



Annual Report

2025



**GAfPA**  
Global Alliance for Patient Access



## Introduction

**In 2025, the Global Alliance for Patient Access continued to strengthen patient-centered health policy across five continents, supporting advocacy in a wide range of diseases by identifying unmet needs, raising awareness and engaging policymakers.**

Throughout the year, GAfPA supported global, regional and national stakeholders – including clinicians, patient advocates, policymakers and health system leaders – to ensure that health policy prioritizes achieving optimal outcomes for those living with chronic and complex conditions. By elevating lived experiences and evidence-based solutions, GAfPA worked to bridge gaps between patients and the systems designed to care for them.



### Raising Awareness

From Brazil to Japan, Singapore to Mexico City, GAfPA fostered conversations on the value of remission in chronic inflammatory conditions, strengthened approaches to blood health, the growing burden of cardio-kidney-metabolic conditions, the importance of early intervention in chronic kidney disease and more. Through roundtables, policy papers, summits and webinars, GAfPA helped bring high-impact conditions to the forefront of health policy agendas across the globe.



### Forging New Alliances

In 2025, GAfPA launched the Global Remission Coalition, uniting more than 70 patient advocacy organizations and other stakeholders spanning 5 continents to advance remission-oriented care across a range of chronic inflammatory conditions. GAfPA also continued its work as secretariat of the Global Patient Alliance for Kidney Health, joining 40 patient organizations across the globe to advance policies focused on early diagnosis and care in chronic and rare kidney diseases.



### Bridging Gaps

Leading globally, but advocating at the national level, GAfPA empowered patients, clinicians and advocates to identify access barriers and opportunities for meaningful policy change. Whether when convening advocacy summits in Latin America and in the Asia-Pacific region, producing policy forums at the World Health Assembly, or supporting national advocates in hosting national policy forums and awareness campaigns, one theme remained consistent: sustained innovation and access benefits patients, health care systems and society.

# Digital Impact

Throughout the year, GAfPA spotlighted the benefits of patient-centered care. Metrics from 2025 reflect the commitment of advocates to raising awareness, improving policy and empowering patients to meet today's health care challenges.



**3,985,694**  
IMPRESSIONS



**22**  
EVENTS



**47,674**  
SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS



**383,307**  
ENGAGEMENTS



**2,137,311**  
VIDEO VIEWS



GLOBAL PATIENT ALLIANCE for  
**KIDNEY HEALTH**

**1,715,077**  
IMPRESSIONS

**16,605**  
ENGAGEMENTS

**374,204**  
VIDEO VIEWS

**2,017**  
FOLLOWERS



Global  
Remission  
Coalition

**246,630**  
IMPRESSIONS

**6,944**  
ENGAGEMENTS

**65,424**  
VIDEO VIEWS

**248**  
FOLLOWERS



## Kidney Health



**Chronic kidney disease affects more than 10% of the world's population and is projected to be the world's fifth leading cause of death by 2040.** The need for timely access to early screening and treatment is greater than ever.

This past year, the Global Patient Alliance for Kidney Health, which GAFPA is a Secretariat to, joined together 40 leading patient advocacy organizations to urge policymakers to make kidney health a public health priority through greater access to screening, early-stage diagnosis and treatment. A major milestone was achieved with the adoption of the WHO Kidney Health Resolution, but work remains to be done in national implementation. GloPAKH continues to advocate for inclusion of kidney disease in the political declaration of the UN High Level Meeting on NCDs, and supports its member organizations in producing national policy roundtables in the UK, Mexico and Australia.

GloPAKH also put the spotlight on rare kidney diseases with the release of a policy brief authored by the members of its medical advisory committee, and inclusion of people with lived experience of rare kidney disease in the 2025 cohort of its Expert Patient Advocacy Academy.

