

# ecda

United to reverse the rise in chronic disease

European  
chronic  
disease  
alliance



fighting heart disease  
and stroke  
european heart network



## Our mission

To reverse the alarming rise in chronic diseases by providing leadership and policy recommendations based on contemporary evidence.

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For further information  
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## Chronic Diseases In Europe

Chronic non-communicable diseases account for 86% of deaths in the WHO European Region. They are the number one killer in Europe, as 9 out of 10 people die of a chronic disease. Major chronic diseases include: cancer, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, diabetes, allergies, hypertension, kidney and liver diseases.

In Europe, 77% of the total disease burden (measured in disability-adjusted life year DALYs) is accounted for by chronic diseases and 60% of the disease burden is explained by health risk factors common to all chronic diseases, including tobacco, poor diet, alcohol, lack of physical activity and environmental factors.

In OECD countries, on average, only 3% of total health expenditure goes towards population-wide public prevention and 97% of health expenses are spent on treatment. It is estimated that chronic diseases cost the EU economy € 700 billion annually.

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

**Chronic non-communicable diseases are the number**



**killer in Europe**



**of the total disease burden is accounted for by chronic diseases**



**97% of health expenses are spent on treatment**

**3% of total health expenditure goes towards population-wide public prevention**

## What ECDA does

ECDA plays a leading role in the prevention and reduction of chronic diseases by:

- Providing policy recommendations based on contemporary evidence
- Raising awareness and advocating by engaging with EU policy-makers
- Promoting the development and implementation of a comprehensive EU Framework on Chronic Diseases by 2017
- Developing and publishing position statements and policy papers

## ECDA Policy Priorities

- Primary and secondary prevention related to chronic diseases
- Common risk factors: tobacco use, poor nutrition, physical inactivity, alcohol consumption and environmental factors.

## About ECDA

The European Chronic Disease Alliance (ECDA) is a Brussels-based alliance of eleven European health organisations representing major chronic diseases such as: cancer, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, diabetes, allergies, hypertension, kidney and liver diseases.

Together, ECDA represents millions of patients and over 200,000 health professionals.

In 2010, the alliance's members joined forces to put the case for immediate political action to reverse the alarming rise in chronic diseases which affects over 100 million EU citizens.

ECDA members currently include:

- European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI)
- European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL)
- European CanCer Organisation (ECCO)
- European COPD Coalition (ECC)
- European Heart Network (EHN)
- European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
- European Society of Cardiology (ESC)
- European Society of Hypertension (ESH)
- European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)
- International Diabetes Federation Europe (IDF Europe)