



MOTHER MATTERS

The right of women with disabilities to motherhood

Erasmus plus project number 2023-1-IT02-KA220-ADU-000153664

INFORMATIVE PILLS

Informative pills provide brief explanations related to disability studies, accessibility for healthcare professionals, and motherhood for women with disabilities. They are based on a microlearning approach, a learning methodology that divides content into short units focused on a single topic or skill.

- RIGHTS OF PWDS -

European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual & Reproductive Rights - EPF

The **European Patients' Forum (EPF)** is a key organisation representing the collective voice of patients across Europe, including people living with chronic conditions and disabilities. It advocates for patient-centered, equitable, and accessible healthcare systems that respect human rights and diversity. The EPF's work is crucial in shaping policy and raising awareness about the specific needs and rights of marginalised groups—especially women with disabilities who wish to become or already are mothers.



momsproject.eu



Mother Matters



[moms.mothermatters](https://www.instagram.com/moms.mothermatters)



[MoMs_MotherMatters](https://www.youtube.com/MoMs_MotherMatters)



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One of EPF's core principles is the promotion of **meaningful patient involvement** in healthcare design and decision-making. This includes advocating for healthcare services that recognise and respond to individual preferences, life contexts, and access needs. EPF also works closely with the **European Disability Forum (EDF)** and other allies to promote inclusion in health policies and ensure the voices of persons with disabilities are represented at national and EU levels.

Women with disabilities often face unique and intersecting forms of discrimination in healthcare settings—such as assumptions about their ability to parent, lack of accessible information, or physical barriers in maternity services. EPF highlights the need for **non-discriminatory practices, inclusive service design, and respectful communication** as key components of quality care. It calls for training programs that build healthcare professionals' capacity to understand the intersection of gender, disability, and reproductive health.

For professionals, aligning with EPF values means supporting autonomy, dignity, and equal opportunity in maternal care. It also means actively questioning institutional practices that exclude or devalue women with disabilities. Advocacy, ethical sensitivity, and continuous learning are essential in transforming healthcare into a space of empowerment and justice.

By integrating the perspectives of patients, especially those who are often unheard, EPF fosters a healthcare system that is more responsive, inclusive, and fair for all—including mothers with disabilities.



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