



Innovative Patient-Centred Approach for Social Care Provision to Complex Conditions

What are the challenges & how did INNOVCare approach them

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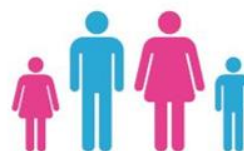
What is a rare disease?

**OVER
6000**

distinct rare
diseases

Each one affects
fewer than

**1 IN
2000
PEOPLE**



All together, an
estimated

**30
MILLION PEOPLE**

are living with a rare
disease in Europe



**Expertise, knowledge,
information on diseases and
their consequences are scarce
and difficult to access**



**Rare, complex, chronic,
disabling, progressive,
degenerative, often
life-threatening**

**NO
CURE**



for the vast
majority of
diseases and
few treatments
available

They are **geographically
scattered** and often
isolated

**Few experts,
geographically scattered**

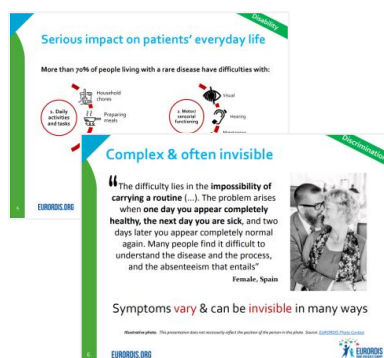
Research is fragmented

Juggling care and daily life: The Balancing Act of the Rare Disease Community

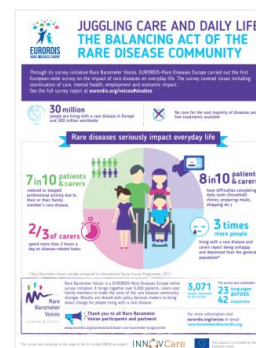
First Europe-wide survey on social impact of rare diseases,
involving 3000 rare disease patients & carers



[Report with full results](#)



[Presentation of key results](#)



[Infographics with key results](#)



[Factsheet on integrated care for rare diseases with survey results](#)

*Survey performed via EURORDIS survey initiative
Rare Barometer Voices
and within the EU-funded INNOCare project*



First Europe-wide survey on social impact of rare diseases: Summary of key results



Rare diseases have a **serious impact on everyday life**



Significant time and care burden for patients and carers



Strong impact on **work-life balance: absence from work**, hampered professional activity, **economic burden**



Care pathways are complex and hard to manage e.g. need to visit different services in short time; lack of communication between providers

