



**TOWARDS HIGHER PATIENT SAFETY IN EUROPEAN HOSPITALS.  
Innovation in Hygiene and Sanification To Reduce Healthcare Associated Infections and  
Antimicrobial Resistance**

5 February 2019  
10.00 -12.00 European Parliament

Mariano Votta, Director Active Citizenship Network

**Closing Remarks**

- Long and constant commitment;
- Responsible engagement of the whole healthcare supply chain;
- A zero-tolerance approach to infections so as to guarantee a continuity of safe care, not just in the hospitalization context;
- Ability to value the best in terms of commitment, innovation, potential solutions, etc. that comes from the public sector as well as from the private one, without neglecting the support that civic associationism and advocacy groups can provide each time that they are identified as relevant stakeholder.

These are some proposals for a concrete follow up of this meeting and our commitment on the topic:

1. In the framework of the EU Health Policy Platform, we encourage the DG Santé to dedicate one of the Annual EU Health Awards to NGOs committed to increase patient safety and to prevent healthcare-associated infections.
2. Presenting a selection of best practices promoted by both the private sector, as the one presented today, and by citizen & patient organizations active in this field, in the framework of the networks chaired by the EU commission and ECDC such as:
  - EU AMR One-Health Network, (government experts on human and animal health, EU scientific agencies such as ECDC, EMA, and EFSA, and Commission's experts)
  - Healthcare-Associated Infections Surveillance Network (HAI-Net)
  - European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network (EARS-Net)
3. On January 28th, Public Health England (PHE) launched a new multilingual survey, funded by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), which aims at understanding the knowledge and perceptions of European healthcare workers about antibiotic usage and resistance. We'd like to extend the same survey to the leaders of patients' organizations and advocacy groups.
4. To promote a citizens' awareness campaign to be launched in occasion of the European Antibiotic Awareness Day in order to spread the messages on the risks associated with the inappropriate use of antibiotics and how to take antibiotics responsibly.

To conclude,

- I would like to thank Copma, the staff of ACN, and our new media partner: The Journal “Advances in Health and Behavior”
- We will soon send out our newsletter, comprehensive of all the documents and output of this meeting.
- We hope to see you all at the European Patients’ Day, which will take place in April here at the EU Parliament.