



Annex II

Objectives of the 2015 EPF Work Programme

EPF was set up in 2003 to represent the collective interests of patients in the EU, with a main focus on chronic and/or lifelong conditions, demonstrating the solidarity, commitment and unity of the patients' movement across the EU. Our membership consists of 64 umbrella patient organisations (EU disease specific or national coalitions). Our mission is to ensure that the patient community drives policies and programmes that affect patients' lives to bring changes empowering them to be equal citizens in the EU. We are an open and inclusive organisation that strives to ensure that our work reflects the needs of all patients and their informal carers including those who are under-represented. Our policy work is clustered into two broad thematic areas, 'patient empowerment' and 'patient access', reflecting our strategic vision and mission. The strategic goals of EPF are:

1: Health Literacy: To promote access for patients and their informal carers to information and education that enables them to make informed choices about their health.

2: Healthcare Access and Quality: To contribute to improvements in health systems that enable equitable access to sustainable and high quality healthcare designed and delivered to meet patients' and informal carers' needs at all levels of care, embracing innovation in all its forms.

3: Patient Involvement: To advance meaningful patient involvement in the development and implementation of health-related policies, programmes and projects in the EU.

4: Patient Empowerment: To promote the development and implementation of policies, strategies and healthcare services that empower patients to be involved in the decision-making and management of their condition according to their preference, whilst raising awareness about their rights and responsibilities.

5: Sustainable Patient Organisations: To support the development, growth and capacity building of inclusive, effective and sustainable representative patient organisations and to foster cooperation and synergies between them.

6: Non-Discrimination: To promote the development of EU and national policies that tackle discrimination faced by patients in health and social care as well as in domains like education and employment.

The overarching objectives (at both EU and Member State level) for our 2015 work plan are:

- Strengthening the patient perspective and impact in EU health- related policy, programmes and decision-making through evidence-based, results-oriented patient advocacy. More specifically, EPF seeks to continue working on patient empowerment by continuing to promote health literacy, eHealth and mHealth, personalised medicine and increased transparency on clinical trial data.

- Reinforcing the capacity of patients and patient organisations to contribute effectively to better health and social care for all patients in the EU and enhancing their accountability and mutual solidarity. More specifically, EPF seeks to increase its membership and increase members' involvement in EPF activities (e.g. extending our cooperation with patient organisations in Scandinavia and in the Balkans, two regions where to date we have had limited presence and traction).

Other specific objectives in each arena of the work programme are: policy impact, communications, membership and youth strategy, following S.M.A.R.T criteria.

The 2015 EPF Work Plan includes all EPF advocacy work that will be carried out in 2015, including our events. All communications, dissemination and representation work related to our core activities is also included. EPF will also be involved in a number of specific projects co-funded by the European Commission under different funding Programmes (Public Health, FP7 and Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, Horizon 2020, Innovative Medicines Initiative) or other projects funded by unrestricted funds from sponsors/ foundations which will also enhance the overall impact of our work and achievement of our strategic goals.

In line with our goal to promote the involvement of patient organisations in EU health-related projects, we will continue exploiting the outcomes of our Value+ project and its resources, building on the trusted relationship we have built with respective DGs and Agencies in relation to all of the new EU funding programmes with a relevance to patients (PHP, HORIZON 2020, Structural and Investment Funds etc.). We will also co-organise an event under the Latvian EU Presidency in follow-up to the Vilnius Declaration on Sustainable Health Systems (2013). Under Luxembourg presidency we will use the eHealth Week in May 2015 to showcase our work on eHealth from the empowerment perspective. We will also explore the opportunity to collaborate on a political event that explores patient safety in the EU, 10 years on from the previous Luxembourg Presidency.

Our 2015 work plan also highlights our specific communications objectives. In 2015, EPF will develop simplified messages that will drive our communication strategy to engage the patient community and health allies and to demonstrate our collective strength and unity in advocacy work. EPF will also clearly outline our specific 'asks' to decision-makers to put a patients' perspective in their work for this second year of their mandate.