



# Patients' Voice

February 2025



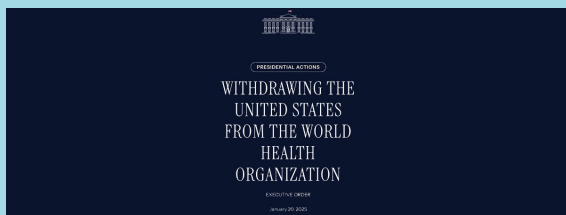
## WPA European Regional Meeting

01 – 02 Nov 2025 - Lisbon



WPA is pleased to announce its European Regional Meeting from 01 – 02 November 2025 at Lisbon, Portugal. Join WPA for this two-day regional event that brings together leaders of patient organizations, leading patient advocates and healthcare stakeholders from the European region. WPA advocates for hundreds of millions of patients worldwide. The regional meeting will provide the opportunity to patients' community from Europe to come together for two days of interactive programming designed to create tangible change through advocacy. [Read More](#)

## News



**Patients at Risk: WPA Responds to U.S. Decision to Exit WHO:** The WPA expresses concern over the U.S. withdrawal from the WHO, which could disrupt global health efforts, including disease prevention and healthcare access. The WHO's initiatives are crucial for improving health outcomes, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. [Read More](#)



**Governments Deprioritizing Health Spending:** The 2024 WHO Global Health Expenditure Report shows a decline in government health spending, threatening Universal Health Coverage (UHC). With billions lacking access to essential services, the WPA calls for prioritizing financial protection and equitable public health systems. [Read More](#)



United Nations  
Climate Change



COP29  
Baku  
Azerbaijan

**COP29 Falls Short on Climate Finance, Posing Dire Risks to Global Health:** At COP29 in Baku, developed nations were urged to allocate \$1.3 trillion annually for climate action, but pledges for developing countries fell short at \$300 billion. The WPA is disappointed by the funding gap, which harms healthcare systems and vulnerable populations. [Read More](#)



**Inauguration of WHO Academy:** The WHO Academy's inauguration in Lyon marks a key milestone in global health education. Aiming to train millions of health professionals, it addresses the healthcare workforce shortage and improves health outcomes. Offering free lifelong learning on essential topics, from public health to AI, it will enhance care quality ..... [Read More](#)



**Call for Continued Investment in Infection Prevention and Control Programs:** The WHO's report reveals major gaps in infection prevention and control (IPC), particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where healthcare-associated infections remain a threat. Only 6% of countries met WHO's minimum IPC standards in 2023-2024. [Read More](#)

## Obesity – An Epidemic of the 21st Century



The WPA, in collaboration with the Patients Safety Foundation Poland and partners, held a conference in Łódź, Poland, raising awareness about non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and obesity. The event highlighted NCDs impact in Europe, emphasizing the need for collective action. [Read More](#)

## Videos Documentaries Heart of Healthcare: Celebrating Our Nurses

Join us in honoring the incredible dedication and compassion of nurses worldwide. In this special video tribute, we celebrate the essential role nurses play in the healthcare system, providing care and comfort to patients every day. Watch as we highlight their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to the heart of healthcare. [Read More](#)



(03 min Version)



(08 min Version)

## WPA Membership Survey 2025



We are pleased to share that our alliance has grown to 658 member-organizations spanning 133 countries of the world and it makes the World Patients Alliance, world's largest umbrella patient organization working across all disease areas and in all world regions.

To better support your organization and our global community, we invite you to take a brief survey to share your needs and explore opportunities for collaboration in 2025. Your input is essential in shaping our initiatives and partnerships.

**WPA Membership Survey  
2025**

## WPA Webinars

**World Patients Alliance**

**Webinar**  
**A Dialogue on How to Spark Clinical Trial and Policy Engagement in Africa**

**Date**  
13 November 2024

**Time**  
09:00 AM ET

[worldpatientsalliance.org](http://worldpatientsalliance.org)

The WPA webinar, "A Dialogue on How to Spark Clinical Trial and Policy Engagement in Africa" took place on November 13, 2024. Experts discussed strategies to improve clinical trial engagement, overcome barriers, and enhance policy frameworks. The session emphasized the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships and community involvement in advancing healthcare innovations. [Read More](#)



**Webinar**  
**Patient Safety Right Charter**

**Date & Time**  
**5 December 2024**  
**9 AM EST**

**Patient Safety**

**World Patients Alliance**  
worldpatientsalliance.org

The banner features a central play button icon and a collage of diverse people, including healthcare professionals and patients, set against a blue and white background with a grid pattern.

