

M8 ALLIANCE DECLARATION

Sapienza University of Rome, M8 Alliance member since 2015, organized for the first time in Italy, the 2022 World Health Summit Regional Meeting. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the resilience of the health care systems and their capacity to respond to the emergency, while leaving open further challenges, which represent the strategic priorities in the post-pandemic era. The pandemic has also shown how we are interconnected as a global community and in this summit more than 100 speakers debated the improvement of global health and the development of scientific solutions to health challenges in 25 sessions, involving scientists, clinicians, legislators/politicians, innovators and representatives of pharmaceutical industries and NGOs. Based on these very interesting discussions, it is recommended:

1. Vaccine Development and Policies

- a. to fully exploit the new opportunities offered by the COVID-19 pandemic in vaccine development against new and old “enemies” such as HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, cancer
- b. to strengthen all possible multicomponent programs within and outside academia to reduce as much as possible vaccine hesitancy
- c. to monitor the trend of vaccine hesitancy and its determinants at all levels (country, regional and local) to guide public health policies through tailored strategies and evidence-based interventions
- d. to complete the eradication of polio and strengthen eradication strategies for measles, rubella and HCV

2. Healthcare Systems

- a. to increase health financial resources whenever possible
- b. to prioritize health and invest in strong and well-governed health systems and strong social safety nets that leave no one behind. to prioritize investments in essential medicines, health workforce, and health infrastructure as critical to ensure a robust response to health emergencies and the delivery of essential health services
- c. to orient health systems towards primary health care and strengthen public investment in primary health care-based health systems
- d. to recognize that climate change is a “health crisis” concept for health systems to address
- e. to improve health for all with a focus on social justice and equity
- f. to increase healthcare coverage for all, especially those vulnerable including women, children, people living with disabilities, and living in low-middle income countries

3. Metabolic Syndrome and Chronic Diseases

- a. to better prevent and manage obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular and neurodegenerative diseases
- b. to further develop network medicine as a novel path towards treating human diseases and facilitating the trajectory of true precision medicine
- c. to strengthen the need for health promotion approaches that reach out to communities to empower the vulnerable and increase levels of health literacy

4. New Technologies and Personalized Therapies

- a. to better exploit the opportunities offered by artificial intelligence, machine learning, augmented reality, simulation, robotics, big data analytics to improve, after rigorous evaluation, healthcare and health professions education
- b. to better integrate these topics in health profession education introducing innovative teaching and learning methodologies
- c. to better exploit CRISPR-Cas9 as a genome editing tool considering with the highest attention all ethical issues and finding the best solutions to make treatments accessible to patients who could benefit from those

5. New Frontiers in Healthcare Promotion

- a. to further promote a more conscious use of antimicrobials to reduce the alarming spread of antimicrobial resistance worldwide
- b. to better exploit the interreligious dialogue for promoting global health
- c. to allocate more financial resources to prevent climate change without reducing those allocated to healthcare
- d. to address malnutrition in all its forms

Rome, 17th June 2022