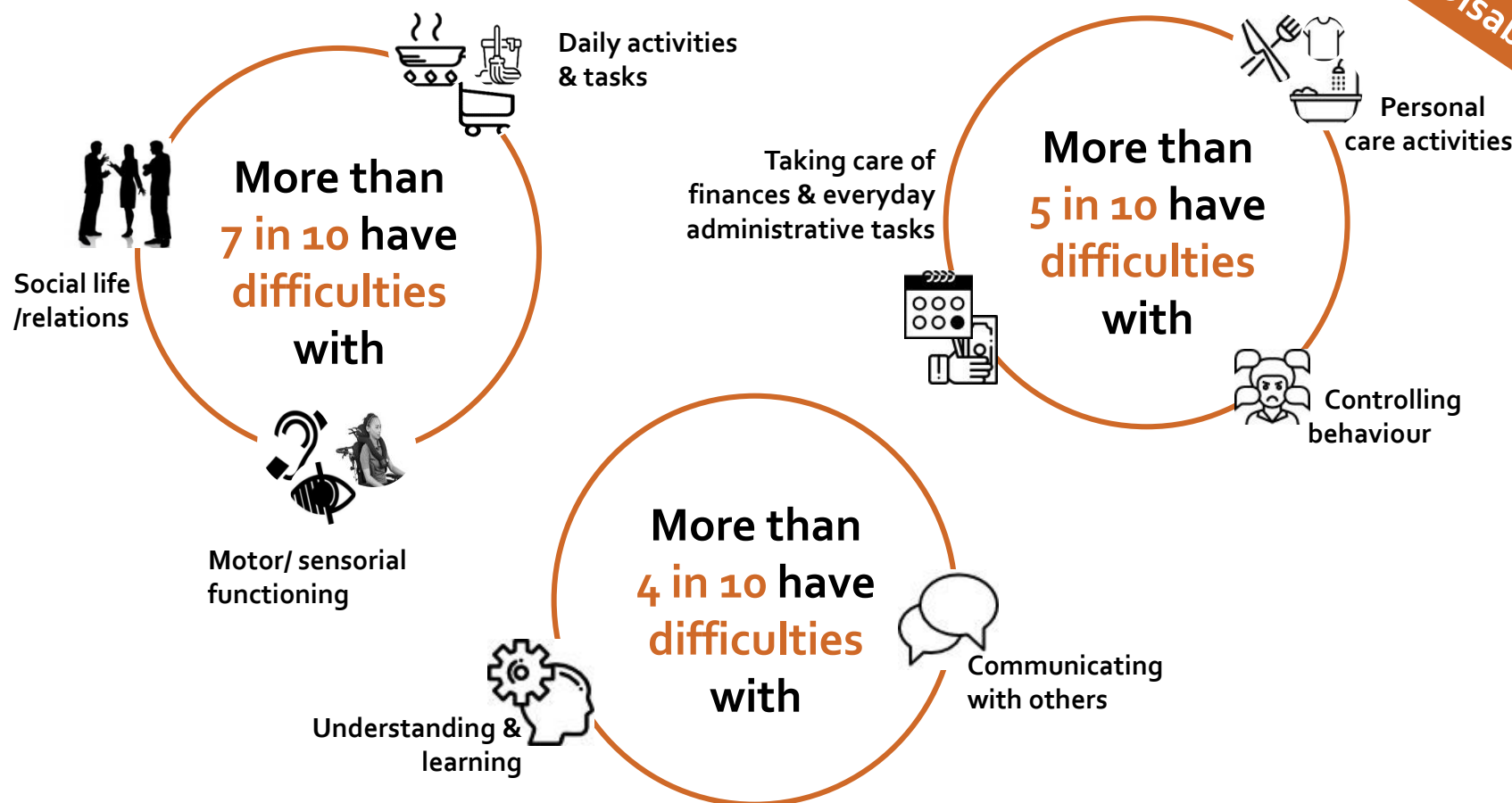


Patients and carers feel **badly informed about their rights** and **feel that social services are badly prepared to support them**



Rare diseases impact the mental health of patients and carers

People living with a rare disease have difficulties with several Activities of Daily Living



Rare diseases are complex and often invisible

Symptoms **vary** & can be **invisible** in many ways

Discrimination



“One day you appear completely healthy, the next day you are sick, and two days later you appear completely normal again” Female, Spain

“I don't look ill but am very ill with a condition which no one understands or has heard of” Female, United Kingdom

Illustrative photo. This presentation does not necessarily reflect the position of the person in this photo. Source: [EURORDIS Photo Contest](#)

