcare workers and pharmacists around **responsible use of antibiotics**.

OBJECTIVE #2

Building a consistent patient voice to **advocate for national and EU policies** to tackle AMR and HAIs. It is a topic that needs to be tackled with utmost **priority and urgency**. **Advocacy work** needs to be carried out at all levels **and patients' voices need to be heard and integrated** in the way forward.

OBJECTIVE #3

Broadening the AMR debate to include **infection prevention and control measures, mental health & advocacy work for R&D**. **A complementary set of solutions** needs to be offered to all patients and they need to be **included in the development and implementation** of these solutions.



EUROPEAN PATIENTS' FORUM (EPF)

- Umbrella organisation of 79 patient organisations across Europe and across disease areas, representing patients with chronic diseases.
- What antimicrobial resistance means for patients with chronic diseases.
- Antimicrobial resistance affects patients in a number of therapeutic areas.



PATIENTS AND HEALTHCARE WORKERS

- Ensure **open communication** and **trust-building practices** between patients, primary care doctors, pharmacists, veterinarians, and all other healthcare professionals (HCPs) involved in the fight against AMR.
- Foster **cooperative dialogue** between patients and HCPs in the **prescription** and **responsible usage of antibiotics** against resistant bacteria.
- Inform both patients and HCPs about AMR through **awareness-raising, education, and professional specialisation**.
- Under the **One Health** approach, everyone concerned by AMR needs to be involved in **an informed, considered communication process** to be able to fight disinformation, fake & fear spreading news, to tackle this issue in the most effective way.



ROLE OF PATIENT ORGANISATIONS



- **Design awareness-raising campaigns** around AMR, vaccination, proper disposal of medicines, hand hygiene, etc.
 - Empowering patients through education
 - Increasing health literacy
- **Advocate** for the needs & rights of patients. Ensuring their voices being heard for:
 - Equal and timely access to quality healthcare
 - Research
 - Treatment
 - Support
- **Engage with key stakeholders** to achieve change
- **Participate** in **developing guidelines** and comprehensible information material
- **Provide a vital support network** for patients, caregivers, and families, offering emotional support, information, and practical advice on managing their conditions.

PATIENT TESTIMONY



- Patient safety at risk
- Ordinary condition evolving into an extremely serious condition
- Impact on patients' mental health

PATIENT TESTIMONY



- Patients with chronic diseases are particularly vulnerable to antimicrobial resistance
- My experience of antimicrobial resistance
- Two-time kidney transplanted patient

OUR ACTION POINTS



Awareness and Education

- Develop AMR awareness campaigns and educational materials targeting patients, healthcare professionals, and the public to promote responsible antibiotic use.
- Support patient rights initiatives and the AMR Patient's perspective.

Patient-Centric Care

- Ensure affordable access to care and information for patients and families to combat misinformation and promote health equality.
- Integrate patient involvement in research, knowledge sharing, advocacy, clinical trial participation, and other means to combat AMR.

Information and Advocacy

- Facilitate information sharing and enhance dialogue with healthcare professionals in best practices view exchanges.
- Engage with policy makers to promote patient's voice and participation in policy, guidelines and research developments

Promotion of Solutions

- Collaborate with hygiene, prevention, pharmaceutical, and medical technology industries to develop innovative solutions against AMR, including prevention measures, new antibiotics, diagnostics, and alternative therapies.
- Support preparedness plans at the local, national, European and global levels.

THANK YOU



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European AMR Patient Group



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European Patients' Forum



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