## RESOURCES

### Events

- ▶ Alliance for Kidney Health in Mexico Hosts Policy Roundtable
- ▶ Kidney Health Australia Convenes National Policy Roundtable
- ▶ UK Parliament Roundtable
- ▶ Cardiovascular-Kidney-Metabolic (CKM) Diseases Early Diagnosis and Treatment Forum
- ▶ The Pathway to Person-Centered Kidney Care (webinar)
- ▶ Advocating for the WHO Kidney Health Resolution (webinar)
- ▶ Patient Participation in the National Defense of Kidney Health (En Español) (webinar)
- ▶ Outsize Impact: Why Identifying the Cause of Rare Kidney Disease Matters (webinar)

### Policy Papers

- ▶ Outsize Impact: Why Identifying the Cause of Rare Kidney Disease Matters

### Blogs

- ▶ GloPAKH Calls on UN to Prioritize Proactive NCD Prevention Strategies and Vigilance Through Screening and Case Finding
- ▶ On World Kidney Day, Make the Change for Kidney Health
- ▶ In Europe, Growing Momentum for Kidney Health Screening
- ▶ New Evidence Reinforces the Importance of Early Detection of CKD Patients



# Cardio-Kidney-Metabolic Conditions

## Cardio-Kidney-Metabolic (CKM) conditions are a growing public health crisis.

Cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease and type 2 diabetes are the world's most prevalent and interconnected noncommunicable diseases. By prioritizing prevention and early detection in primary care, strengthening collaboration across specialties and ensuring timely access to treatment, health systems and policymakers can better address shared risk factors and reduce the rising burden of CKD conditions.

In 2025, GAfPA joined with co-conveners to launch the [CKM Policy Forum](#). The forum serves as a platform to raise awareness, share advocacy resources and highlight the benefits of prevention, early diagnosis and holistic treatment at the point of primary and community care.

In May, GAfPA joined with its co-conveners to host the CKM Early Diagnosis and Treatment Forum in Geneva alongside the 78th World Health Assembly. There, policymakers, patients and clinicians made a clear call to action: Don't wait until it's too late. Strengthening screening at the primary care level and adopting coordinated care models will help reduce the burden of CKM conditions on patients and health systems.



Cardiovascular-Kidney-Metabolic Diseases  
Early Diagnosis & Treatment Forum

## RESOURCES

 Events

## ► Cardiovascular-Kidney-Metabolic (CKM) Diseases Early Diagnosis and Treatment Forum

## Articles & Blogs

- ▶ Opinion: The time to prioritize early and integrated CKM care is now
- ▶ World Diabetes Day: Supporting the Whole Patient

 Videos

## ► Manifesto Video



**Con fiducia  
di fronte al medico...**

**Insieme per gestire  
al meglio il colesterolo**



## Cholesterol Management



**High cholesterol is a key risk factor for heart disease.** This year, the European Alliance for Patient Access joined with Mended Hearts Europe and five leading Italian scientific societies to launch “Lower Cholesterol,” a national campaign in Italy to raise awareness and promote management of cholesterol levels. Unmanaged high LDL cholesterol results in millions of people in Italy having an increased risk of heart attack and stroke, with a greater impact on women.

The “Lower Cholesterol” campaign was built entirely in Italian and was created with the aim of raising awareness about the need to prioritize prevention, early detection, and treatment of high cholesterol. It supports Italians at all stages of the process and reaches citizens through the main social platforms, national media and specific initiatives promoted by the project partners.

### RESOURCES

#### **Campaign** (in italiano)

- ▶ Lower Cholesterol Website

#### **Infographics** (in italiano)

- ▶ Keep your cholesterol levels under control to protect your heart
- ▶ Lifestyle, habits and therapies
- ▶ What to ask at the doctor’s office
- ▶ Cholesterol management: Practical guide for clinicians

#### **Videos** (in italiano)

- ▶ Raise your defenses and protect your heart
- ▶ Clinicians’ Perspectives



## Inflammation



Global  
Remission  
Coalition

**In 2025, GAfPA came together with more than 70 advocacy organizations to establish the Global Remission Coalition. The GRC raises awareness about the value of the pursuit of remission for patients with chronic inflammatory conditions.**

Remission, usually described by patients as the absence of disease signs and symptoms, is possible for many people living with chronic inflammatory conditions, yet too often remains out of reach. GAfPA continues to champion policies and practices that prioritize remission as a treatment goal worldwide.

Over the past year, GAfPA and the GRC convened two international advocacy summits in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Fukuoka, Japan, bringing together advocates from dermatology, inflammatory bowel disease and rheumatology. Each summit produced a detailed advocacy report capturing the discussion, challenges and a practical framework to accelerate remission-oriented care.

