



The European Hematology Association promotes excellence in patient care, research, and education in hematology.

To advance its mission, EHA actively advocates for:

- **greater ACCESS** improved availability and affordability of high-quality treatments
- **boosting RESEARCH** more and better funding opportunities
- **better REGULATION** timely and effective consultation of hematologists

Access to treatment

Access to treatment is an essential element of the human right to health, as enshrined in article 25 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. However, for many patients with blood disorders access is far from optimal. The obstacles are manifold: shortages, high prices, regulatory obstacles and drug-centered rather than patient-centered development and authorization processes.

Urgent action is needed to:

- **Tackle shortages**, amongst others by addressing supply-chain issues, removing barriers to market access, and improving reporting mechanisms
- **Increase the added value of new therapies for patients** by making the development and authorization of new treatments more patient-centered rather than drug-oriented
- **Boost availability of personalized treatments** by adapting clinical trial designs and regulation
- **Improve the accessibility and affordability of treatments** through collaborative and harmonized Health Technology Assessment, price negotiations and reimbursement decisions

More support for hematology research

Hematology research improves the quality of life of patients, reduces the economic cost of blood disorders, and is at the basis of innovative treatments across medical disciplines (including oncology and cardiology). To optimize its potential contribution to enhancing public health in Europe, more EU funding for hematology research is a must.

Horizon Europe, the EU's framework program for research and innovation (2021-2027), should offer:

- **More and better funding opportunities** for hematology research
- Dedicated funding opportunities to address the **unmet research needs** of hematology, as identified in the EHA Research Roadmap [ADD REF]
- **Reduced bureaucratic burden** and advanced-stage rejection rates, in line with researchers' feedback on the implementation of Horizon 2020 [ADD REF]
- **Strengthened governance, harmonization and prioritization** of EU research funding policies, with a structural and substantial role for the scientific medical societies (united in the BioMed Alliance)

Ensure the voice of hematologists is heard on EU legislation and regulation

Timely, structural and substantial involvement of hematologists is needed to make sure the interests of professionals and patients are taken into account by EU policymakers, legislators and regulatory authorities. Expert input is essential for guaranteeing the quality, effectiveness and 'real world applicability' of:

- **The implementation of EU legislation** (e.g. on blood, tissues and cells, recognition and harmonization of professional qualifications, or in-vitro diagnostics)
- **Adaptation of clinical research and market authorization processes** to scientific progress
- The creation of a European mechanism for **collaborative Health Technology Assessment (HTA)**