

**“Together we have the unique opportunity
to improve the lives of patients around the globe.”**



World Patients Alliance



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WHO WE ARE

The World Patients Alliance (WPA) is a nonprofit umbrella organization of patients, patient organizations and stakeholders from around the globe. The WPA provides the platform to empower and raise the patients' voice for the provision of and access to safe, quality and affordable healthcare.

WPA works to ensure patients have an active role to play in all the stages of healthcare that including planning, provision, monitoring, research and evaluation of health services.

There are no fees for Patient Advocacy Organizations to become members, and our programs and initiatives are at no-cost to our Patient Advocacy Organization members.



WORLD LARGEST PATIENTS' ORGANIZATION ACROSS ALL DISEASE AREAS

707
Member Organizations

138 Countries

WPA Members



Members: 176
Countries: 39



**EUROPEAN
Region**

Europe 176, Americas 150, Africa 218, Asia 137 and Australia 16

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THE URGENCY OF COMBATING MEDICRIME

- Around 1 in 10 medical products in low- and middle-income countries is substandard or falsified (WHO, 2017; 2024).
- Up to 1 million deaths annually, including 450,000 preventable malaria deaths linked to toxic counterfeit medicines (PwC, 2017; Ozawa et al., 2019).
- In some Sahelian region countries, 19–50% of medicines on the market may be substandard or falsified (UNODC, 2023).
- International trade in counterfeit pharmaceuticals reached USD 4.4 billion in 2016 (OECD–EUIPO, 2020).
- MEDICRIME Convention is the first binding criminal law instrument against counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes threatening public health.



EMBEDDING PATIENT VOICES

- Substandard and falsified products undermine trust in health systems consequently hampering collaboration with civil society (WHO, 2024).
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Council of Europe MEDICRIME Convention highlight the need for multi-sector cooperation.
- WHO Patient Safety Report, 2023 stressed the importance of patient engagement, it improves risk detection and system responsiveness.
- Patient participation strengthens accountability and surveillance (OECD, 2023).
- Patient experience provides critical signals on treatment failure and product anomalies (Ozawa et al., 2019).



HOW CAN WPA CONTRIBUTE?

- WPA connects patient organisations from all regions and disease areas, including high-risk settings.
- Focus on safe, quality, and affordable healthcare, including medicine and device safety.
- Active collaborations with stakeholders on safety, quality and ethical clinical practice.
- As member of the WHO Civil Society Commission Steering Committee, actively engaging on medicine safety and access.
- WPA global campaigns on substandard and falsified medical products
- WPA's structures will help translate MEDICRIME principles into practical action.



WORLD PATIENTS' ALLIANCE: THE STRATEGIC CHOICE FOR OBSERVER STATUS

GRANTING WPA OBSERVER STATUS WILL ENABLE:

- The Convention against MEDICRIME to benefit from an experienced and committed patient partner.
- MEDICRIME issues to be highlighted across major global health platforms.
- Greater global awareness among patients and communities, advancing the Convention's objectives.
- WPA's continued commitment to the MEDICRIME Convention and its implementation.



**NOTHING
ABOUT
US
WITHOUT
US**



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