



Social support for people with dementia and their carers in Europe

Jean GEORGES

Brussels, 6 November 2007



Agenda

- 1. European Collaboration on Dementia**
- 2. Impact on carers**
- 3. Availability and use of services**
- 4. Social support systems**
- 5. Reimbursement of anti-dementia drugs in Europe**
- 6. Preliminary conclusions**



European Collaboration on Dementia (I)

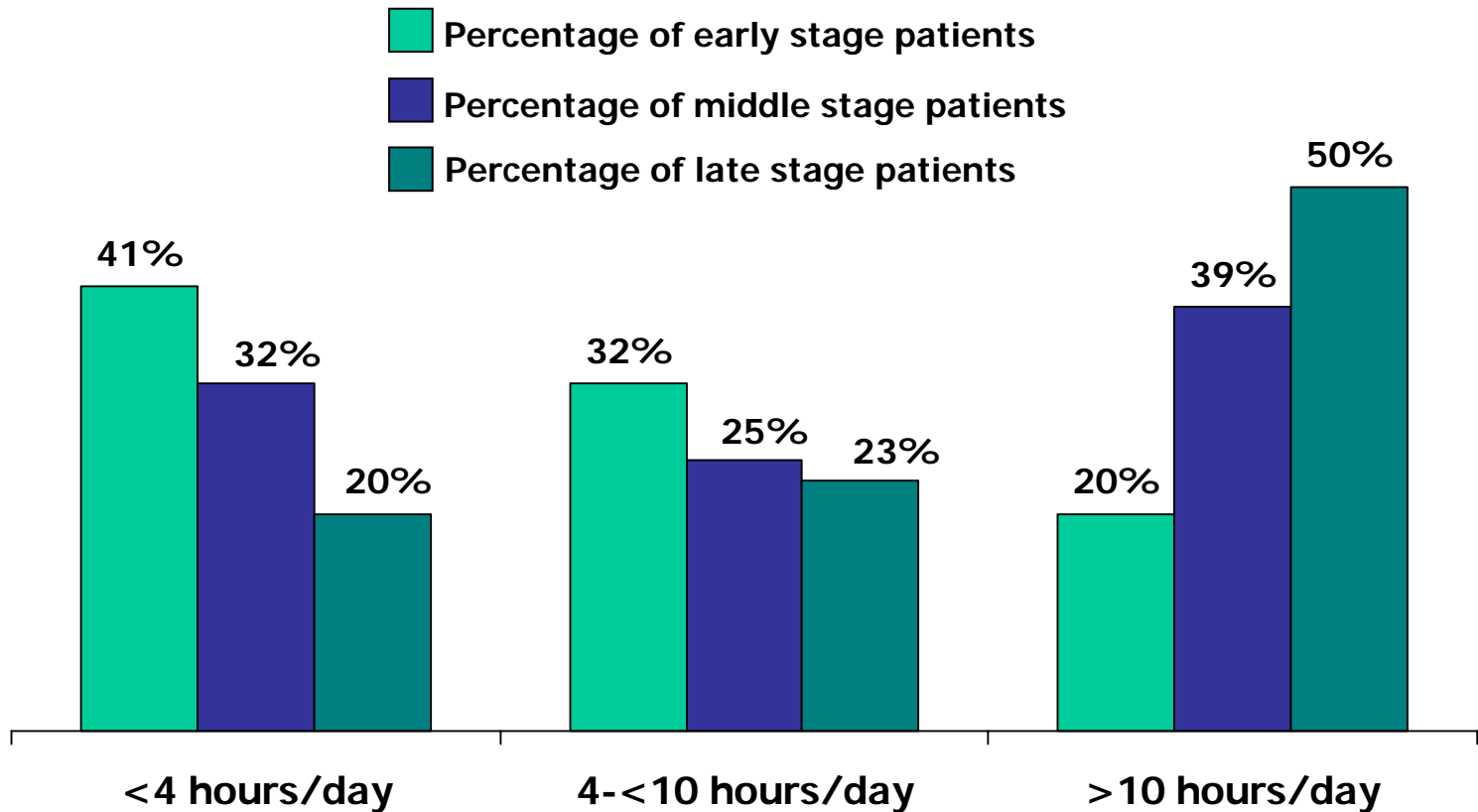
- **European network**
 - Alzheimer Europe
 - European Alzheimer's Disease Consortium
 - European Association of Geriatric Psychiatry
 - European Federation of Neurological Societies
 - Interdem
 - International Association of Gerontology – European Region
 - North Sea Dementia Research Network



