

# Towards a progressive, impactful and patient-centred EU4Health programme

Elisabeth Kasilingam  
Acting Executive Director  
European Patients' Forum

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for a healthier European Union - 24 March 2020, Online*



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“ A STRONG PATIENTS' VOICE TO  
DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE ”

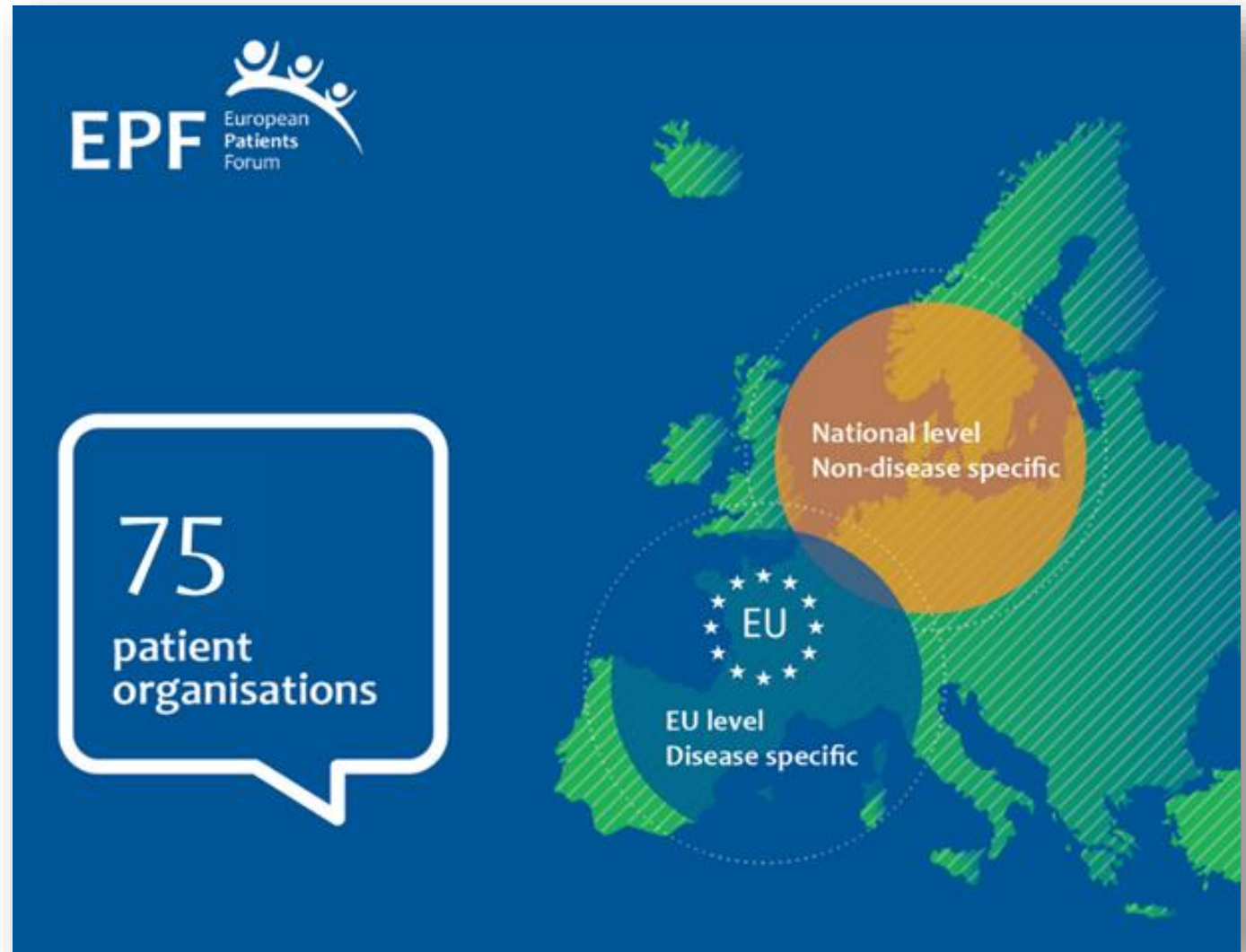


# About EPF – European Patients’ Forum



## Our Vision

A Europe where patient organisations are valued partners in creating equitable, person-centered, accessible, and sustainable healthcare systems, based on patients’ unique expertise



- Amidst the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, attention has been turned towards **enhanced European collaboration to ensure our health systems emerge from it more resilient and prepared**
- We believe this is a move in the right direction: health it is an **urgent European and global health policy priority**

The new EU4Health programme represents a unique **opportunity to act**, a crucial tool to build **stronger, patient-centred, health systems** that can provide care to all, beyond the COVID-19 crisis.

# EPF's views on the EU4Health Programme

**EPF welcomes the patient-centric approach in several core elements of the EU4Health Programme.**

The four strands presented today address fundamental issues for the patient community.

The **Work Programmes** should be now shaped to connect strands and priorities to deliver on patients' needs and challenges

- **Enable equitable access to safe and quality care for all**, fundamental to reduce inequalities and inequities in health
- **Build on European collaboration** through scale up of existing initiatives such as the European Reference Networks , and advancing **HTA** collaboration.

