

EPF Partnership Approach in Practice

EPF involvement in Forums, Advisory Committees, Think Tanks

Specific activities include

- The European Health Policy Forum, which convenes of 50 health related organisations to advise the Commission on health policy
- Strategic involvement in the European Innovation on Active and Healthy Ageing, in particular in relation to concordance, integrated care and nutrition
- Extensive presence at the European Health Policy Gastein, including involvement on the Steering Group
- Leadership of the Patient Advisory Group on Medical Imaging within the European Society of Radiology, serving as a living example of how medical societies can embed the patient perspective in their work
- the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industry Associations (EFPIA) Patients' Think Tank to continue the on-going two-way dialogue between patient representatives and the pharmaceutical industry, promote increasing understanding within the industry of patients' perspectives and needs, and within patients' organisations of the industry's perspective and debate the respective positions of patients and EFPIA, on EU policy, EU strategies and EU goals. EPF is also a member of the steering group.
- EPF / Medtech Europe Dialogue on medical devices and chair of its steering group
- Innovative Medicine Initiative Stakeholder Group to promote meaningful patient involvement in IMI 2
- eHealth Stakeholder Group advising the Commission on eHealth from the perspective of users
- EC Working Group on Patient Safety and Quality of Care
- EuropaBio Patients-Bio Industry Exchange Forum This platform aims to promote exchange of views and expertise between patient organisations and biotech industry on issues of common concern related to healthcare biotechnology, including non-product specific information around scientific, regulatory and policy questions.
- Centre for Health, Ethics and Society (CHES), which convenes regularly health stakeholders in health topics with a wider societal impact

In line with our strategic plan, EPF focuses to the maximum extent possible on the needs and rights of our specific constituency, patients diagnosed with chronic disease(s), however we contributed to and support sister NGOs where appropriate on issues in which we are not directly involved but are keeping a watching brief, where the public health impact justifies a concerted and united response from the health community. An example of this in the previous legislature was the Tobacco Directive.

EPF collaboration with fellow stakeholders.

Partnership is EPF's leitmotif and in 2015 we will continue our approach of dialogue, cooperation, collaboration with other stakeholders working in our field.

1.1 COOPERATION WITH OTHER PATIENT GROUPS

In 2015 we will continue to work as closely as possible with major EU and international patient groups and our global sister organisation, the International Alliance of Patient Organizations (IAPO), with which we have a Memorandum of Understanding clarifying our geographic and political remit and supporting our joint work.

1.2 COOPERATION WITH OTHER HEALTH STAKEHOLDERS

Having initiated the collaboration in 2013, we will continue in 2015- 2017 as members of the European Network on Patient Empowerment (ENOPE) and involved this network in our conference and campaign on patient empowerment;

In 2015- 2017 we will continue to collaborate very closely with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) through the establishment of the EP Health Intergroup and a specific initiative in the framework of the Latvian EU Presidency, following up the Vilnius Declaration

During this period we will also continue cooperating very closely with all major EU organisations representing health professionals, particularly the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) around various issues relating to the new patient-doctor relationship; the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU) on cooperation with pharmacists; and the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN) on the patients' role in continuing professional development of nurses. We work closely with these organisations to ensure a coherent NGO input in EU health policy debates.

We will strengthen further our relationships with other key health stakeholders, such as the insurers (Association Internationale de la Mutualité, European Social Insurance Platform), informal carers (EUROCARERS), hospitals (HOPE), medical specialists (UEMS), health managers (EHMA) as well as with major EU health platforms such as the European Society for Quality in Healthcare (ESQH), the European Forum for Good Clinical Practice (EFGCP), and the EU Health Telematics Association, and the European Forum for Primary Care , with whom we have memoranda of understanding. We will continue working with them closely in various committees, structures and projects.

We will also strengthen our cooperation with BEUC, the European consumer organisation, the European Disability Forum, AGE and the EU Youth Forum. In the light of our work on marginalised and vulnerable groups and specifically non-discrimination, we will enhance our work with the Fundamental Rights Agency and the European Platform of Social NGOs.

We will continue to work with major EU networks working on health issues, such as EUREGHA, the Assembly of European Regions and HealthClusterNet.