The GRC also led a comprehensive World Arthritis Day campaign on October 12, introducing a webpage with educational resources – including blog posts, one-pagers, a webinar and a global digital campaign spotlighting the pursuit of remission across the world. The campaign elevated materials from partner organizations, amplifying a unified message: remission should be a goal for every inflammatory disease patient.

## RESOURCES

### Events

- ▶ 2025 Latin America Summit on Chronic Inflammatory Conditions
- ▶ 2025 Asia-Pacific Advocacy Summit on Chronic Inflammatory Conditions
- ▶ The Pursuit is On: GAfPA Launches the Global Remission Coalition
- ▶ The Pursuit of Remission and Improved Quality of Life in axSpA (webinar)
- ▶ The Road Forward: Patients' Experiences Before and After Remission (webinar)
- ▶ Advocating for Remission Across the Globe on World Arthritis Day (webinar)

### Papers

- ▶ Building Stronger Conversations: How to Talk About Rheumatoid Arthritis Care
- ▶ The Burden of Inflammatory Rheumatic Conditions
- ▶ Fact Sheet: Treatment Options for Patients with Inflammatory Rheumatic Conditions
- ▶ Pursuing Remission in Latin America / Europe / Asia-Pacific Region

### Articles & Blogs

- ▶ Opinion: The pursuit of remission – from possibility to priority
- ▶ Not Just Skin Deep: Recognizing World Psoriasis Day
- ▶ UK Announces New Pathway to Promote Early Support for Patient with Chronic Conditions
- ▶ World Arthritis Day: Making a Joint Commitment

### Podcasts & Videos

- ▶ Neil Betteridge's Story: The Pioneering Patient Podcast
- ▶ The Road to Remission with Neil Betteridge
- ▶ Pursuing Remission Across the Globe



## Inflammatory Bowel Disease

**Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is one of the fastest-growing chronic health challenges worldwide.** Despite millions of people living with IBD, many only receive proper care after symptoms worsen. This reactive approach comes at a high price for both patients and society.

In September, GAFPA released a consensus statement entitled “Removing Barriers for Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients in the Asia-Pacific Region.” Developed by several regional stakeholders, the statement calls on health systems to shift the paradigm from reactive care to proactive management by:

- Investing in early diagnostics, such as biomarker testing, that can enable earlier detection and personalized treatment.
- Ensuring equitable access to treatment through streamlined reimbursement pathways for biologic therapies.
- Empowering patients with education on recognizing symptoms before serious intervention is required.
- Fostering multidisciplinary, patient-centered care by encouraging collaboration among gastroenterologists, surgeons, radiologists and nurse specialists.

In the consensus statement, the stakeholders noted that the price of delayed IBD treatment is far greater than the cost of early intervention. If health care systems prioritize timely, high-quality care, they can not only save money but also transform outcomes and preserve patients’ health and quality of life.

### RESOURCES

#### Statements

- ▶ Statement of Consensus: Removing Barriers for Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients in the Asia-Pacific Region
  - China: 共识声明: 为亚太地区炎症性肠病患者消除障碍
  - Korea: 합의문: 아시아 태평양 지역 염증성 장질환 환자의 장벽 해소
  - Japan: コンセンサスメント: アジア太平洋地域の 炎症性腸疾患者に とつての障壁の排除
  - Taiwan: 識聲明 為亞太地區發炎性腸道疾病患者消除障礙

#### Articles

- ▶ Opinion: Breaking down barriers to IBD care in the Asia-Pacific region
- ▶ Global Paradigm Shift in IBD Care: A Roadmap for Strategic Policies and a Framework to Strengthen Early Intervention in Asia-Pacific



## Blood Health

**With 25% of the global population suffering from anemia, blood health remains a critical – yet often neglected – public health priority.** GAfPA continues to urge health systems to recognize the burden of blood conditions, especially for individuals living with chronic conditions, and to implement patient blood management (PBM) – an evidence-based approach that protects and manages a patient's own blood throughout care.

Building on the WHO's guidance, GAfPA raised awareness and developed advocacy resources to promote prioritization of blood health and the implementation of patient blood management by health care systems. Implementing PBM health systems can improve outcomes for millions of patients and save billions in health care costs related to blood loss and transfusions. In 2025, GAfPA participated in a Blood Health forum at the European Parliament and convened chronic conditions stakeholders to raise awareness of the recent WHO guidance on PBM and identify unmet needs in blood health.

