

# 5th International Conference on Patient Safety: Madrid, 3-4 June 2010



europ**e**an**patients'**forum

***Promoting patient safety culture and partnership – the role of EPF***

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# European Patients' Forum

- European non-governmental organisation, based in Brussels, set up in 2003
- Umbrella body of currently 45 European disease specific patients' organisations *and* national coalitions of patients organisations
- More than 150 million patients with chronic conditions across EU



# Vision, Mission, Influence

**High quality, patient centred, equitable healthcare in Europe**  
**Strong and united patients voice in EU health policy debates**

▶ *Examples:*

- Patient safety
  - Patients Rights in Cross border health care
  - Pharmacovigilance and fight against counterfeited medicines
  - Health Literacy and information to patients
  - E-health and Telemedicine...
- **Work with European Parliament, European Commission, EU Presidencies**

# Patient Safety – priority for EPF

- ▶ Patient safety – Everyone's business
- ▶ Patients' individual experience – a valuable resource for learning
- ▶ Patients – a source of information re/ failures of healthcare systems
- ▶ Patient organisations - role in informing & educating patients
- ▶ Patient organisations – strong advocacy strategies; an important actor to involve in patient safety policies

# Patient organisations' contribution

## At EU Level:

- ▶ EPF - involved in the EC Patient Safety Working Group  
Contributed to *Council Recommendation on Patient Safety and the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections*

## At national level:

- ▶ Patient organisations – advocacy campaigns, information materials, education in patient safety:
  - Patient University Project - Barcelona
  - Patient safety campaign - Poland
  - Patient guide for safer hospital stay - Denmark
  - Guide for patients to hospital stay – Finland
  - Advocacy Toolkit for Patients' Organizations - by IAPO

# EPF – involved in EUNetPas project

an example of European collaboration : Member State and civil society around a high priority policy area

- ▶ EPF contributed to the elaboration of a *A Guide for Education and Training in Patient Safety*:
  - foundation level of understanding of patient safety for health professionals, health educators, health managers, support staff , policy makers AND **patients, their families and carers**
- ▶ A key development in EUNetPas project - **National Patient Safety Platforms** in various MS – important step forward, BUT need for further involvement of

PATIENTS



# VALUE + tools for patient involvement

Value+ **Model of Patient Involvement**

Value+ **Toolkit** for patients' organisations

Value+ **Handbook** for project coordinators, leaders and promoters

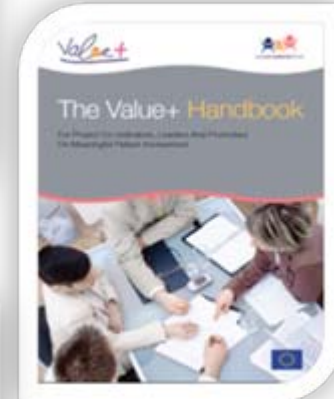
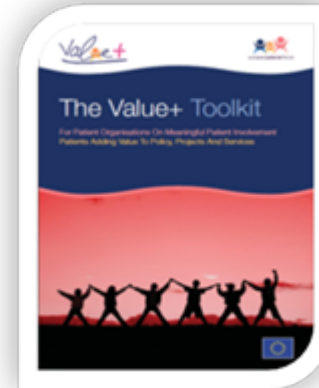
Value+ **Policy Recommendations**

Value+ **Literature review on patient involvement**

Value+ **Database on EU health-related projects**

Value+ **Directory of patient organisations in EU**

Value+ **Overview of legislation on patients' rights**



- **Call for more political commitment to improve the quality of healthcare delivered across Europe**
- **Patient Safety – an essential part of the Manifesto**
- EPF worked intensively with the new European Parliament
- Clear inclusion of our messages in key legislative dossiers
- Large uptake of the Manifesto by patients organisations at national level



# Creating our own future

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- ▶ Living up to new expectations – professionalism and delivery
- ▶ No “divide and rule”- strength of a united patients’ movement
- ▶ Genuine, sustainable partnerships
- ▶ Pro-active and agenda setting
- ▶ **High quality, patient centred, equitable healthcare**

# More information?



The screenshot shows the website <http://www.eu-patient.eu/> in a browser window. The page features the European Patients' Forum logo at the top left, a search bar, and a navigation menu with links for MEMBERSHIP, INITIATIVES & POLICY, PUBLICATIONS, PRESS, ABOUT EPF, and CONTACT US. The main content area includes a large banner with the text "A strong patients' voice to drive better health in Europe" and a photo of a man and a child holding a banner. Below the banner are three featured articles: "HTA Seminar and AGM 2010", "Autumn Advocacy Seminar '09", and "EPF's Patients' Manifesto". A right-hand sidebar contains an "EPF in focus" section with a list of recent news items and a "News" section with a list of more recent updates. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "demarrer", "GoToMyPC", "Starpage - EPF - G...", "Senior Policy Officer...", "Document1 - Micros...", "copernic", and "FR".



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