



# 5<sup>th</sup> European Patients' Rights Day



## **The new Directive on Cross border health care and Patients' rights**

**Putting Citizens  
at the centre of EU Health Policy**  
April – 11/12 - 2011  
Brussels

**2011  
April  
11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup>  
Brussels**



# What is the purpose of the Directive?



**Based on several legal cases taken by citizens on the subject of access to cross border healthcare in the EU, this Directive seeks to provide sufficient clarity about patients' rights to be reimbursed for healthcare provided in other member states and ensure that the necessary requirements for high-quality, safe and efficient healthcare are ensured for cross-border care.**

**2011  
April  
11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup>  
Brussels**



# Commissioner Dalli's Comment



**2011-January 19<sup>th</sup>**

**EU Commissioner for Health Dalli:**

**“... it is clear that all member states have a duty to invest in their health care systems at home in order to give healthcare to their citizens ...”**

**2011  
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11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup>  
Brussels**



# Commissioner Dalli's Comment



- **“People prefer to be treated close to home which is why there are protests over hospital closures. That said, this directive is welcome in that if people use the rights it affords them, member states will be obliged to pay for healthcare for those on long waiting lists.**
- **“This should force member states to review and improve their health services as they will have to pay the costs of patients going to other member states if they can't get care at home.”**

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# Cross Border Access to Treatment



## The Current Situation: Inequalities in Access to Cancer Treatment in EU



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# Patient's in Eastern Europe



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## Next to Access to optimal treatment, we ask for:



- ➔ **Policies that put patients and their needs at the centre of treatment and care**
- ➔ **Increased information and support services**
- ➔ **Multidisciplinary care from trained professionals**
- ➔ **Reduction in the isolation that characterises the lives of people living with cancer and rare cancers**
- ➔ **Equity in biomedical and clinical research**

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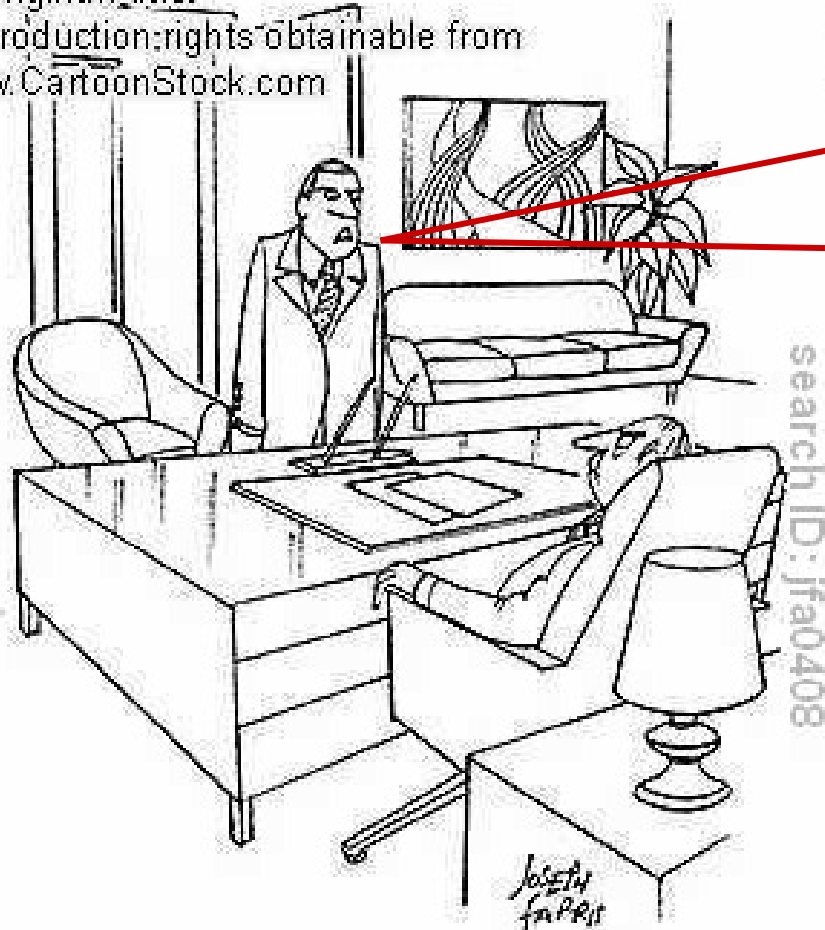




# Patients want to be treated as human beings – MEP'S should fight for it too



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*I'm not asking for a raise, Mr Fuller, but would it be possible for you to treat me as a human being?*

"I'm not asking for a raise, Mr Fuller, but would it be possible for you to treat me as a human being?"

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# Possible Future for Patients?

Currently there is a provision for people to access cross border healthcare, under an EU Regulation 883/2004, This provides for cross border health care to be reimbursed under certain conditions and further details can be obtained.



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# Private or Public Health-Insurance West- or East-European Patient?



MYELOMA  
EURONET



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Brussels



# Patients Rights must become equal all over Europe



**Europe must do health, as citizens and as patients – as carers and as families we need an Europe - where we all have equal access to the best cancer care.**

**Only through comparing and contrasting across Europe - we will ever achieve this.**

**27 different kinds of tunnel vision - will not help. Nor do we have the time to wait!**



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