Newborn health standards – improving quality of care across Europe
Why European Standards of Care for Newborn Health?

Every year 700,000 preterm babies are born in Europe

8.7% of all live birth (6.3% to 13.3%)
Differences between European countries

- Infrastructure for high-risk pregnancies
- Organisation of medical centres
- Transport systems
- Education of healthcare professionals
- Follow-up and continuing care
- Medical treatment
- Level of implementation of infant- and family-centred care
- Nutrition
- NICU design
Inequalities in care and parent involvement among European countries
Outcome and long-term consequences of preterm birth

- Physical disabilities, e.g. cerebral palsy
- Learning disabilities
- Behaviour problems
- Psychiatric disorders
- Respiratory diseases
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Visual diseases

- Reduced educational attainment
- Reduced earning potential
- Reduced social integration
- Poor adult health
Working together

All stakeholders
• support the development
• actively participate in development process
• endorse the final standards
Kick-off and starting point

- Official start on 7 April 2014 in EU Parliament in Brussels
- Socks for life art exhibition
- Symbolic signing of request for the development of European reference standards by all present stakeholders and visitors of the exhibition
Why is this project so unique?

• Initiated by patient (parent) representatives for patients
• Parents are involved in every step of the development process
  → A true patient centred project
• About 220 experts from more than 30 countries developed the standards
• Combining forces across countries, disciplines and needs
• Supported by 158 professional healthcare societies and parent/patient organisations
• Covers the complexity of neonatal care
• Promotes the equitable and high levels of care
Now we need to act - this Mission is Possible!

- Implement the standards in your country
- Support newborn health on national level
- Join forces on national and international level to improve newborn health
- Work together with parent organisations
- Join us in signing up for the Call to Action for Newborn Health in Europe