

BUILD BACK BETTER. TIME TO ACT: THE BURDEN OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

Key learnings from the EHMA 2021 Annual Conference

Following the example of the European Beating Cancer Plan, there is a need for a European programme that **optimises investments in and prioritises cardiovascular diseases (CVDs)**,

A comprehensive EU response and **stronger policy engagement at a European level** are needed to address the increasing burden of cardiovascular diseases and ensure that citizens can live longer and healthier lives.

Emergency preparedness should have a focus on telemedicine and self-monitoring and should involve **patients in the decision-making process**.

The **EU4Health programme** constitutes a paradigm shift for a strong European Health Union.

COVID, cancer and cardiovascular diseases are the most pressing issues faced by European health systems. Data, registry-based clinical trials, and safety surveillance of new treatments are crucial to improve the quality of care.

By using existing resources and implementing what we already know, we can **avoid 1/3rd of deaths in Europe, 2/3rd of which are due to CVDs**

Collaborative solutions within and across the Member States are needed to mobilise research and promote innovative **public-private partnerships** to fight the silent pandemic of CVDs.

There are **three main goals** to successfully implement collaborative approaches:

- **Sharing is caring!** Best practices in the prevention, diagnosis and management of CVDs and transferring knowledge amongst the European Member States is essential to tackle cardiovascular diseases.
- **Partner to solve!** Forming partnerships with the private sector can help better respond to the growing burden of CVDs and provide adequate care for cardiovascular patients.
- **Act together!** Political commitment and system response are needed to make all resources available; to address the increasing burden of cardiovascular diseases, and to avoid 1/3 of deaths in Europe - of which 2/3 are due to CVDs.