



N°1 KILLERS

In Europe, 9 people out of 10 die of a chronic disease. They include heart disease, stroke, cancers, respiratory diseases, diabetes, hypertension, allergies, kidney and liver diseases.



PRIME ECONOMIC BURDEN

Chronic diseases are responsible for up to 80% of all healthcare costs, corresponding to 700 billion euros annually in the EU. Common risk factors are: tobacco use, poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, alcohol and the environment.



LARGELY PREVENTABLE

Chronic diseases are interrelated and comorbid conditions are common. They are also among the most preventable and can be effectively controlled.

URGENT POLITICAL ACTION IS NEEDED: We call for a comprehensive EU framework on chronic diseases by 2017!

THE FRAMEWORK MUST:

INCORPORATE TARGETS as set out in the Global non-communicable disease (NCD) Framework, including the overarching target of a 25% reduction in premature death from chronic diseases by 2025

INTERVENE ON HEALTH DETERMINANTS such as tobacco, nutrition, alcohol, environment, health inequalities and physical inactivity

INVEST IN PREVENTION such as early detection and diagnosis; population-based screening; and population-wide measures to reduce smoking, alcohol, salt, fat and sugar consumption, and increase physical activity

ENCOURAGE CITIZENS TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES and build an environment that promotes health and individual responsibility

STRENGTHEN COOPERATION between health ministries, insurers, health professionals, trade unions, employers and patients to improve health services

ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF COMPARABLE DATA by setting up EU registries for incidence, prevalence and health outcomes

ENHANCE COOPERATION ON RESEARCH to overcome existing fragmentation and duplication of research in Europe

STRENGTHEN MONITORING AND EVALUATION by establishing EU-wide surveillance and screening programmes, and financing research into effectiveness of prevention and treatment for chronic diseases

ABOUT ECDA

Since 2010, the European Chronic Disease Alliance brings together 11 not-for-profit organisations. ECDA represents over 100,000 health professionals concerned with the plight of millions of chronic disease patients.

Our aims are to:

- Provide policy makers with contemporary evidence-based recommendations
- Raise awareness and advocate for policies that promote health and encourage citizens to make healthy choices
- Engage with policy makers to promote and develop an EU Chronic Disease Strategy
- Publish and disseminate position statements and policy papers