



On 27 April 2013 the CPME Board reaffirmed the 'CPME Statement on the Situation of Healthcare in Greece' adopted in November 2012 (CPME 2012/176 FINAL)

CPME Statement on the Situation of Healthcare in Greece

The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) represents national medical associations across Europe. We are committed to contributing the medical profession's point of view to EU and European policy-making through pro-active cooperation on a wide range of health and healthcare related issues.

- *We believe the best possible quality of health and access to healthcare should be a reality for everyone. To achieve this, CPME promotes the highest level of medical training and practice, the safe mobility of physicians and patients, lawful and supportive working conditions for physicians and the provision of evidence-based, ethical and equitable healthcare services. We offer support to those working towards these objectives whenever needed.*
- *We see the patient-doctor relationship as fundamental in achieving these objectives and are committed to ensuring its trust and confidentiality are protected while the relationship evolves with healthcare systems. Patient safety and quality of care are central to our policies.*
- *We strongly advocate a 'health in all policies' approach to encourage cross-sectoral awareness for and action on the determinants of health, to prevent disease and promote good health across society.*

CPME's policies are shaped through the expertise provided by our membership of national medical associations, representing physicians across all medical specialties all over Europe and creating a dialogue between the national and European dimensions of health and healthcare.

The Board of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME), representing national medical associations across Europe, was deeply concerned to learn from the Panhellenic Medical Association of policy developments which threaten to impair the quality of healthcare in Greece.

In full awareness of the economic and societal challenges posed by the economic restraints which Greece currently faces, we appeal to the Greek government:

- To ensure that the access to and prescription of medicines is supported by a regulatory framework which puts evidence-based effectiveness and patient safety at the heart of pharmacological treatment. The medical profession should be fully involved in the creation of this regulatory framework.
- To acknowledge that the establishment and operation of healthcare entities cannot be equated to that of purely commercial bodies and must therefore be regulated in full respect of professional regulations in order to protect patient safety and quality of care.

- To safeguard the best possible quality and availability of healthcare services by ensuring lawful and sustainable working conditions for healthcare professionals, including appropriate remuneration, as agreed with the representative organisations of the profession.
- To safeguard the functionality of technological support facilities, such as ePrescriptions, and the availability of clinical supplies to allow for optimal patient care. The active participation and involvement of the medical profession in achieving these conditions should be guaranteed.