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British Heart Foundation response to *EU consultation on legal proposal on information to patients*

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) welcomes the opportunity to comment on this consultation. The BHF is the UK's leading heart charity, fighting to eradicate early death from heart and circulatory disease – the UK's biggest killer, causing 57,000 premature deaths in 2005¹.

Over 2.5 million people are living in the UK with heart disease and the BHF invests heavily in cardiac care programmes to help support their needs. The Charity is also a major funder and authority in cardiovascular research and education. We strongly support efforts to ensure that the patient voice is heard in the debate around patient information.

The BHF is a leading member of the European Heart Network (EHN), which is a Brussels-based alliance of heart foundations and other concerned non-governmental organisations from 26 European states. We therefore refer the Commission to the response of the EHN, which the BHF strongly supports.

For further information please contact Yvonne Gritschneider, Policy Officer, at gritschnedery@bhf.org.uk

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Knapton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Dr Mike Knapton MA(cantab) MBBChir FRCGP
Director, Prevention & Care
British Heart Foundation**

¹ See www.heartstats.org