



EUROPEAN COALITION FOR VISION
Better Eye Health For Europe

PRESS RELEASE

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European Coalition for Vision (ECV) regrets the lack of data on vision impairment in Europe and calls for more harmonized data collected at EU level to provide better policy advice to decision-makers. Vision is a vital part of the health dimension that is too often neglected. ECV's objective is to promote a EU eye health indicator that would address this issue.

European Coalition for Vision welcomes the report "Health at a glance: Europe 2014" presented on 3rd December 2014 by Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis. The report, based mainly on the European Core Health Indicators (ECHI), highlights key trends in health, providing a state of play of Europe's health.

Chair of ECV, Mr. Peter Ackland, stated: "This report is essential as it provides a good overview of the state of health in the member states. We call on the Commission and Member States to develop and promote a EU eye health indicator, that would complement the data on health to include the field of vision – that would help stimulate further public policy actions in the eye health domain".

Representing professional bodies, patient groups, European and national health, and disability NGOs as well as trade associations representing suppliers, the ECV aims at raising the profile of eye health and vision to reduce the unacceptably high levels of avoidable vision impairment and blindness, and to secure an equal and inclusive society for those with low vision and irreversible blindness in Europe.

More information on ECV can be found: <http://www.ecvision.eu/>

Manifesto: <http://www.ecvision.eu/manifesto/>

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