Heavy time burden for patients and carers

42% of patients & carers spend **more than 2h/day** on illness-related tasks*

Time burden



** Hygiene, administration of treatments, helping with house chores, helping the patient to move*

Care pathway is complex and hard to manage

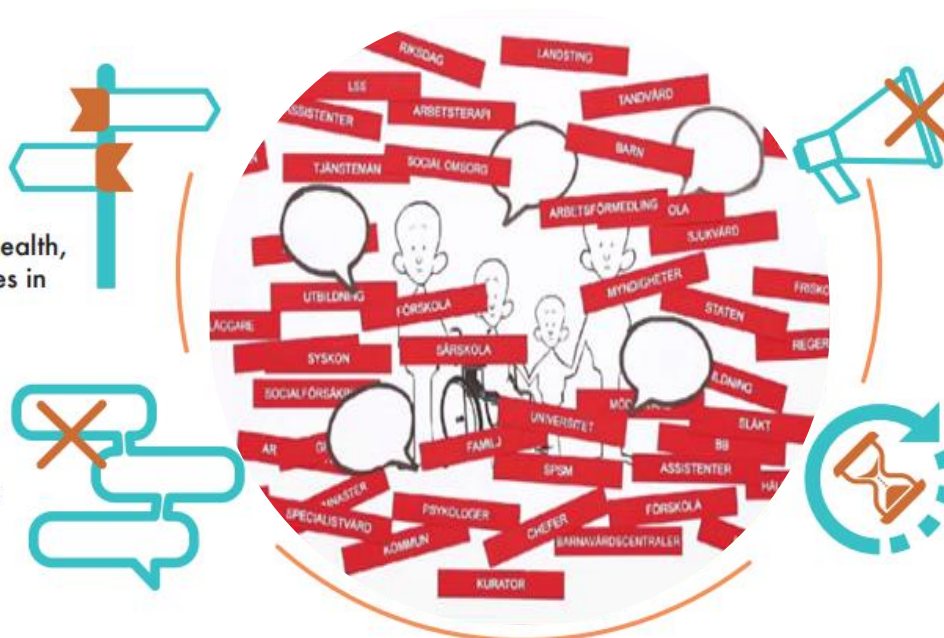
Integrated care

65%

have to visit different health, social and local services in a short period of time

67%

feel that these services communicate badly between each other



7in10

do not feel well informed about their rights

7in10

find that organising care is time-consuming; 6 in 10 find it hard to manage

Image on care pathway used for illustration purposes.
Source: [Nationella Funktionen Sällsynta Diagnoser](#), Sweden

Significant impact on professional life

7 in 10

People living with a rare disease
& carers had to
reduce or stop professional activity
due to the disease



Employment

The rare disease led to
an **income decrease for 69%**

Significant impact on professional life

Work-life Balance



58% absent from work over 15 days/year

41% asked for special leave from work but could not obtain it

Deteriorated mental health

Mental Health

**3 times
more people**

living with a rare disease
and carers report being
unhappy and depressed than
the general population*

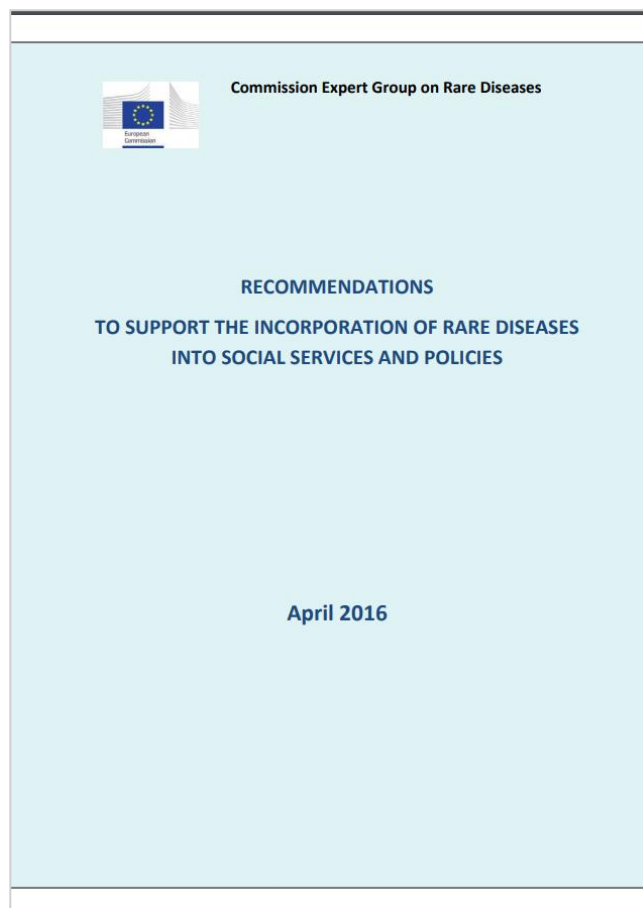


* Rare Barometer Voices sample compared to International Social Survey Programme, 2011

“ *The serious unmet social needs of people with a rare disease and their families affect their dignity, autonomy and other fundamental human rights* ”

Commission Expert Group on Rare Diseases Recommendations to Support the Incorporation of Rare Diseases into Social Services & Policies

Addressing these needs: EU-level recommendations



1. Integration into national plans for rare diseases

2 & 3. Role of Centres of Expertise and of European Reference Networks, as per previous EU-level recommendations

4. Member States (MS) should promote measures that facilitate **multidisciplinary, holistic, continuous, person-centred and participative care provision to people living with rare diseases, supporting them in the **full realisation of their fundamental human rights****

