

World Health Day 2023



UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

30% of the global population is **not able to access essential health services.**

"The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being [...]" (WHO Constitution)



People living with diabetes (PwD) face **inequalities in access** to diagnosis, care, education, medicines, supplies, technologies, and screening. This is **detrimental to the good management of the condition, including the prevention of life-altering complications.**

ACCESS TO MEDICINES AND VACCINES

Every year, vaccine immunisation prevents **3.5 to 5m deaths**

WHO has played a pioneering role in introducing **new vaccines** to prevent diseases and **new medicines** to meet healthcare needs.



For PwD, **uninterrupted access to insulin and other diabetes medicines** as well as supplies and technologies for blood glucose monitoring and insulin administration is crucial.

PwD should be provided with free or affordable access to all recommended vaccines as they are at a **higher risk of complications from many preventable diseases** than the general population.

DIGITALISATION OF HEALTH

Virtual care, remote monitoring, artificial intelligence, smart wearables and platforms and tools enabling data exchange are contributing to improving, among others, medical diagnosis, data-based treatment decisions, clinical trials, self-management and person-centred care.



The introduction of **digital tools** such as apps, online platforms and telemedicine as well as **new technologies** such as insulin pumps (1979) and CGMs (1999) has drastically **improved the treatment and management of diabetes** and, in turn, PwD's quality of life.

However, many innovative tools and technologies still remain inaccessible to some, leading to worse health outcomes for some PwD.

HEALTHCARE WORKERS

By 2030, WHO estimates a shortfall of **10m health workers**

"Workforce 2030" is WHO's global strategy on human resources for health which, **between 2016 and 2020**, has led to a **nearly 30% increase in health workforce.**



The vast majority of people living with type 2 diabetes are managed in the primary care system.

An under-resourced, underfunded and understaffed primary care system is a major obstacle to effective diabetes prevention and management and contributes directly to a care deficit and higher disease burden for PwD.

NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

74% of all deaths worldwide are due to **NCDs** such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases.

Ensuring **access to treatment and care** and **reducing modifiable risk factors** are key to prevent NCDs and premature mortality.



In Europe, **61m people live with diabetes**, and this is forecast to increase to 67m by 2030. Diabetes is the **root cause of several NCDs**, with **CVD accounting for up to half of all diabetes-related deaths.**

Effective prevention, management and care of diabetes are essential to boost the resilience of health systems and improve PwD's quality of life.

HUMANITARIAN CRISES

In 2023, a record **339m people** will be in need of humanitarian assistance and protection, up from 274m in 2022.

Crises such as man-made conflicts and natural disasters are leading to the **erosion of human rights including the right to health.**



PwD are particularly vulnerable during humanitarian crises as these often affect their access to healthcare, medicines, devices and food supplies which are fundamental to the management of their condition.

It is crucial for governments, healthcare systems, PwD and their families to have **emergency preparedness plans** in place in the event of disasters.

