

IAPO Statement on the Prevention and Control of NCDs



The International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) calls on all Member States and other healthcare stakeholders to act quickly to implement the UN High-Level Meeting Political Declaration on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. The ultimate goals must be to promote effective engagement and to improve the quality of life of all persons at risk or affected by non-communicable and other chronic diseases. Patients' organizations are essential to the collaboration of the United Nations, World Health Organization and governments to reach these goals.

The International Alliance of Patients' Organizations is comprised of more than 200 patients' organizations in all regions of the world representing more than 50 non-communicable diseases. We welcome the opportunity the Declaration provides to address a broad range of NCDs and to work toward the redesign of health systems and the refocus of health and related services to implement effective NCD interventions at regional, sub-regional, and national policy and planning levels.

The International Alliance of Patients' Organizations calls on Member States and all healthcare stakeholders to:

1. Ensure the WHO Global Strategy for the Prevention and Management of NCDs addresses prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and support of ALL chronic diseases (including, for example, mental, neuromuscular, immunological, and developmental disorders as well as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, lung diseases and diabetes).
2. Ensure effective implementation as measured by strengthened health systems (including service delivery, medical products, vaccines and technologies, health workforce, health systems financing, health information systems, and patient self-management).
3. Ensure that the patient perspective is solicited and patients actively engaged in the design, leadership, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of effective and sustainable interventions to prevent and manage all NCDs.
4. Ensure that patient organizations are engaged as equal partners with other stakeholders in the development, implementation, and monitoring of legislation, health policies, regulatory frameworks, strategies, guidelines, and standards for NCD prevention and management.
5. Develop and implement, in collaboration with patients and community stakeholders, programs to improve health literacy among all populations, including the most disadvantaged.
6. Increase research on the prevalence and incidence of NCDs and their impact on the lives of patients, families and caregivers and the translation of knowledge into meaningful actions to improve the lives of patients and families.
7. Promote early diagnosis and treatment to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve quality of life.
8. Ensure all policies, programs, and strategies are based on the fundamental right to patient-centered healthcare based on unique needs, preferences and values, as well as patient autonomy and independence.