[See all the recommendations here](#)

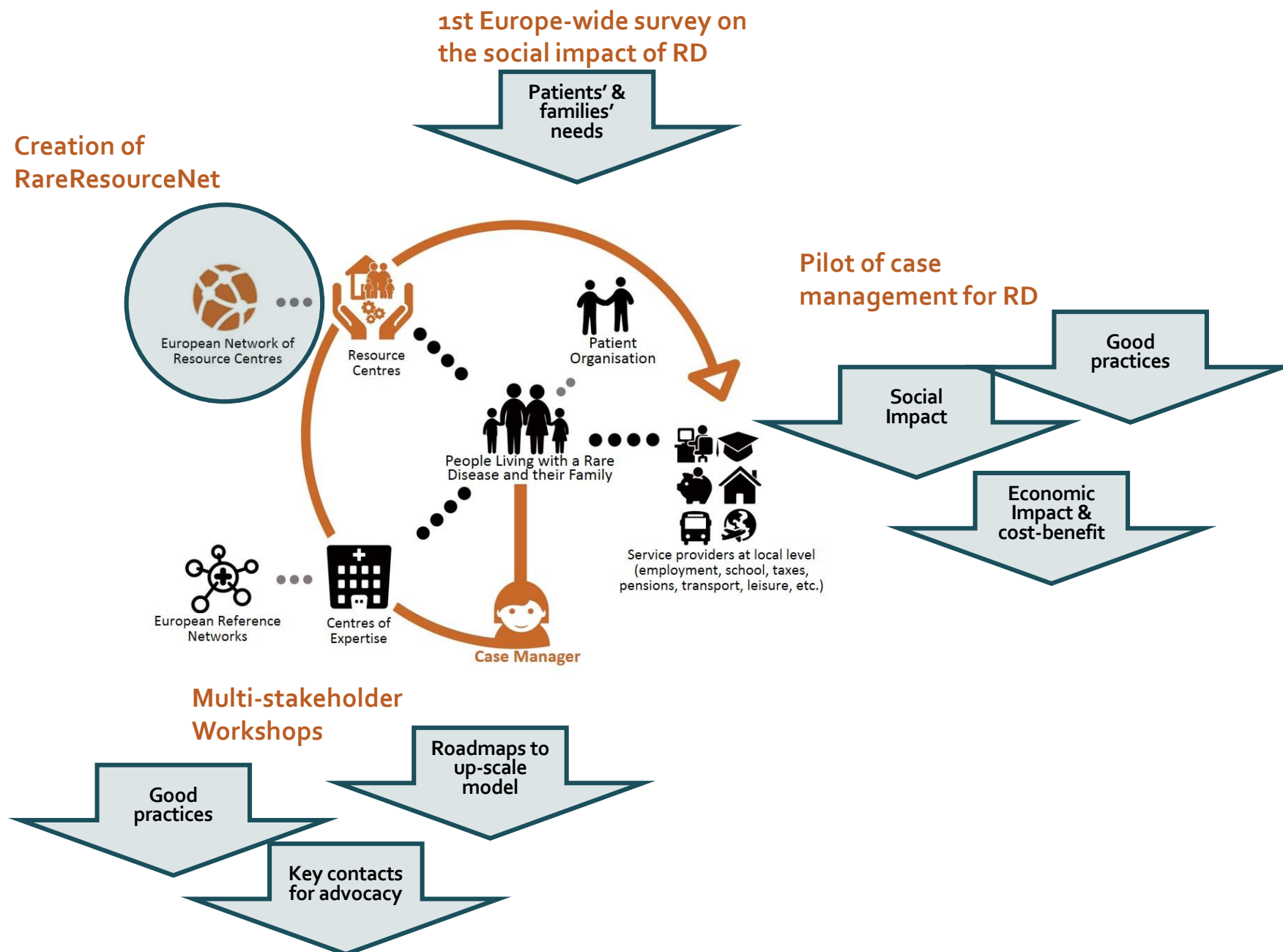
From the recommendations to the implementation



2015-2018

Bridging the gaps between **health**, **social** and **local services** to improve care of people living with rare and complex conditions





