

Brain Health Initiative

# Neurologists and the Fight Against Brain Disease

How neurologists contribute to brain health worldwide

Brain disease accounts for 10% of the total burden of disease and affects a wide range of people in all stages of life. Neurologists are key to advocating for more disease awareness and contributing towards disease prevention.

In order to reduce the global burden of brain disease and provide help and support for patients and carers, we must all advocate for the <u>importance of brain health</u>.

Below are the key ways to work together to advocate for brain health.

## Neurologists Advocate for Brain Health By:

- Spreading awareness about the importance of brain health within their communities
- Disseminating information about neurological diseases and disorders
- Lobbying for more equitable access to care
- Emphasizing the importance of lifelong brain health and disease prevention
- Empowering patients and caregivers to advocate for themselves
- Providing opportunities to educate the public about brain health and the increasing treatment options

#### Patients and Caregivers Can Advocate By:

- Spreading awareness about the importance of brain health within their communities
- Sharing information and first-hand experiences with policymakers
- Joining umbrella groups and forming multiorganizational coalitions dedicated to brain health
- Researching topics on how to prevent diseases,
- Educating others by sharing accurate, evidencebased information
- Fighting for better access to care and more resources



#### **Institutional Support is Essential**

Local, national and global leaders must align their efforts to address the burden and economic impact of neurological diseases to reduce the global burden. They can do this through:

- Awareness
- Education
- Making services accessible to all on a global, regional and national scale
- Advocacy for neurology

### The Importance of Worldwide Advocacy Organizations

The following organizations are vital to the pursuit of awareness surrounding brain health:



#### How WFN is Leading the Brain Health Initiative Globally

The World Federation of Neurology is dedicated to fostering quality neurology and brain health worldwide. We do this by:

- Promoting global neurological education and training, especially in under-resourced areas of the world
- Representing professional member societies around the world
- As lead for the Global Neurology Alliance, a coalition representing every neurological disorder
- Establishing new initiatives such as the <u>Brain Health Initiative</u> and the WFN/AFAN Educational Days to join with <u>World Brain Day</u> and the <u>World Congress of Neurology</u>