European Collaboration on Dementia (II)

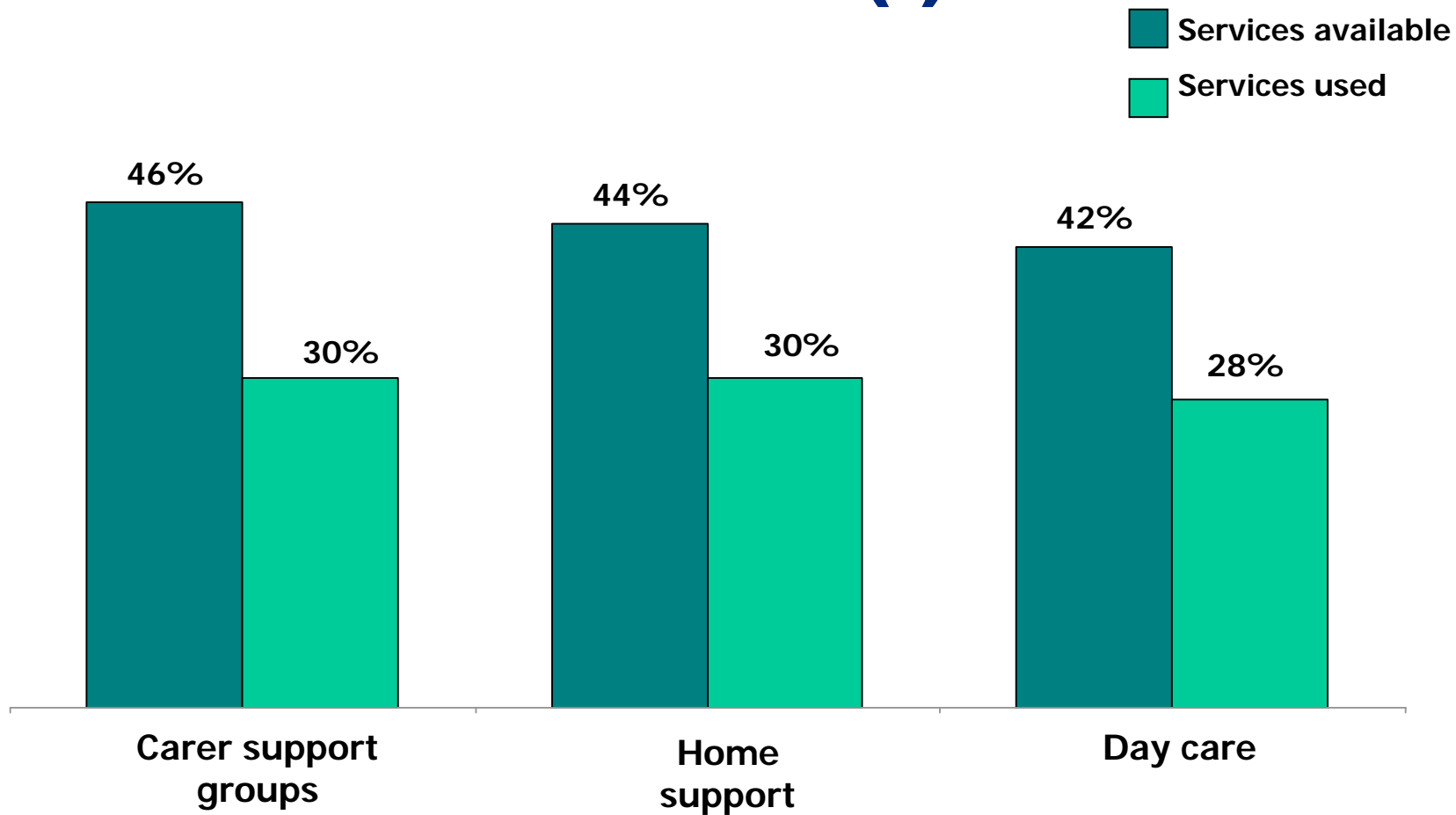
- **Research network**
 - Prevalence of dementia
 - Guidelines on Diagnosis and Treatment
 - Psycho-social interventions in dementia
 - Prevention of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia
 - Socio-economic impact of dementia

