

To: Presidents and Delegates of EFAD Member Associations

June 2020

Dear Presidents & Delegates

Spreading the word on the role of Dietitians in the fight against COVID-19

First of all, EFAD thanks you all so much for all you are doing to combat COVID-19 across Europe.

To further help you, EFAD published not only the **Briefing Paper on the Role of Dietitians in the fight against COVID-19**, but also a **Standalone Newsflash** (<u>http://us11.forward-to-</u> <u>friend.com/forward/preview?u=9a0dbd5516b888b8af404926f&id=451ca05334</u>)</u> as well. EFAD trusts that this special "COVID-19" newsflash informed readers of the many resources available to support dietitians and other health professionals in the continuing fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. These materials are available on the structured information hub (<u>http://www.efad.org/en-us/covid-19/structured information hub</u>) on the EFAD website.

Current evidence shows that post-discharge Covid-19 patients seem to have increased nutritional requirements, have experienced loss of lean muscle mass and have reduced appetite and food intake. Therefore, identifying the optimal route of nutritional care and getting support on a community level is crucial for patients.

EFAD organise a webinar on Nutritional rehabilitation after COVID-19 infection: Homewardbound after hospital discharge. You can watch the recording on

<u>https://efad.wavecast.io/covid-19-webinar/nutritional-rehabilitation-after-covid</u>, (note you must "sign up to watch") and more information on the summaries of the presentations on the EFAD

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European Commission Transparency Register Identification number: 99138006725-91 website. (<u>http://www.efad.org/en-us/covid-19/5-webinars-on-the-topic/nutritional-rehabilitation-after-covid-19-infection-homeward-bound-after-hospital-discharge/</u>).

Now it is time to tell our stakeholders about the great work dietitians across Europe are doing!

Please forward the attached letter (translated if you think it would be helpful) with attachments, to your Minister of Health and to all the members of the European Parliament in your country.

EFAD has also published a Press Release about the webinar, which you can translate and customize for your national use.

Do, please, also remember to tell EFAD who you mailed the Briefing Paper to and any responses resulting from it. Please let EFAD know your actions also through the EuDAP Database (<u>http://www.eudap.org/</u>).

Yours faithfully

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Judith Liddell EFAD Executive Director

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- 1. EFAD Briefing Paper on the Role of Dietitians in the fight against COVID-19
- 2. Press Release on the EFAD webinar
- 3. Webinar Digital Booklet
- 4. Letter to Ministers