- ✓ Recommendations
- ✓ Good practices
- ✓ Case studies

Events



Conference on Advancing person-centred & integrated care for rare diseases & complex conditions across Europe



Workshop on Creating a Sustainable Environment for Holistic & Innovative Care for Rare Diseases & Complex Conditions



Workshop on Advancing Holistic & Innovative Care for Rare Diseases & Complex Conditions



Workshop on Scaling Innovative Care Delivery for Rare Diseases & Complex Conditions



Workshop on Improving Integrated Care for People Living with Rare Diseases & Complex Conditions

✓ 4 workshops

✓ 100+ participants

✓ 24 countries

Resources



INNOVCare Recommendations (2018)



Factsheet on Integrated Care for Rare Diseases (2018)



Poster presented at SHEA 2018: Social and economic impact of a case management approach for people with rare and complex conditions in Salaj, Romania (2018)



Poster presented at ECRD 2018: Measuring the effects of a case management approach on the quality of life of rare and complex disease patients (2018)

<https://innovcare.eu/events/>
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Recommendations from all project partners



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*Based on the INNOVCare project's outcomes,
the project partners RECOMMEND that:*

1. The EU, its Member States and other European countries continue to implement the Commission Expert Group on Rare Diseases Recommendations to Support the Incorporation of Rare Diseases into Social Services and Policies.
 - The report on the **State of the Art of Rare Disease Activities in Europe**, previously issued by the European Joint-Action on Rare Diseases (RD-Action) **should be continued and used as a monitoring mechanism to assess the implementation of the recommendations** and the sharing of good practices across countries;
2. The Work-life Balance Directive takes into account the specific needs of persons with rare diseases and their carers as well as of those with other complex chronic conditions and disabilities;
3. National and European bodies must allocate financial and structural support to ensure the continuity and the sustainability of Europe-wide platforms that are essential for the development and sharing of good practices on integrated care for rare diseases and other complex conditions/disabilities.
 - These include the European Reference Networks, the European Network of Resource Centres for Rare Diseases and other multi-stakeholder platforms that can further discuss and develop these topics following the secession of the Commission Expert Group on Rare Diseases and the conclusion of the European Joint-Action on Rare Diseases;
 - The European Commission Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable diseases must embrace and respond to the challenges of people with rare diseases and their carers.
4. National Strategies and Plans for Rare Diseases include the provision of integrated care and services for people living with a rare disease, in coordination between specialised and mainstream services;
5. Specific integrated care measures are implemented at national level such as:
 - Inter-Ministerial working groups and shared budgets;
 - Training of service providers, including case management training;
 - Support to the implementation of services and of expert networks that support person-centred care coordination such as Resource Centres and case management for rare diseases and other complex conditions/disabilities;
6. Patient/person-engagement in the design and implementation of services and patient empowerment become a requisite for health and social care provision, in order to guarantee person-centred, participative care;
7. Pilot projects continue to be supported, as generators of good practice and innovative services, and that due time is allowed for their design, implementation and long-term impact assessment. Systematic and long-term evaluation is necessary to gather quality evidence on the direct and societal impact of the service.
8. Sustainability mechanisms are put in place and accessible to public bodies, civil society organisations and service providers involved in the implementation of integrated care services:
 - The new Multi-annual Financial Framework must continue to bring support to EU-wide platforms and innovative projects that allow Member States to develop and transfer good practice and evidence;
 - The European Structural Funds must act as an accessible and adequate mechanism to support Member States to up-scale innovative pilots into mainstream services;
 - The European Semester must be used as a vehicle to implement integrated care for people living with a rare disease and other complex conditions at national level.



This project is co-funded by the European Union

The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.

EU-wide and national measures to guarantee integrated care for rare diseases is implemented and sustainable across Europe. Linking to:

- ✓ EU-level recommendations
- ✓ Work-life Balance Directive
- ✓ European Networks
- ✓ National policies for rare diseases
- ✓ Specific integrated care measures
- ✓ Support and funding mechanisms

<https://innovcare.eu/recommendations/>
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Thank you
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EURORDIS would like to thank all Rare Barometer partners for their support to co-fund the surveys conducted via EURORDIS survey initiative Rare Barometer Voices



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