



**CONFERENCE**

# **PATIENTS' RIGHTS IN EUROPE and CYPRUS**

**20 JUNE 2017  
09:00 - 17:00**

**CYPRUS TURKISH DOCTORS ASSOCIATION. NICOSIA**

## **MANIFESTO**

As the stakeholders united around today's Patients' Rights Conference, we call on the government and decision makers to increase the quality in healthcare sector by drawing attention to these 3 fundamental rights.

- Equal and timely access to reliable diagnoses, treatment and support.
- Better information and resource for patients to become part of healthcare provider team determining their own health.
- Amplifying patients voice so they can be heard in political arenas.

- 1- Patients have the right to equal access to quality healthcare regardless of where they live and their financial situation. We encourage full involvement of patients and / or their relatives in decision making process at all levels, particularly in decisions concerning the health of chronic patients and individuals with disabilities.
- 2- We want to make sure that health policies are in accordance with the patients' real needs, preferences and capabilities. For this reason, we expect patients and their relatives organized under one umbrella roof to be directly included in the policy making by politicians and administration.
- 3- We support the strengthening of primary health care services for the regular and free use of preventive health services for those at risk, such as the poor and the disadvantaged.
- 4- Prevention and control against chronic diseases is only possible by providing scientific research and healthy data. We call on the Government to consider the need for the development of health policies and programs for this purpose and to raise the share of health in the 2018 State Budget to the global standard level.
- 5- We encourage an urgent increase in the healthcare workforce capacity, including community-based health workers, so that we can become a healthy community.
- 6- Patients' opinions are important! We, as individuals using health services at all ages and in all circumstances, have a unique perspective on health care. We are experts in what is good

for us and what does not work. We aspire to guide decision makers on how to provide cost-effective and high quality care.

- 7- As patients with the right to be fully informed in health matters and with the responsibility to manage our own health we support efforts to improve the quality of information given to patients about medical treatments and medicines.
- 8- We encourage the Ministry of Health to ensure that laws protecting patient rights are urgently taken to the Assembly, that units where all complaints be assessed in all institutions that provide health services be established and that specialized human resources will be trained in these units.
- 9- We call on the Government, the members of the Assembly, the decision-makers in political parties and health policies to give priority to the rights and needs of the patients, to make policies for the protection of patient rights, and to adhere to this manifesto.

