

# FROM POLICY TO ACTION

## EASO POLICY STRATEGY 2019 - 2022



### OUR CHALLENGES

To date, obesity has been over simplified by being disregarded as a weight, diet or lifestyle issue creating 3 key challenges:

- 1** Limited recognition and understanding of obesity as a chronic relapsing disease at an EU level
- 2** No national plans for obesity as is the case for other NCDs
- 3** No infrastructure at a systems level to allow obesity to be treated as a chronic disease



### OUR SOLUTION

The EASO policy engagement strategy aims to create a bridge between science and policy.

It is time to correct the narrative and align with the science to ensure whole-system partnerships and policies are put in place that adequately address obesity as a major non-communicable disease at EU and national levels.

### This is why EASO is working to:



Embed a 'root cause' approach to improve understanding of pre-obesity and obesity

Highlight an updated, evidenced narrative of obesity as a chronic disease



Create advocacy capacity from within EASO community and champions

Link EASO scientific work to policy



Engage across stakeholder communities for 'one voice'



### With these actions our overall goal is to enable policy and decision makers to:

- 1** Make obesity treatment, long term clinical management and prevention strategies integral to COVID-19 Recovery Plans and as part of the "new reality"
- 2** Facilitate, at EU level, the development of a harmonised framework of National Plans for obesity, as is the case with other major NCDs
- 3** Facilitate the multi-stakeholder development of holistic guidelines including related key performance indicators
- 4** Prioritise access to, implementation, funding and uptake of innovative obesity prevention and care pathways at all stages of life
- 5** Address inequalities and discrimination in access to obesity care pathways through the review and transformation of health systems and governance surveillance infrastructures
- 6** Establish EU Reference Networks for obesity

[www.easo.org](http://www.easo.org)

 @EASOobesity

#### REFERENCES:

<sup>1</sup>European Commission. Knowledge for policy: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Knowledge Gateway. [online] Available at: [https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/health-promotion-knowledge-gateway/obesity\\_en](https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/health-promotion-knowledge-gateway/obesity_en) [Accessed 2 Aug. 2021].

<sup>2</sup>Frühbeck, G., Toplak, H., Woodward, E., Yumuk, V., Maislos, M. and Oppert, J.-M. (2013). Obesity: The Gateway to Ill Health - an EASO Position Statement on a Rising Public Health, Clinical and Scientific Challenge in Europe. Obesity Facts, 6(2), pp.117-120.

<sup>3</sup>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2019). The Heavy Burden of Obesity. Health Policy Studies. [online] Available at: <https://www.oecd.org/health/the-heavy-burden-of-obesity-67450d67-en.htm> [Accessed 2 Aug. 2021]