# EPF's views on the EU4Health Programme

- Support a more **inclusive, accessible and safe digital transformation of health and care**, from health data to telemedicine
- **Innovation should not only be about new products and technology**, but also about delivering patient-centred **health systems organization**, for example:
  - Resilient care services for chronic disease patients;
  - participatory healthcare practices;
  - Improve cross-border healthcare
  - health literacy initiatives;
  - patient safety frameworks.
- Actions to **deliver on the European Health vision, starting with its key initiatives**: European Beating Cancer Plan; strengthening of EU Agencies and the Pharmaceutical Strategy.



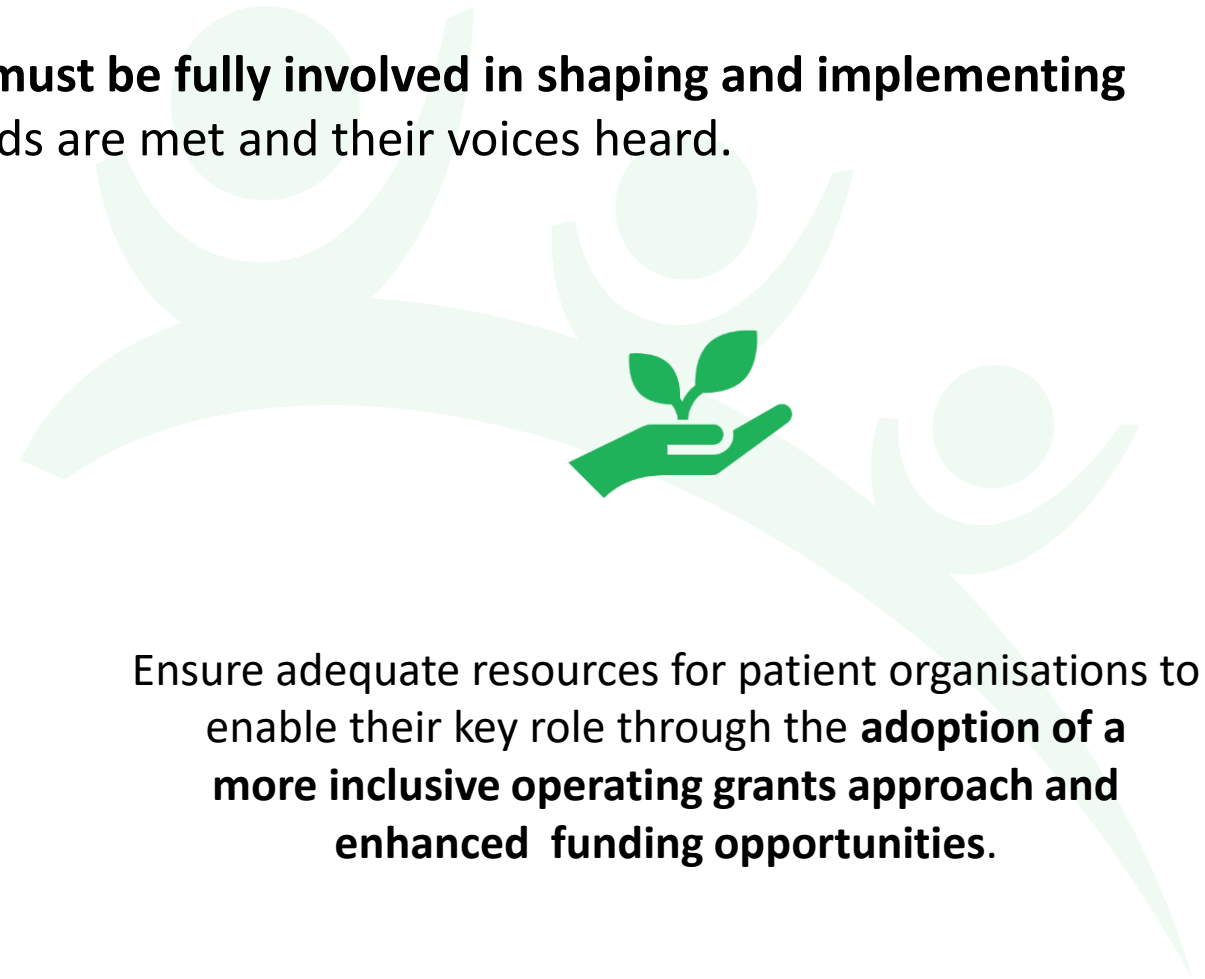
# Shaping and delivering EU4Health with patients

**Meaningful patient involvement is still an underused resource:**

Patients' organisations and the wider civil society **must be fully involved in shaping and implementing the EU4Health Programme** to ensure that the needs are met and their voices heard.



Ensure and implement **inclusive and meaningful inputs in the consultation** processes foreseen in the EU4Health Programme governance.



Ensure adequate resources for patient organisations to enable their key role through the **adoption of a more inclusive operating grants approach and enhanced funding opportunities.**

# Recommendations and next steps

EPF and the whole patient community is **ready to engage!**

From “patient-centred” healthcare



... to participatory healthcare



The **EU4Health programme** can play a key role to move the healthcare sector from ‘doing to’ to “doing better *with* patients to” improve health systems

# Recommendations and next steps

Only an inclusive EU4Health Programme can unleash its full potential to:

- improve public health; promoting health and wellbeing of people in Europe, as well as preventing diseases;
- respond to the health and social needs of people living in Europe;
- help Member States' efforts in a complementary way by addressing the gaps in different health systems, beyond the COVID-19 crisis.





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[info@eu-patient.eu](mailto:info@eu-patient.eu)

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