

EPF/FPP Conference on
The Rights and Needs of Older Patients
Warsaw, 12-13 July 2011



*“Moving Forward on Policy and Practice –
Reflections from a Patients’ and Professionals’ Perspective”*

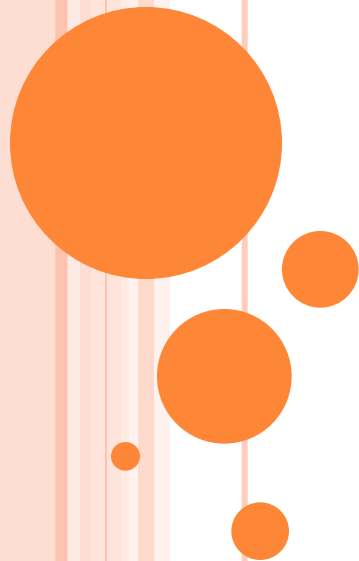
Philip M Chircop
EPF Board Member
Malta Health Network

*Reflections from a
Patients' and Professionals' Perspective*

The health systems of Europe,

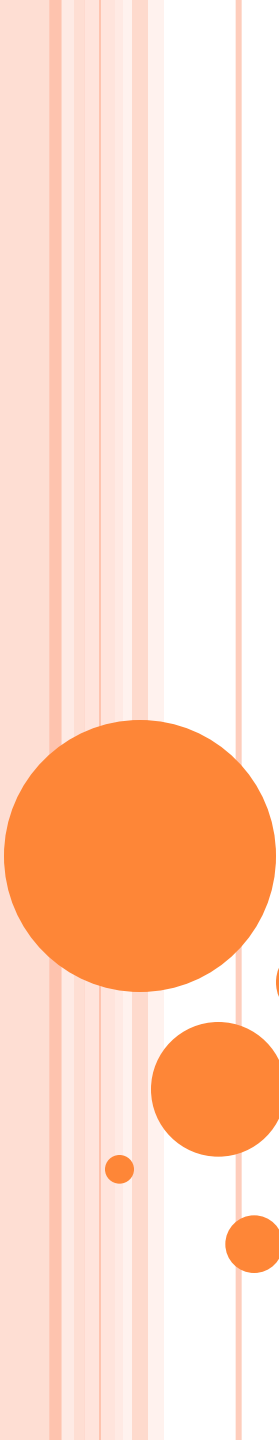
are facing


a number of challenges



*Reflections from a
Patients' and Professionals' Perspective*

Persons with
chronic diseases,
develop specific needs
as they grow older,
that are distinct from the
general population.





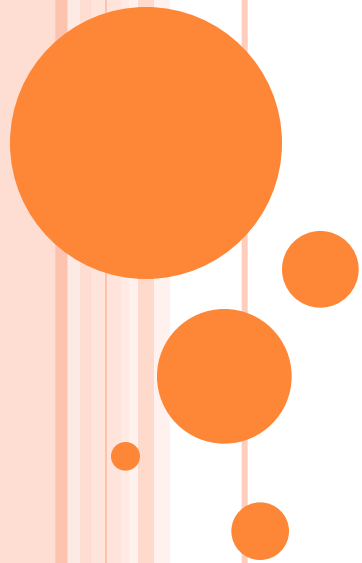
Various possible
solutions
are being promoted,
including eHealth
and
personalised medicine


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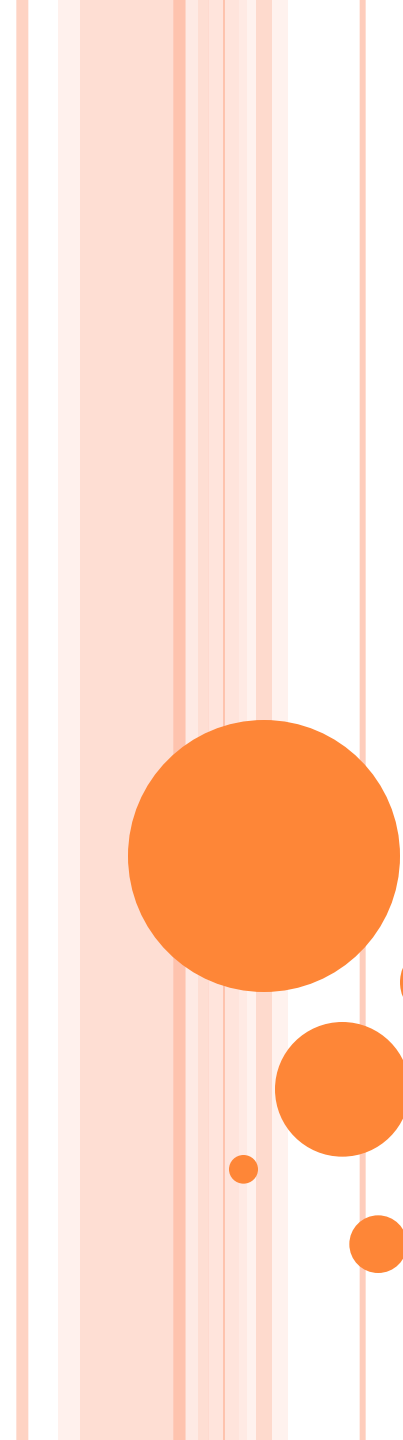
**OLDER INDIVIDUALS ENCOUNTER
DIFFERENT FORMS OF CHALLENGES,
IN THEIR DAILY LIVES**

