

**JAN 13, 2023**

# Medtronic enables a commitment to collaboration in continence care between international scientific societies and patient organizations

**January 13, 2023** - For the first time in continence care, international scientific societies and patient organizations have come together as equal partners to commit to a formal collaboration that addresses the needs of patients. On November 25, 2022, a workshop was held between leaders from the World Federation of Incontinence and Pelvic Problems (WFIPP), Sociedad Iberoamericana de Neurourología y Uroginecología (SINUG), the International Continence Society (ICS), and European Association of Urology (EAU) Patient Office to agree the content and scope of a *Commitment to Collaboration in Continence Care* (4Cs). These 4Cs have been defined with institutional support from Medtronic.

Urinary and/or fecal incontinence affects between 10% and 40% of adults, i,ii often as a consequence of another condition or a side effect of treatment. Some of these people live with serious physical, psychosocial or economic consequences that are not fully assessed or addressed by the healthcare system. A patient-centered, integrated care approach to treatment is widely considered to be best practice, but it does not represent the current reality for many people living with incontinence.

SINUG, ICS, EAU and WFIPP believe that meaningful collaboration between scientific societies, patient organizations and industry, is the best way to address the needs of patients, and to effect positive structural changes within the healthcare system.

This group agreed three initial areas for collaboration:

- 1) Educating multiple stakeholders including patients and caregivers, doctors and allied health workers, policy makers and funding organizations on the importance of shared decision-making, patient-centered care, and communication skills
- 2) Improving access to trusted information about continence issues for the general public, patients and healthcare workers
- 3) Embedding the principles of joint working within our organizations, with the ultimate aim of influencing public and private healthcare structures to become more patient-centered.

By committing to incorporate patients' perspectives and priorities into training programs, information provision, and organizational structures, this group has developed a model for joint working that can be adopted by other scientific societies and patient organizations internationally.

## **About Medtronic**

Bold thinking. Bolder actions. We are Medtronic. Medtronic plc, headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, is the leading global healthcare technology company that boldly attacks the most challenging health problems facing humanity by searching out and finding solutions. Our Mission – to alleviate pain, restore health, and extend life – unites a global team of 90,000+ passionate people across 150 countries. Our technologies and therapies treat 70 health conditions and include cardiac devices, surgical robotics, insulin pumps, surgical tools, patient monitoring systems, and more. Powered by our diverse knowledge, insatiable curiosity, and desire to help all those who need it, we deliver innovative technologies that transform the lives of two people every second, every hour, every day. Expect more from us as we empower insight-driven care, experiences that put people first, and better outcomes for our world. In everything we do, we are engineering the extraordinary.

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