Public Awareness And Communication On Covid-19 Symptoms And Risks

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→ Raising Awareness through Campaigns

Member States, in collaboration with civic and patient organisations, should support raising public awareness about Covid-19-related risks. Communications campaigns should be tailored to different categories of high-risk groups.

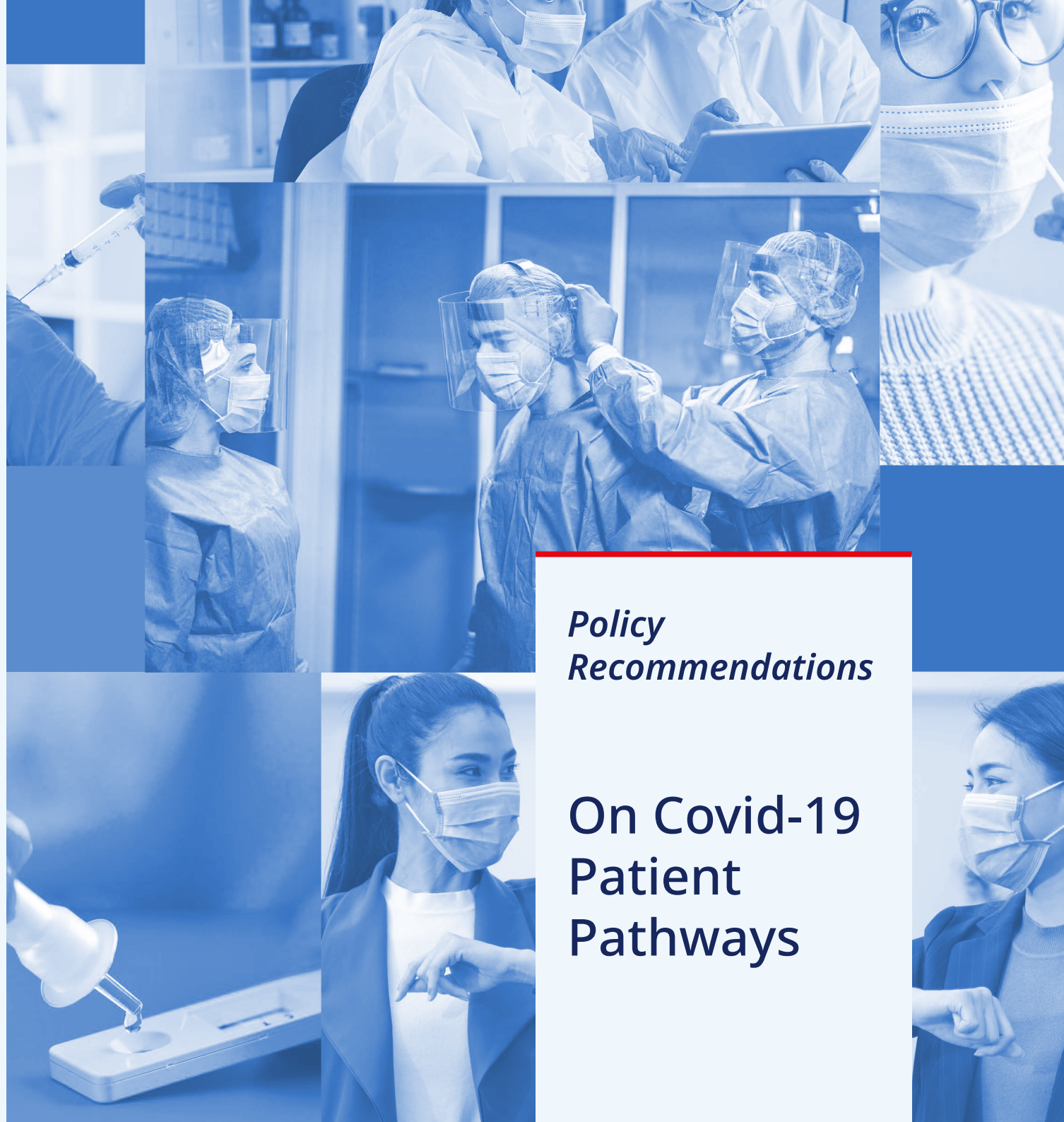### → Supporting Healthcare Professionals' Knowledge Acquisition

Member States, in collaboration with medical societies, should earmark resources to support healthcare professionals' knowledge acquisition of existing COVID-19 treatments.

→ Supporting the Improvement of Communication Skills

To improve the level of patient knowledge about the risks of COVID-19, and overall trust in healthcare, national governments should provide the necessary support to improve communication skills of healthcare professionals.

Policy Recommendations

On Covid-19 Patient Pathways

Transformation Of Health Services Recommendations

→ **Prioritising Investment in eHealth Infrastructure**

To address challenges for COVID-19 patients, including those living in rural or remote areas, Member States should prioritise investment in eHealth infrastructure, including telemedicine, digital health records and health information exchange systems.

→ **Strengthening the Role of Pharmacists**

Member States should consider strengthening the role of pharmacists, considering the high level of trust patients put in them. This would not only improve patients' trust in the overall healthcare system but also would contribute to reducing existent health disparities.

→ **Creating Multidisciplinary and Versatile Medical and Patient Pathways**

To better respond to future eventual health crises, multidisciplinary and versatile medical and patient pathways should be created by Member States to ameliorate the current challenges and barriers that the population face.

Setting Up A Comprehensive Policy Framework Recommendations

→ **Ensuring High-Risk Group Access To Free Covid-19 Testing Kits**

Member States shall put in place measures to ensure that high-risk groups have access to free COVID-19 testing kits.

→ **Keeping Covid-19 At The Forefront Of National Healthcare Policies**

Member States shall ensure that Covid-19 is kept at the forefront of national healthcare policies and adopt adequate health policies to better respond to the challenges of future health crises.

→ **Guaranteeing Equitable Access**

The European Commission's Health Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) should work towards guaranteeing equitable access to COVID-19 treatment. Alongside joint procurement, additional guidelines should be set when it comes to unified guidelines for patient accessibility.

→ **Supporting Research Facilities**

The European Commission, through the development of work programmes of EU funding mechanisms, including Horizon Europe or EU4Health programmes, should further support research facilities in improving COVID-19 prevention, detection, monitoring and treatment, including post-COVID effects.