Published in 2020, Greece’s National Action Plan for Public Health 2021-2025 outlined the country’s strategic priorities for patient care, stressing the importance of targeting chronic non-communicable diseases, such as chronic lung diseases.

The IRC welcomes the Hellenic Thoracic Society’s work on this initiative and is also committed to collaborating with all relevant stakeholders in promoting lung health across the country by developing national strategies.

**Introduction**

The IRC, a coalition of respiratory clinicians, patients and industry partners, aims to transform post-pandemic respiratory care and reduce mortality by a third globally by 2030 - in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The IRC is calling on governments and policy makers to establish funded national strategies, which include prevention, new models of care, ambitious measurable targets, and accountable leadership to improve lung health by focusing on:

Better…
1. Prevention of respiratory diseases
2. Access to the right treatment at the right time
3. Action on reducing inequalities
4. Prioritisation of research, data and insight to improve care

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**Societal economic cost by disease:**

- Asthma: €406.7 million
- COPD: €2 billion
- Interstitial Lung Disease: €107.7 million
- Lower Respiratory Tract Infections: €1.2 billion
- Mesothelioma: €24.4 million
- Lung Cancer: €2.9 billion
- Tuberculosis: €41 million
- Mesothelioma: €24.4 million
- Tuberculosis: €41 million

**This initiative is made possible with the contributions of the partner organisations who all support the IRC’s goals:** Expertise and time were provided by the European Respiratory Society, European Lung Foundation and Global Allergy and Airways Patient Platform; funding, expertise and time were contributed by AstraZeneca, Chiesi Group, GSK, Moderna, Amgen, Sanofi and Regeneron; additional funding was provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.

Data taken from IRC Lung Facts https://international-respiratory-coalition.org/lung-facts/diseases/