

# Gender Inequality in Healthcare

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European Economic  
and Social Committee

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*“Gender inequity in health refers to the **unfair, unnecessary, and preventable inequalities** that exist between women and men in the state of health, health care, and participation in health work. Gender equity strategies are used to ultimately achieve equality. **Equity is the means; equality is the result**”*

World Health Organisation

# Key message

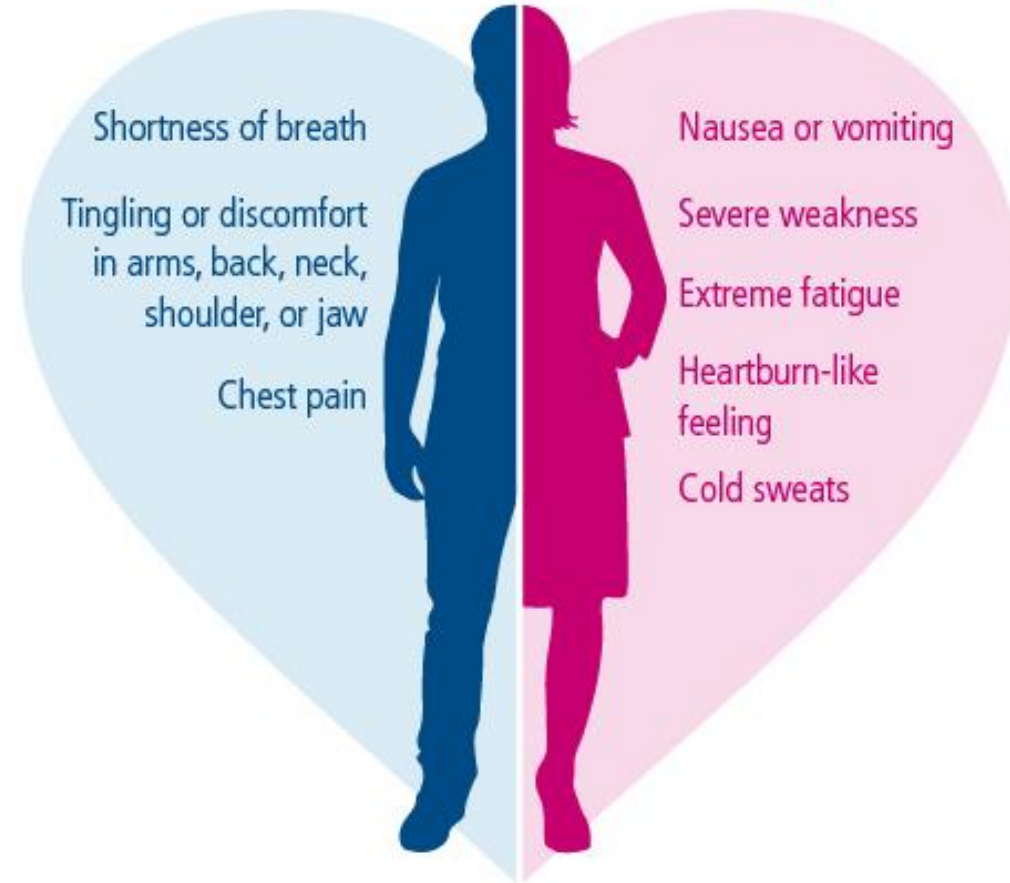
- From knowledge to action: the examples that I will share have been known for decades
- We can learn from each other
- Collaborating on this topic could create movement



Well known  
examples

# Is it a heart attack?

Look for these signs.



# Well known examples

- Not only women facing sex related health issues
- Women are underrepresented in clinical research and drug trials
  - Adonis model
  - Past research
- Underacknowledged women's complaints
  - Menstruation
  - Menopause

Broader than  
these  
examples  
and the  
individual

- Financial consequences of the inequality in healthcare
- Potential preventable costs and increase in quality of life
- Potential increase in healthy longevity for half our population



# From Knowledge to Action

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The knowledge is there,  
how to reach the right  
people?



# What is already happening?

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- Gender equality and health in the EU – report 2021
- Recent UN report: *Our world of 8 billion: what does it mean for women's rights?*
- Care4everyBody: NGO working with specialists across Europe and North America.  
Delphi + Economic study
- Collaboration with Women Inc.
- National policies (Sweden, Ireland, UK, Spain)



# How can we work on this together?

- Awareness
- Policymaking: Women's Health Strategy for Europe
- Research attention and education
- Launch event economic study

# Citations

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- European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, Franklin, P., Bambra, C., Albani, V., *Gender equality and health in the EU*, Publications Office, 2021, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2838/991480>
- Bulletin World Health Organisation: Gender, health and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. Manandhar M, Hawkes S, Buse K 2018 Sep 1;96(9):644-653. doi: 10.2471/BLT.18.211607.
- UNFPA's State of the World Population Report: Our world of 8 billion, what does it mean for women's rights?
- Sex matters — DR. ALYSON MCGREGOR, MD, MA, FACEP
- <https://www.tortoisemedia.com/audio/visible-women-caroline-criado-perez-episode-3/> (the transcript is available on that webpage).
- How Sex and Gender Impact Clinical Practice – Marjorie R. Jenkins and Connie B. Newman; Academic Press; 2021

# Start the conversation on Women's Health

- Drs. Merel de Heer, MD

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- [www.care4everybody.org](http://www.care4everybody.org)

- [www.womeninc.nl](http://www.womeninc.nl)

Contributed by Ody Neisingh

Care4everyBody

Women's health counts for all

**WOMEN  
INC**



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