

## EU4Nutrition Stakeholder Group Advocates for Integrated Nutrition in Cancer Care: Informing Policymakers for Better Health Outcomes



Brussels, April 2023.

The EU4Nutrition and EU4Nutrition stakeholder group, today publishes its policy brief **Integrated Nutrition Cancer Care** that will be actively brought to the attention of health policymakers across Europe, ensuring that its important findings and recommendations reach key decision-makers in the field.

Deriving from an initiative of the European Commission to promote discussions about public health issues, the group recently published the scientific article [\*Nutrition care is an integral part of patient-centred medical care: a European consensus\*](#), that stresses the need to listen to patient voices with regards to nutrition and formulate actions to secure integrated nutrition care to all patients with cancer.

The policy brief, based on the key insights of the article, highlights the crucial role that nutrition management plays in the cancer care continuum, emphasizing its impact on clinical outcomes, quality of life, survivorship, and treatment costs.

The first print of the policy brief was officially handed over to John F Ryan, Director of Public Health of the European Commission by Jacqueline Bowman-Busato, EASO Policy Lead and Joost Wesseling, Executive Director of the European Nutrition for Health Alliance.

Mr. Ryan stated: *“The fact that the conclusions have been published in detail in a scientific journal gives credibility and we very much appreciate the efforts to bring consensus between organizations, to reach a common position on such an important topic.*

Alessandro Laviano, associate professor and co-author of the article: *“Even though the importance of nutrition is evident and equitable access to nutritional care is a key condition to reduce complications and comorbidity, maintaining optimal health and quality of life, evidence-based nutrition interventions are still not accessible to all patients with cancer.*

By engaging policymakers through these briefings, the EU4Nutrition Stakeholder Group strives to drive positive change in cancer care policies and practices. By advocating for the integration of nutrition services into cancer care frameworks, policymakers can help improve patient outcomes, enhance quality of life, and pave the way for a more comprehensive and patient-centered approach to cancer treatment in Europe. The briefings facilitated dialogue between policymakers and key stakeholders, including healthcare providers, patient advocacy groups, and researchers, to promote collaboration and the exchange of best practices in integrated nutrition cancer care.

Joost Wesseling, executive director of the European Nutrition for Health Alliance: *We are on a firm mission; our goal is to implement policies for high-quality patient-centered cancer care. We engage many organizations on our journey, believing this can only be accomplished together.”*

*The **EU4Nutrition Stakeholder Group** is a collective of leading organizations and experts dedicated to access to optimal nutrition care for European citizens. Recognizing the critical link between nutrition and cancer care, the group aims to raise awareness and advocate for integrated approaches that prioritize nutritional support throughout the cancer care continuum. In line with this mission, the stakeholder group conducts evidence-based briefings with policymakers to emphasize the importance of integrated nutrition cancer care and promote policy changes to improve patient outcomes.*

### The multi-stakeholder group

