



HealthTech For Care launches its European Patient Observatory to accelerate healthcare equality in Europe

Paris, April 03 , 2024 - HealthTech For Care (HTFC) announces the launch of its European Patient Observatory, a new platform aimed at providing information, analysis, monitoring, and debate to identify and highlight the most relevant initiatives in each country to ensure patients' equitable access to healthcare and innovations across Europe.

The European Patient Observatory is an active platform, built on a detailed report, to enable sharing of best practices and fostering constructive dialogue to generate new proposals, with the ultimate mission of contributing and accelerating equitable access to healthcare for patients. It is a tool for information and constructive debate, highlighting best practices and the most relevant initiatives.

Pierre Courteille, President of HealthTech For Care, states: *"Europe places great importance on improving access to healthcare, the quality of healthcare services, and promoting equality in access. Our European Patient Observatory promotes inspiring projects which pave the way for a more inclusive and patient-centered European health policy, and it aligns perfectly with the EU4health program and aims to contribute to the work of the European Commission and the European Parliament. It will thus support the development and implementation of ever more ambitious public policies for equitable access to healthcare and the development of a leading ecosystem for health innovation."*

The European Patient Observatory includes initiatives involving stakeholders in health innovation such as patients, public health actors, industry players including startups and large companies, public as well as private funders, and institutional bodies. These initiatives are based on organization of research, access to innovative and digital solutions, clinical trials, drug registration procedures, and pricing, all with patient involvement.

Find the full Observatory here:

<https://htfc-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/European-Patient-Observatory.pdf>

In this inaugural edition, HealthTech For Care highlights four original initiatives that are now widely recognized as "best practices":

- 1. The "Fast-Track Process for Digital Health Applications (DiGA)" (Germany):** This initiative accelerates the authorization process for innovative digital medical devices in Germany, ensuring that technological advancements in healthcare reach patients in need more rapidly. It's a pioneering initiative inspiring other countries in the era of digital health innovations. *Find the interview with Stefan De Keersmaecker, spokesperson for the European Union in the health sector.*
- 2. National Plans for Rare Diseases (France and Belgium):** By promoting and organizing diagnosis, research, and access to treatments, these plans pave the way for a European

policy to serve patients affected by rare diseases, both nationally and internationally.
*Find interviews with **Philippe Berta**, member of the French Parliament, and **Simone Boselli**, Director of Public Affairs at Eurordis.*

3. **EU-Pearl (Spain and across Europe):** This pioneering project, supported by the Innovative Health Initiative (IHI), focuses on deploying patient-centered collaborative clinical trial platforms. It accelerates research in neglected therapeutic areas and ensures more equitable patient access to innovative clinical trials, with plans to expand across Europe.
*Find the interview with **Michel Goldman**, Professor of Immunology at the Free University of Brussels and former Executive Director of IMI.*

4. **A Framework for Rapid Access to Innovative Medicines (Italy, France):** Legal provisions allowing patients access to innovative treatments before market authorization vary greatly across European countries. Italy and France have implemented pioneering mechanisms to provide access to potentially life-saving therapies while ensuring patient safety. These experiences inform discussions toward equitable European policies for early access.
*Find the interview with Antoni **Montserrat Moliner**, Vice-President of the Luxembourg National Committee for Rare Diseases.*

About HealthTech For Care:

The HealthTech For Care endowment fund is designed to support and promote access to healthcare for all, particularly new medical technologies and drugs. The fund's missions revolve around three main axes: supporting the development of the entire healthcare ecosystem, accelerating the development of innovative therapies and drugs, and promoting better patient access to the healthcare system in France and Europe. The governance of HealthTech For Care brings together Pierre Courteille, Maryvonne Hiance, Elsy Boglioli, Damien Catoire, Marc Dechamps, Christian Deleuze, Eric Falcand, Frédéric Girard, Marc Julien, Anaïs Le Corvec, Cédric Moreau, Christian Pierret, Christian Policard and Françoise Sellin.

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