Members Induction Pack

World Patients Alliance

World Patients Alliance

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Message from the Board Chair

"I am delighted to welcome you as a member of the World Patients Alliance. It takes members like you to make WPA the largest organization representing the voice-of-patients worldwide. We look forward to working with you and are committed to representing patients from all disease areas from all parts of the world. Our goal is to work toward achieving their rights to empowerment, engagement; in high-quality affordable treatments, and ensure patient-centered healthcare.

We are a non-governmental organization representing our core values of respect, care, and inclusiveness of all patients. This guide will provide you with information on how our organization works, what you can expect from us, and what we expect in return from our valued members. I hope you find it helpful.

We encourage all our members to share their ideas and suggestions to ensure that our efforts represent your needs and enhance the lives of patients and their families - efforts that you can feel proud of.

Thank you once again for becoming part of the WPA family."

Andrew Spiegel

Who We Are

2.1 Who we are and what we do

World Patients Alliance is the largest umbrella organization of patients and patients-organizations around the globe. The WPA provides the platform to empower and raise the patients' voice for the provision and access to safe, quality and affordable healthcare. We are patients-advocates striving to influence and/or highlight patient care policies and practices in an attempt to ensure improvements in both optimizing patient experience and awareness.

2.2 Our Mission

Our mission is to be the global voice of patients working toward patient empowerment and engagement, improved access to safe innovative treatment, and patient centered healthcare throughout the world.

2.3 Our Vision

Our vision is that all patients will have access to safe, high quality and affordable healthcare everywhere in the world.

2.4 Our Principles

These are the guiding principles upon which WPA's mission and vision is built:

- Every patient should have access to healthcare that includes timely, effective, affordable, optimal, and innovative treatments for their condition.
- Patients and healthcare providers must work in partnership to ensure the patient's individual specific health needs and desired health outcomes are the focus for all healthcare decisions including physical, emotional, psycho-social, and economic aspects.
- Patients should have health coverage options that provide them with health care while protecting them from financial hardship.
- Patients should be supported and empowered to express their needs, concerns and preferences and provided with the opportunity to have a voice in the decision making of their treatments.
- Patients should be provided with treatments that are safe, high quality and appropriately monitored.
- Stakeholders should ensure patients are educated in understandable and accessible ways about their condition and treatment options. They must be provided with information that is simple, relevant and comprehensive.
- Patients should partner and collaborate with all stakeholders for the provision and access to safe quality, and affordable health care.
- Patients should be supported and provided with the opportunity to be engaged at all levels of decision making concerning their healthcare.
- Patients seeking care must not be discriminated against on the basis of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, income, health status, education, geographic location, legal status or other similar factors.

3.1

Our Team

WPA Founders & Board of Directors

The World Patients Alliance benefits from the expertise and commitment of global leaders in patient advocacy, non-profit management, wellness, and health promotion.

Andrew Spiegel
Chair, ESQ.
Executive
USA

Jolanta Bilinska
Treasurer
Poland

Penney Cowan
Secretary
USA

Regina Kamoga
Director
Uganda

Hussain Jafri
Executive
Director
Pakistan

Karla Ruiz de Castilla
Director
Peru

3.2

WPA

Advisory Board

Our Advisory Board is an elected body of Patients Advocacy Champions from across the world chosen by full members of World Patients Alliance for a term of two years.

Denis Migdalia
USA

Gloria Ekeng
NIGERIA

Vildana Mujkic
BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA

Christiane El-Ferzli
LEBANON

J S Arora
INDIA

Inge Dhamanti
INDONESIA

Greg Lyubomirsky
AUSTRALIA

Janek Kapper
ESTONIA

Ibrahima Madougou Moubarak
NIGER

Mecciya Majrashi
SAUDI ARABIA

Moe A. K. Naing
MYANMAR

Evangelina Vazquez Curiel
MEXICO

"The people have the right and duty to participate individually and collectively in the planning and implementation of their healthcare"

Alma Ata Declaration

(Principle IV, 1978, WHO)

Text

Text

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Membership Benefits

The key benefits of WPA Membership are listed below:

- Connect, network and exchange information with a large number of NGOs, healthcare and patient advocacy organizations from across the globe.
- Influence policies and practices through WPA events, webinars, platforms and interactions with decision makers at key international forums.
- Use WPA resources, toolkits, conferences and workshops for learning and capacity building.
- Apply for WPA exclusive grants and bursaries for campaigns and activities.
- Members of WPA are also entitled to special travel grants, when needed, for participation in WPA organized international events.
- Raise patients' voice and concerns for access to affordable, quality and safe healthcare at the regional and global levels.
- Collaborate and partner with like-minded organizations for a bigger impact.

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Membership Levels

There are two levels of Membership:

- **Full Membership:** Available to qualified Patient Organizations, networks or entities that are substantially engaged in advocating for or providing services for patients.
- **Associate Membership:** Available to high quality organizations (non-patient advocacy), health care organizations (such as hospitals, professional organizations, etc.), companies and networks or entities that support the WPA's objectives and share in accomplishing our mission.
- **Annual Dues:** None at this time.

6.1 WPA Annual Council Meeting

World Patients Alliance during its Annual Council Meeting reviews its progress, welcomes new members, shares agenda-insight, and conducts the in-house elections of its Advisory Board members. In this in-person, virtual or hybrid event, Founding Directors share reports, financial statements and surveys. The most important part of the meeting is the voting of Full Members to elect members of the Advisory Board for a term of two years. All members of World Patients Alliance are invited and advised to attend the Annual Council Meeting.

6.2 Become a WPA Advisory Board Member

The Advisory Board advises and supports the Board of Directors by identifying and understanding issues, developing strategies and implementing action plans to fulfill the missions and goals of the organization. The WPA Member Organizations, including both Full Members and Associate Members, through their authorized representatives can nominate individuals for elections. The nominee must be an official member of the nominating organization.

Six members are elected, each year, in total representing one each for African Region (AFRO), Region of the Americas (PAHO), South East Asian Region (SEARO), European Region (EURO), Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO) and Western Pacific Region (WPRO).

6.3 Become a WPA Steering Committee Member

WPA Steering Committees work closely with the Committee Chairs and assist the Board of Directors in identifying and understanding the issues faced by the patients. Their focus is to; develop a strong patient platform, strengthen the voice of patients for patient empowerment and engagement, improved access to safe innovative treatment to ensure patient-centered healthcare throughout the world.

Steering Committee members are nominated or recommended by members of Board of Directors and members of Advisory Board from different countries and regions of the world.

- **All member organizations are invited and urged to attend Annual Council Meeting.**
- **All eligible members can be nominated for the membership of the Advisory Board.**
- **All members can become members of the Region Steering Committees.**

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Important Links

Our Team

FOUNDING DIRECTORS
ADVISORY BOARD

Events

WPA ANNOUNCEMENTS
WPA ACTIVITIES
WPA NEWS
MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS
MEMBERS NEWS

Online Resources

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*Picture: **1st World Patients Conference** | 15-16 October 2022 | Rome, Italy*

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