The impact on carers: Hours per day caring for person with dementia



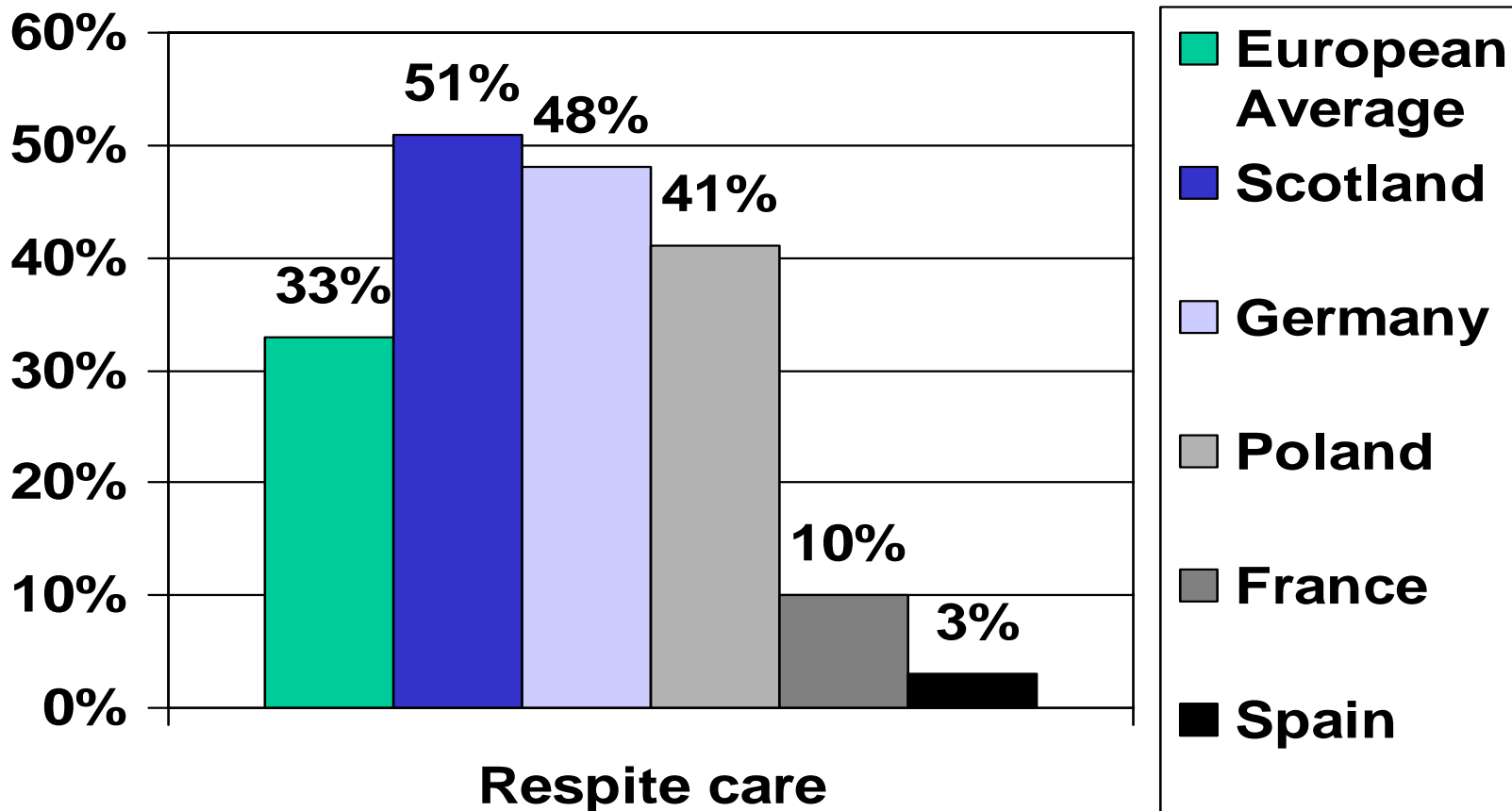
Alzheimer Europe (2006): Who cares? The state of dementia care in Europe

Availability and use of services (I)



