



PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 26 March 2020

As Europe is now the most impacted continent of the COVID-19 disease, the European Hospital and Healthcare Federation would like to reiterate its support to the hospital and healthcare services professionals and express our admiration for their commitment and courage. Our warm thoughts are also with patients and relatives.

Following attentively for the last months the situation in China, warned first late February by the shortages of medical devices produced in China, HOPE has developed a systematic exchange of information and knowledge.

Contacts were made with the WHO Regional Office for Europe on the preparation of hospitals. Together with other European stakeholders HOPE has also addressed the European Commission to welcome efforts and measures taken to get out of the crisis.

European countries are at different stages, some of high emergency at hospital level, other still getting limited number of patients but things are changing fast, in waves.

Feedbacks from HOPE members are providing first lessons. The WHO rightly reminded all of us to get facts, not rumours, misinformation, out-dated information or commercial interest. This is why we preferred to limit information on our website. We advise to follow information provided by public authorities in national languages.

A second major element is the importance of a comprehensive approach that integrates all components of social and health care, from home care, primary care and hospital care connection of health system and social home care. To avoid putting hospitals in deadlock measures at community level, social and long-term care institutions are important to avoid the transmission of SARS-CoV-2.

Tremendous work is done at all level by professionals in home care, in social and healthcare and hospital settings. We are very proud of our professionals.

Eva WEINREICH-JENSEN
President

Pascal GAREL
Chief Executive