

Oral statement from IDF Europe to agenda item 9: A strategy on harnessing innovation for public health in the WHO European Region 2025–2030

Seventy-fifth Regional Committee for Europe: Copenhagen, 28–30 October 2025

Chair, distinguished delegates,

The International Diabetes Federation Europe, representing the voice of people living with diabetes across the WHO European Region, supports the strategy on harnessing innovation for public health.

For people living with diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases, many unmet needs persist, across diabetes prevention, management, with the ultimate unmet being that of a cure. Innovations in all its forms, including technological, clinical, and organisational, have already shown their potential in transforming lives and improving health outcomes, as seen with advances such as continuous glucose monitors, automated insulin delivery systems and integrated models of care.

However, the benefits of such innovations are not reaching everyone equally. Ensuring equitable access and uptake across all populations in the Region will be essential if the strategy is to deliver on its promise and avoid widening existing health gaps.

Equally, innovation must be co-created with those it seeks to serve. The meaningful engagement of people with lived experience, including youth voices, in the development, implementation and evaluation of all innovations is vital to ensure that solutions are relevant, acceptable and equitable.

By combining a coordinated vision of WHO-E on addressing NCD's, innovation with equitable access, and meaningful involvement of people with lived experience, this strategy can help us move closer to achieving better health for all, leaving no person with diabetes, or at risk, behind.

Thank you.