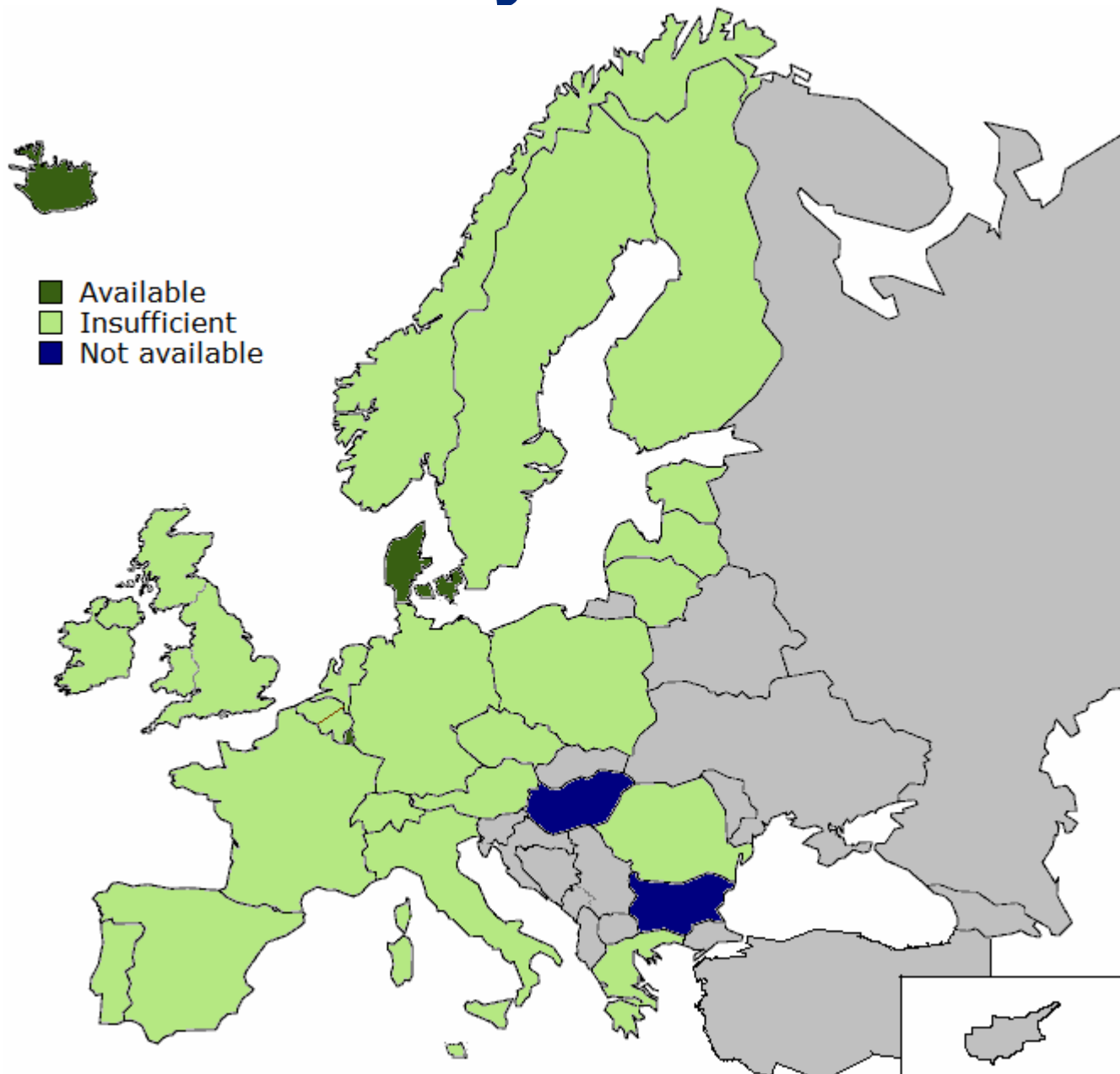
Alzheimer Europe (2006): Who cares? The state of dementia care in Europe

Availability and use of services (II)



Alzheimer Europe (2006): Who cares? The state of dementia care in Europe

Day care





Payment for services

- **Significant government support: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, UK (Scotland)**
- **Long-term care insurance: Germany, Luxembourg**
- **Care allowances: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, UK (England)**
- **Largely financed by service users: Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Malta, Romania**



