



fighting heart disease  
and stroke  
european heart network

# **European Heart Network (EHN)**

Brussels-based alliance of foundations and associations dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke and representing patients' interest throughout Europe.

## **Vision**

Every European has a right to a life free from avoidable cardiovascular diseases.

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# A European Cardiovascular Health Plan – Why?

## The heavy burden...

### If CVD were a country

**Capitals:** Heart Disease & Stroke



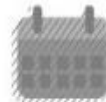
**Economy:** €210 billion per year  
– that's over 4 times the GDP of Bulgaria

**Population:** 63 million,  
almost the population  
of France



**Mortality:** 1.8 million per year  
– of these, 192 000 die before age 65,  
which is 15 000 more than the  
population of Brussels

**Population Growth:**  
6 million per year,  
roughly the population  
of Denmark



**Productivity:** 26 million years lost  
to ill health and early death

## The opportunity...

- Reduce premature and preventable deaths
- Tackle inequalities
- Pave the way for healthier lives for all
- Resilient healthcare systems



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# European Cardiovascular Health Plan Pillars

## I. Primary and secondary prevention

- Ambitious public health measures to mitigate cardiovascular risk factors
- The importance of early detection and secondary prevention

## II. Digital technologies for cardiovascular health

- Digitalisation for cardiovascular innovation
- Digital innovation for saving lives

## III. Modernise cardiovascular patients' pathway

- Interdisciplinary health care models
- Digital health to strengthen outpatient care

## IV. Improve health and digital literacy to tackle inequalities.