The importance of shared decision-making in clinical practice

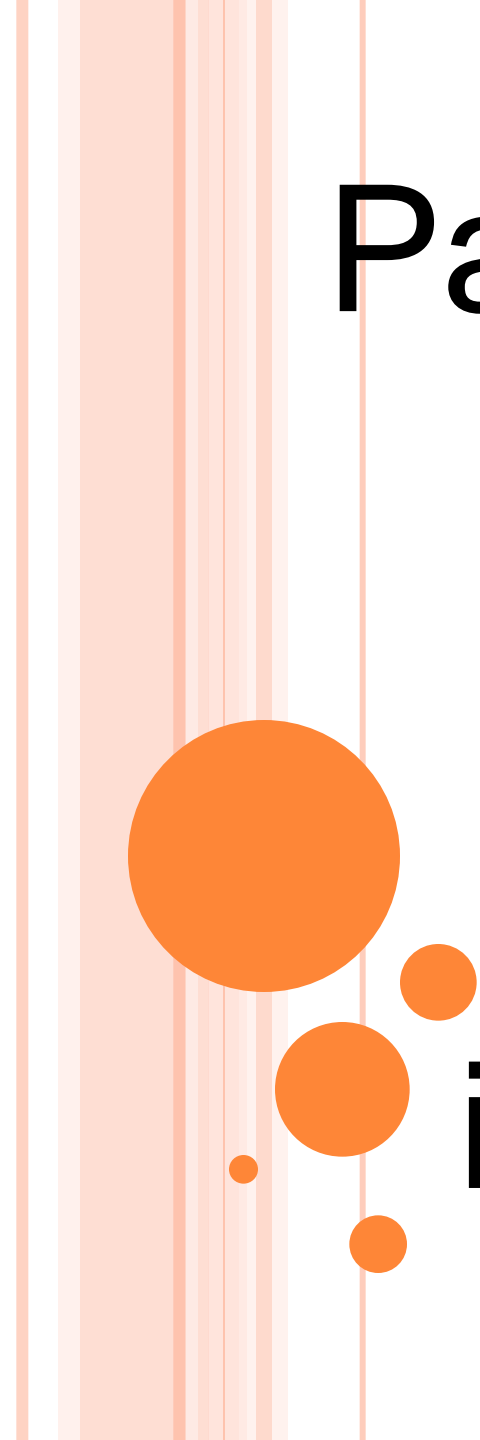




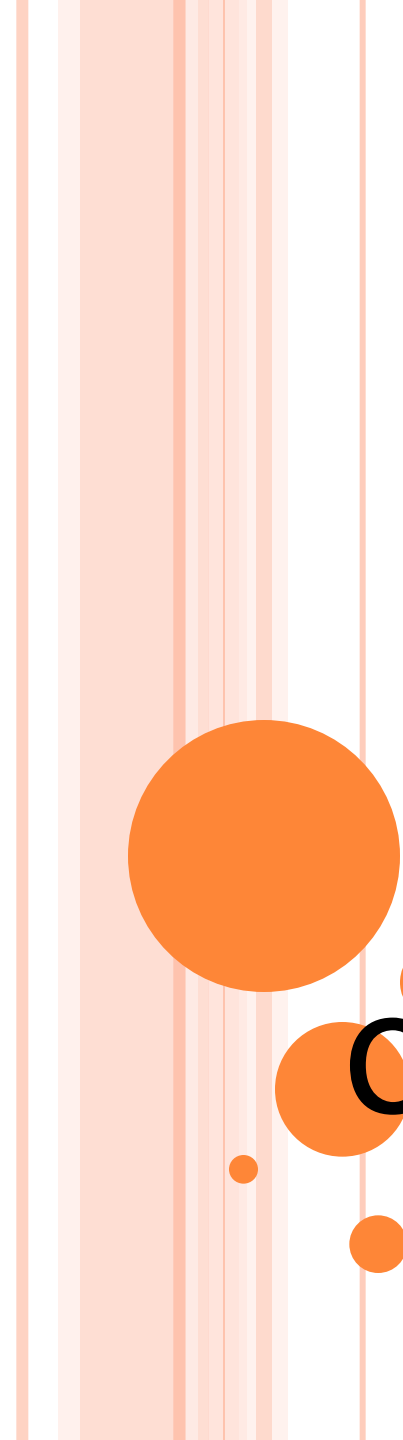
All patients,
including older patients,
should be
enabled and empowered
to become
equal partners in care




**Fragmented
organization and
delivery of care,
forms a major barrier
to good quality care
and quality of life.**




Patients stress that
“health”
should be
addressed
in a holistic way



Innovative
solutions form
an essential
component
of the future vision
of healthcare



for patients
with chronic diseases,
“active and healthy ageing”
rests on the cornerstone
of equitable access
to good quality,
patient-centred healthcare.