Employment benefits

- **Paid leave for carers: Belgium, Denmark, France, Hungary, Italy (3 days/month), Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Spain**
- **Unpaid leave for care: France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Spain, UK**
- **Unpaid leave for care of the dying: Austria, Switzerland**
- **Flexible working hours: Estonia, Netherlands**
- **Social security payments for carers: Luxembourg**
- **No provisions: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Latvia, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, UK**

Reimbursed anti-dementia drugs

Country	Donepezil	Rivastigmine	Galantamine	Memantine
Belgium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bulgaria				
France	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Greece	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Italy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Latvia				
Luxembourg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Malta				
Netherlands		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Poland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Switzerland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
United Kingdom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Alzheimer Europe (2006): Dementia in Europe Yearbook

Reimbursement restrictions

Country	Prescription	Diagnosis	MMSE (ACHI)	MMSE (Memantine)
Belgium	Specialists	Protocol	> 10	15-0
Czech Republic	Specialists	None	20-13	16-6
France	Specialists	None	26-10	15-0
Germany	Any	None	None	None
Italy	Alzheimer Evaluation Unit	Protocol	26-10	☒
Luxembourg	Any	Protocol	26-10	15-0
Netherlands	Specialists	Protocol	26-10	14-3
Poland	Any	None	26-10	☒
Slovenia	Specialists	None	26-10	26-10
Switzerland	Any	None	> 10	> 3

R.C. Oude Voshaar et. Al. Alarming arbitrariness in EU prescription and reimbursement criteria for anti-dementia drugs, *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry*; 2006; 21: 29-31



Some preliminary conclusions

- **Inequalities of access persist**
 - Differences between countries
 - Regional variations within countries
- **Fragmentation of social support provision**
 - Various government departments (health, social affairs, social security, employment)
 - Responsibility on federal, regional and local level
 - Public, private and NGO run services
- **Lack of specialisation**
 - General services for people with disabilities or the elderly
 - Lack of training of care personnel in dementia specific care

For more information

www.alzheimer-europe.org

www.dementia-in-europe.eu



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Alzheimer Europe website. The header features the Alzheimer Europe logo on the left and the text "Dementia in Europe" with the tagline "Making dementia a public health priority" on the right. A language dropdown menu is set to "English". Below the header, there is a navigation menu with links to "HOME", "Our Campaign Priorities", "Support our Campaign", "Prevalence of Dementia", "Availability of anti-dementia Drugs", "Home Care in Europe", and "Alzheimer Europe Press Releases". The main content area is titled "Making Dementia a Public Health priority" and contains several paragraphs of text. On the right side, there is a search bar, a "Download" section with links to campaign priorities in English, French, and Czech, a "Links" section with a link to "Alzheimer Europe", and a "Services" section with a link to "Support our campaign".

alzheimer europe

Dementia in Europe
Making dementia a public health priority

English

HOME

Stenap

Search

Search

Download

Campaign priorities in English

Campaign priorities in French

Campaign priorities in Czech

Links

Alzheimer Europe

Services

Support our campaign

Making Dementia a Public Health priority

This new website of Alzheimer Europe is dedicated to the public health impact of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia in Europe. On this website, you will find the Paris Declaration on the political priorities of the European Alzheimer movement. This document was adopted unanimously at the Annual Meeting of Alzheimer Europe in Paris in June 2006 and is a veritable call for action on European policy makers to give dementia the public health priority it so justly deserves.

We are particularly proud of the fact that Philippe Bas, Minister for Social Affairs and the Elderly in France gave his personal support and that of the French government to our initiative. At the launch of our Declaration in the European Parliament on 7 November, we were furthermore able to gather the support of a number of key Members of the European Parliament.

A full list of policy makers, associations and individuals who support our call for action can be found on our website and we invite anyone with an interest in Alzheimer's disease or dementia to pledge your support to our campaign online.

As a resource to the visitors to this website, we also provide information on the prevalence of dementia, the reimbursement of anti-dementia drugs and the provision of home care in 31 European countries. Finally, we will pay close attention to policy developments in Europe and report on them on this website.

We sincerely hope that this website will become an essential tool for policy makers, journalists and researchers interested in dementia and that together we will make dementia a public health priority.