The World Health Organization's Patient Safety Rights Charter, launched in September 2023, outlines essential patient rights to ensure safe, accessible, and high-quality healthcare worldwide. Aligned with the Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021–2030, it emphasizes eliminating preventable harm and protecting patients' right to timely, effective, and respectful care. To explore its significance, WPA hosted a webinar on December 5, 2024, at 09:00 ET, providing valuable insights into the Charter's role in advancing patient safety. [Read More](#)



**Webinar:**  
**The Promise of Personalized Medicine**

**29 Jan 2025 09:00 AM EST**

**World Patients Alliance**  
worldpatientsalliance.org

**From Testing to Targeted Treatments**

The banner features a central play button icon and a graphic of a human body with a DNA double helix and pills, set against a blue and white background with a grid pattern.

The WPA webinar, 'The Promise of Personalized Medicine' was held on January 29, 2024, at 09:00 ET. The purpose was advocating for equitable access to personalized medicine to ensure every patient benefits from these groundbreaking advancements. Personalized Medicine is revolutionizing healthcare by customizing treatments based on individual genetics, environment, and lifestyle. [Read More](#)

## Getting to Know the WPA Team



Meet Tom  
Norris

### Tom Norris

Member WPA Advisory Board

Tom Norris is a dedicated facilitator of chronic pain support groups that connect members across the United States. He brings extensive experience to the World Patient Alliance, with twenty-three years in management at all levels in the United States Air Force before his medical retirement, thirty-seven years of lived experience with chronic pain, and twenty-seven years as a chronic pain advocate emphasizing patient empowerment and engagement. Tom is deeply committed to advancing patient involvement in clinical trials, particularly through his active participation in the NIH's Helping to End Addiction Long-Term (HEAL) initiative. [Read More](#)

## Collaborations

### WPA Partnership with University of Kalisz



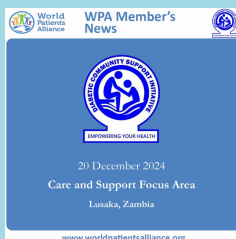
The WPA has partnered with the President Stanisław Wojciechowski University of Kalisz, Poland to improve patient safety and address chronic diseases globally, with an MOU signed on November 22, 2024, by Prof. Andrzej Wojtyła and WPA CEO Hussain Jafri. [Read more](#)

### WPA partnership with European Patient Safety Foundation



The WPA has partnered with the European Patient Safety Foundation (EUSPF) to enhance patient safety and healthcare quality across Europe, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). [Read more](#)

## Members' News



### [Diabetes Care and Support Event](#)

**Diabetic Community Support Initiative (DSCI), Lusaka, Zambia.**

**20th of December 2024**



### [The Premiere of the theatre play "VIRUS"](#)

**The Chronic Viral Hepatitis Patients Association, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**04th of November 2024**

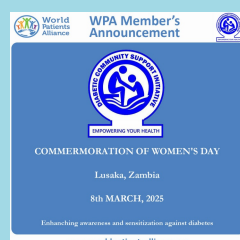


### [Menopause... under CONTROL](#)

**Foro Español de Pacientes, Spain**

**23rd of October 2024**

## Members' Announcement



### [Diabetes Awareness event to commemorate Women's Day in Zambia](#)

**Diabetic Community Support Initiative (DSCI) Lusaka, Zambia**

**8 March 2025**

# Welcoming New WPA Members

WPA is very pleased to welcome our **21 new members**, who have joined the organization in the last three months:

- Colorectal Cancer Survivorship Society Malaysia (CORUM)
- Niola Cancer Care Foundation
- Asociacion Civil Sosten
- DII Brasil - Associação Nacional dos Portadores de Doenças Inflamatórias Intestinais
- The Partnership for Clinical Trial Research is a division of Glycone Healthcare Pty Ltd
- Uganda Community Based Health Care Association (UCBHCA)
- Meremeta Community initiatives organisation
- Organization for Rare Diseases India
- Meningitis Association of South Africa
- European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
- Fortis Hospital Mohali
- Association Pur la Protection des Droits Humains
- Mauritanien nursing association
- Action Group for Health, Human Rights and HIV/AIDS (AGHA)
- kidney alliance Philippines
- Twice the Heart Foundation
- Hellenic Cancer Society
- ANADIS Diabetes Sevilla
- StayWell Suites Charity
- Association des malades de la peau
- Association Pur la Protection des Droits Humains

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