



## **Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products in Europe: combining sustainability, innovation and respect for patients' rights**

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**Room 3H1 • European Parliament, Brussels**

Organised with the support of:  
the MEPs Interest Group *'European Patients' Rights & Cross-Border Healthcare'*  
and the *TRANSFORM* MEP Interest Group

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### **NEXT STEPS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

By Mariano Votta

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1. we will work to follow up this European Patients' Rights Day with a series of in-depth meetings focused on the topic of patients' right to innovation and access, addressed to leaders of civic and patient associations:
  - a. on the news of the HTA regulation at European level;
  - b. about treatment costs also in the context of "value-based care";
  - c. on the future developments and repercussions of the pharma legislation review;
  - d. on the new frontiers of genomic/genetic testing, also from a patient perspective
2. In light of the significant and unique characteristics of ATMPs, and given the emerging patient knowledge and consciousness that is leading to a growing demand, the National Health Services of each Member State will increasingly face difficult economic and moral choices, with the inevitable consequence of delaying access to these therapies for potential patients and limiting their use to subgroups of patients within the approved indication.  
If, in the long run, a way will not be found to administer advanced therapies to 100% of the eligible population for specific therapeutic indications, we will also face a major ethical

problem: who and on the basis of which reasons will take responsibility for explaining to potential patients that access to treatment is not possible for everyone due to lack of resources? Who will decide the access thresholds and on the basis of which criteria? We believe that it is no longer possible to postpone efforts to facilitate opportunities for discussion between the members of the ethics committees involved in the issues of innovation and access, in the various European countries, in order to map the specific issues they are dealing with and find points of agreement, starting with access criteria and the role of PAGs.

3. In view of the European elections in May 2024, we will publish a document on the public health commitments to be prioritised at European level, also containing a reference to the ATMPs to be addressed to the candidates for the next European Parliament.

Lastly, I have my list of acknowledgements (and now let me thank, as always, those who made this initiative possible)

- Once again, thank you to all the speakers, to our moderator Mariam Zaidi, to our media partners Health Europa and TrendSanità-Policy and Procurement in HealthCare, as well as to all the participants, here in the room and connected remotely (they connected from....)
- As always, thanks to the staff of Active Citizenship Network (Bianca and Daniela), our Events Office and our communications office. Thanks to Anna Lisa, in her first participation at European level since being appointed Secretary General of Cittadinanzattiva.
- Many thanks to MEP Brando Benifei and his colleague Tomislak Sokol.
- Finally, I would like to mention that the event was realised with the unconditional support of:
  - ✓ #VITA - Value and Innovation of Advanced Therapies Coalition (which includes Bristol Myers Squibb, Gilead Sciences, Janssen, Pfizer, PTC Therapeutics, Roche, Vertex);
  - ✓ Boehringer Ingelheim
  - ✓ MSD
  - ✓ Novo Nordisk
  - ✓ Pfizer
  - ✓ Viatris

As always, I would like to remind you that the content of today's conference will be published in our monthly NL.

I greet you by giving you an appointment to tomorrow, still here at the European Parliament, from 10 to 12 we will be hosted by MEP Beatrice Covassi to approach a cross-cutting theme in the various National Health Services throughout Europe, the so-called medical desertification phenomenon, the shortage of health personnel that the pandemic has only exaggerated but which has deeper roots and which undermines, for reasons totally different from those that have emerged today, the right to access to care.

We look forward to welcoming you, have a good evening and see you tomorrow