(e-) health literacy
is a crucial strategy
to empower patients
and to combat health inequalities,
and to enable
patients and carers,
to use innovative solutions
with confidence.

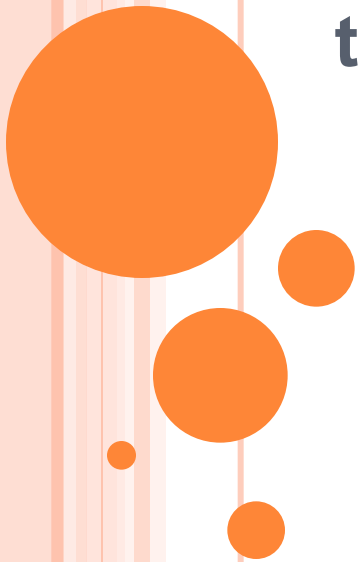


**FOR OLDER PERSONS
NEEDING MEDICAL SERVICES,**

**IT IS OFTEN IMPOSSIBLE TO
SEPARATE THE CLINICAL
ASPECTS OF CARE,
FROM THE LEGAL ELEMENTS**

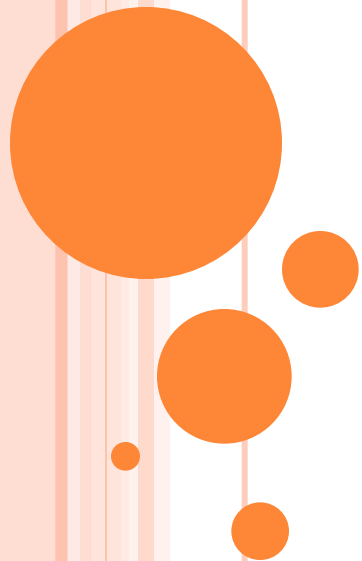
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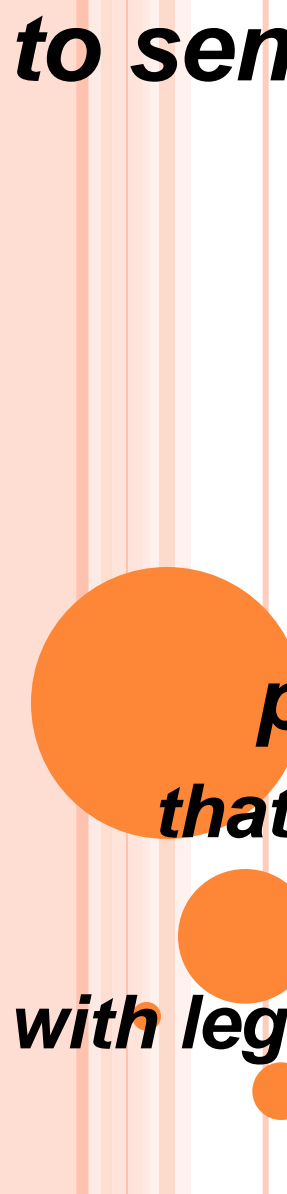
**It is of vital importance
for health care professionals,
to be guided by practical standards,
and
to meet these legal challenges,
successfully and productively.**



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***This brings us
to the another
objective .***





***to sensitize health care professionals,
about some of the potential
emerging legal issues
they may encounter in providing
clinical services to the elderly,
and to offer
practical advice and guidance,
that will better empower the practitioner,
to begin to cope intelligently,
with legal issues and the responsibilities,
they impose.***


**MUCH OF THE CARE
THAT OLDER PATIENTS RECEIVE**

**IS DETERMINED FROM
THE ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS OF
INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONALS TO PROVIDE IT,**

**● RATHER THAN BASED ON
THE WIDELY AGREED
STANDARDS OF BEST PRACTICE,
● GIVING PRIORITY TO PATIENTS'
PREFERENCES FOR TREATMENT.**

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**HEALTH CARE PRACTICE AND KNOWLEDGE
ARE CONSTANTLY
CHANGING AND DEVELOPING,
AS NEW RESEARCH AND TREATMENTS,
CHANGES IN PROCEDURES,
DRUGS AND EQUIPMENT
BECOME AVAILABLE.**

