



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS  
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE  
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN  
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΔΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ  
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI  
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING  
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES  
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES  
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN  
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV  
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV  
EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIHI LIJEČNIKA  
ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟCΙΑCΙΑ ΗΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΗΝΙΧΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ  
ASOCIAȚIA EUROPEANĂ A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE**

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## AEMH

### NATIONAL REPORT OF SPAIN 2022

#### Medical Alliance against Climate Change

The Spanish General Medical Council (CGCOM) and various state-wide medical scientific societies have promoted the document “Medical Alliance against Climate Change”, which has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge. This initiative was presented last January at an event held at the headquarters of the European Commission in Madrid and was attended by representatives of the European institutions and the Ministries of Health and Ecological Transition, as well as the WHO.

This initiative aim is to raise awareness among medical professionals to combat climate change and to adopt a proactive stance on the decarbonisation of health, compliance with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition to considering the diseases and health risks associated with climate change, the document analyses the aggression that the health sector poses to the environment, with particular attention to the production of greenhouse gases and the generation of waste.

There are possibilities for the health sector to contribute to the decarbonisation of the planet through the promotion of biodegradable products, the circular economy and, above all, the commitment of doctors to minimise climate aggression, both in their daily work and in the orientation of the medical council to the population.

To meet the objectives set by the Medical Alliance against Climate Change, we are already working through a Working Group to develop various actions over the next 4 years. Among them, we highlight the promotion of climate change threats to health; dissemination to professionals of messages and initiatives promoted in this regard by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge; the promotion of conferences, courses or symposiums; or the decrease in the carbon footprint.

*(below link to the document in English version of the Medical Alliance against Climate Change)*

## Evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in Spain

The Spanish Government has changed the surveillance strategy vis-à-vis Covid-19: the cases reported relate mainly to persons with vulnerability criteria or related to vulnerable areas and those requiring hospital admission, and not to the total number of SARS-CoV-2 infections.

The total number of contagions in Spain is 11,551,574 since the start of the pandemic, according to official statistics. The Ministry of Health has also changed the way in which the incidence is counted, so that now only the incidence of those over 60 years of age is shown, which stands at 459.27 in the last 14 days per 100,000. In the past two weeks, a total of 56,573 positives have been recorded in this age group.

According to the latest report of the Ministry of Health, there have been 323 new deaths, compared with 350 in the previous week. Up to 102,541 people with positive diagnostic tests have died since the virus arrived in Spain, according to the data collected by the Ministry. In the last week 171 people have died with positive confirmed in Spain.

Currently, there are 4,150 covid patients hospitalized Spain (4,351) and 420 patients in ICU. The occupancy rate of beds by coronavirus stands at 3.34 % and in ICUs at 4.62 %

In recent weeks, the Autonomous Communities have carried out 194,820 diagnostic tests in people over 60 years old, of which 121,874 have been PCR and 72,946 antigen tests, with an overall rate per 100,000 inhabitants of 1,581.58.

Meanwhile, the positivity rate stands at 16.01 %, compared to 18.86 % the previous week.

### Vaccination

The Autonomous Communities have so far administered a total of 94,295,766 doses of the different COVID-19 vaccines in Spain. It's 96.92 % of the total vaccines they've been given. There are already some regions that have put 100 % of the doses, the rest reaches 88.85 %. There are currently 40,375,699 people with the complete pattern of the vaccine, representing 85.27 % of the resident population in the country.

100 % of those over 80 have already received at least one dose of the vaccine compared to 99 % of those in the 70-79 age group. 100% vaccination of those over 60 years of age is vital to minimise deaths from COVID-19. 94 % of those who died were 60 years or older.

Spain sends weekly information on the progress of vaccination to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). There is some of this information that the Ministry of Health does not publish in its reports, but it does send the ECDC, such as the number of people who have refused the first dose of the vaccine. Only 0.23 % of people who had been called in Spain to get the first dose rejected it. A total of 81,462 persons, of whom 6.4 per cent are health workers or social health workers. That is, 5,227 people. This refusal does not mean that it is because of fear of vaccines, it can also be the case of people who have passed the disease and have decided not to put it or who have not to come to the appointment for other reasons.

## Mental Health of Medical Professionals

The mental situation of Spanish medical professionals in relation to the pandemic in which we are still immersed produces an increase in insomnia and the consumption of hypnotics and anxiolytics due, among other reasons, to the increase in working hours, the number of wards, coping with ethical dilemmas, etc. 60 % of professionals suffer symptoms of chronic fatigue or Burnout, and 30 % of medical professionals have attended or believe they will need to go to a mental health service, according to data from studies carried out by the Spanish medical association.

This makes programs such as the **Comprehensive Care Program for the Sick Doctor (PAIME)** more necessary than ever. This programme was created at the Barcelona Medical College in 1998 and extended to the rest of Medical Colleges through its Foundation for Social Protection (FPSOMC). Since 1998, more than 6,372 professionals have been treated, with a recovery rate of around 80% of cases. It is an instrument for monitoring good medical practice and therefore a guarantee for the population, because caring for the sick doctor means defending the health of citizens above all.

The PAIME is a unique program in Spain and a reference internationally available to the Medical Colleges, under the umbrella of FPSOMC, to care for doctors suffering from mental disorders or addictive behaviors, rehabilitate the professional and guarantee medical practice. Two elements can be highlighted: that the incidence of consultation in the programme is higher for under 30s, and that anesthesiology and psychiatry are shown as vulnerable specialties.

PAIME facilitates overcoming barriers that prevent physicians from seeing themselves as a patient; it also promotes access to quality health care. It specialises in cases of diseases related to mental disorders or addictive behaviors and provides personalised, discreet, and flexible care. Social care, work counseling and legal support are the basis of this program.

PAIME has achieved a 90 % success rate. Over the years we have achieved lower dropout rates and higher reintegration into employment throughout Spain.

In November 2021 the Spanish General Medical Council held in Cadiz the 3rd Latin American Meeting of PAIME, which brought together the presidents of 14 countries of the medical organisations belonging to the Latin American Confederation of Physicians (CONFEMEL) and signed the '**Declaration of Cadiz**', in which they urged governments to support, guarantee and facilitate initiatives such as the Comprehensive Care Program for Sick Doctors (PAIME) to protect the health of health professionals, who, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, have also seen their situation in Latin America aggravated.

This congress was attended by more than 150 national and international experts, medical professionals, psychologists, health representatives and the main political and health authorities, both online and in person, and concluded with the demand by the medical profession for effective and efficient human resources policies in the healthcare sector which guarantee the best conditions of physical and psychological security, as the only way to overcome the harsh experience of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the end of this year, we will present the PAIME to the European Parliament and to DG SANTE.

*More information:* [https://www.fpsomc.es/paime\\_fott](https://www.fpsomc.es/paime_fott)

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