

## CALL FOR OBESITY TO BE INCLUDED AS A NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE IN THE EU4HEALTH PROGRAMME



### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Six MEPs have joined 38 different organisations (all major health policy stakeholders in Europe) in calling on the EU4Health programme to recognise that positioning obesity as a risk factor on par with tobacco and alcohol fuels the societal idea that obesity is a lifestyle choice

### WHY ARE WE CONCERNED?

The European Commission correctly categorised obesity as a medical vulnerability and the latest Foresight Report in September 2020 **specifically prioritises obesity alongside cancer** as the two non-communicable diseases that should take top priority in the coming period



### IS THIS A NEW IDEA?

Actually, no. The World Health Organisation has long since recognised obesity as a disease. Portugal, Turkey, the Netherlands, Italy and Germany also recognise it as a chronic disease

### WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL IT MAKE?

Treating obesity as a non-communicable disease **saves lives**. It will also play an important role in the **overall recovery** of the EU as part of our new reality after COVID-19



### ALIGNING WITH THE SCIENCE

We simply ask that the European Council aligns with the European Commission, The European Parliament and the scientific community by categorising obesity as a chronic, relapsing disease

<https://woday.eu/news/meps-call-for-obesity-to-be-included-as-a-non-communicable-disease-in-the-eu4health-programme/>



#EU4HEALTH  
#FOLLOWTHESCIENCE