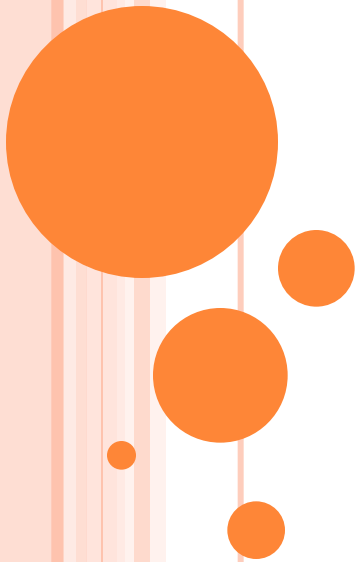


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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY

**IN THE DEVELOPMENT
OF THIS SECTOR**



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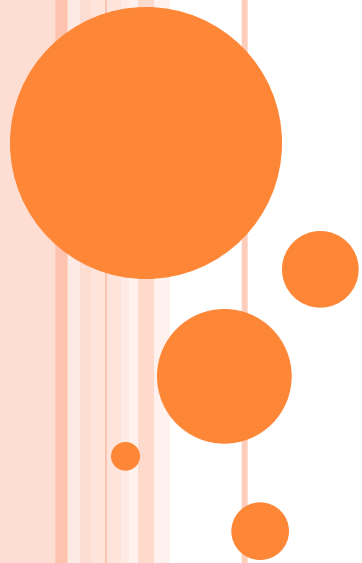


**Special attention,
should be paid to the attitudes
and behavior portrayed
by such professionals,
in their interactions
with older patients.**

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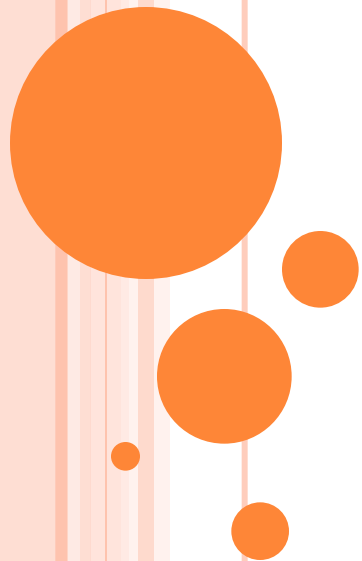
**Many patients and
their families,

may find it hard
to participate
in healthcare decisions**



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WHAT DO PATIENTS EXPECT FROM PROFESSIONALS



- to recognise that it is ethically fundamental **to share important decisions with patients;**
- to **encourage patients to ask questions**, explain their condition and express their personal preferences;
- To **provide accurate information** regarding different aspects of treatment (such as options & the uncertainties, benefits or even harms of treatment), in line with the best practice for risk communication.
- To **adapt information to individual patient needs** and allow sufficient time to consider their options;
- To **afford adequate resources** to help patients, and their families, reach the right decisions.



WHAT DO PATIENTS EXPECT FROM POLICYMAKERS



To adopt **policies that encourage shared decision making**, considering also its measurement, as an incentive for improvement.

To amend informed consent laws to support the development of skills and tools for shared decision making.



WHAT IS OUR ULTIMATE GOAL

- **To sound their concerns** and their questions, and speak up about important issues which concern them;
- **To recognize their right** to actively participate in the decisions regarding their state of health and the health services which they would require.
- **To be aware of their right** to access high quality health information and services, ensuring observance of quality standards.

Growing need for a comprehensive approach to chronic diseases



**to support effective
self-management
and partnership,
with health
professionals.**




**paying
particular attention
to
inequalities
in health**



On behalf of the EPF Board

*Thank You ALL
especially, THOMAS
Anders & Nicola
& All EPF Staff
for their excellent,
professional organisation*





The screenshot shows the homepage of the European Patients' Forum website. At the top left is the logo and name. A navigation menu includes: MEMBERSHIP, EVENTS, INITIATIVES & POLICY, PUBLICATIONS, PRESS, ABOUT EPF, and CONTACT US. A search bar is located at the top right. The main content area features a large banner for the 'European Patients' Forum Annual Report 2010' with a 'New publication!' callout. Below the banner are three boxes: 'EPF/FPP Conference '11, Warsaw', 'Annual General Meeting '11', and 'EU Directory of Patients' Orgs'. A 'LATEST NEWS' section contains a link to 'Read EPF's regular update on EU health developments from a patients perspective'. At the bottom left is a '2010 Membership Guide'. On the right side, there are two sections: 'EPF in focus' with a list of news items and 'News' with a list of news items. At the bottom right is a 'EPF Videos on the EPF Youtube Channel' section with the EPF logo and the YouTube logo.

More information?

www.eu-patient.eu

info@eu-patient.eu

