

The European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants (EFCNI)
Published the “White Paper”. De “WhitePaper”
www.efcni.org.

EFCNI White Paper on Maternal and Newborn Health and Aftercare Services

Last year, EFCNI published an EU Benchmarking Report to help capture for policy makers the impact of prematurity across Europe. The EFCNI Benchmarking Report ‘Too Little, Too Late’ painted a compelling picture of the differences that exist in levels of care when it comes to maternal and newborn health in Europe. Indeed, it showed that in most EU Member States, maternal and newborn health is not considered to be a public health priority, despite its obvious connection to health outcomes in adult life.

It also began a reflection process amongst parents, medical professionals, academics and industry partners to move from an identification of the various provisions that EU Member States have made for newborn infants, to concrete proposals for improving the standards of care in Europe.

As such, **Caring for Tomorrow, the EFCNI White Paper on Maternal and Newborn Health and Aftercare Services** aims to highlight some of the key concerns with regard to this growing patient group.

Parents who gave birth to a preterm baby or persons who shared the time before and after a preterm birth with the concerned family know quite well the feeling of helplessness: Even if most European countries provide high-quality neonatal care, the special needs of preterm infants are often neglected.

Furthermore, there is a lack of comprehensive public information and education on this topic: Still today many pregnant women are not aware of potential risk factors and how to prevent preterm birth. Concerned parents need better guidance how to care for their preterm baby during their stay in the hospital and after discharge as well as how to obtain support.

Well-organised, effective and targeted