In December, GloPAKH hosted an advocacy roundtable in Brussels where European stakeholders gathered to identify unmet needs in the blood health of people living with chronic conditions. The meeting served to establish a consensus that, through raising awareness about the burden of anemia—and advocating for solutions that overcome barriers to PBM implementation—both patients and health systems can benefit.

### RESOURCES

#### Events

- ▶ Blood Health Gains Visibility on the EU Policy Agenda
- ▶ GAfPA Convenes Advocates for Blood Health
- ▶ GAfPA Convenes Blood Health Stakeholder Roundtable
- ▶ Empowering Patients & Health Care Advocates (webinar)

#### Articles & Blogs

- ▶ Opinion: Every drop counts – the importance of patient blood management
- ▶ Reimagining Blood Management for a Healthier Future
- ▶ The Gender Gap in Anemia: A Call for Improved Blood Management
- ▶ Recognizing the Importance of Blood Health on World AIDS Day



## Respiratory Health

**One of the most common risks for all infants is respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV. For some, it can be mild, with cold and flu-like symptoms. But for others, RSV poses serious health risks.**

Over the past year, GAfPA has convened stakeholders in Brazil, Mexico and Portugal to discuss the burden and impact RSV has on infants, and how raising awareness can improve access to prevention and improve patient outcomes. In Brazil, GAfPA brought together both RSV and COPD experts from Mexico and Latin America for a day-long workshop on advocacy, where attendees practiced and refined their communication and advocacy skills through various interactive sessions. In Lisbon, GAfPA hosted an advocacy workshop for RSV and pneumococcal disease experts, helping bridge the gap between science and policymakers for better health outcomes, including access to immunization and prevention of respiratory diseases.

GAfPA also supported Brazilian stakeholders to develop an RSV awareness campaign, including resources in Portuguese on the signs and symptoms of RSV and how to best prevent the disease.

### RESOURCES

#### **Infographics em português**

- ▶ RSV: A Risk to Children
- ▶ RSV: How to Prevent?
- ▶ RSV: Signs & Symptoms
- ▶ RSV: Did You Know?

#### **Videos em português**

- ▶ What is RSV? – Brazil Campaign
- ▶ Larissa's RSV Story – Brazil Campaign



## Workshop #2 Solutions for National Policymakers to Prioritize Education, Screening and Treatment for Pregnant Women and Newborns

Susan Hepworth

NATIONAL COLLEGE  
of Endocrinologists

GAFPA  
Global Alliance for Patient Access

Strategic:

## Thyroid Health

**Hypothyroidism develops when the thyroid does not produce enough hormones to meet the body's needs, interfering with many essential functions like breathing, heart rate and digestion.** Women and children

bear a disproportionate burden, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, where prevalence is nearly three times higher than the rest of the world.

In February, the Global Alliance for Patient Access co-hosted a roundtable meeting in Singapore to explore the burden and impact of hypothyroidism on maternal and infant health in the Asia-Pacific region. Clinicians and patient advocates joined to discuss access barriers, the need for greater education and awareness about thyroid disease, access to timely diagnosis and the need for prioritization of thyroid health by policymakers.

### RESOURCES

#### Reports

- ▶ Impact and Burden of Thyroid Disease in the Asia-Pacific Region

#### Blogs

- ▶ Recap: Thyroid Advocates Convene in Singapore to Explore Impact on Maternal and Infant Health



## Moving Forward

**Every patient—across disease states, across the world—deserves to be heard and feel supported.**

In 2026, GAfPA will continue advocating for policies that put patients at the center of care. Building on the alliances, insights and momentum of 2025, GAfPA will work alongside advocates, clinicians and policymakers to raise awareness about the value of screening, early disease stage diagnosis and access to timely treatment.

In the year ahead, GAfPA looks forward to deepening partnerships, increasing awareness and driving progress toward a future where every patient can achieve an optimal outcome.



### **About the Global Alliance for Patient Access**

The Global Alliance for Patient Access is an international platform for health care providers and patient advocates to inform policy dialogue about patient-centered care.

**GAfPA.org**

