



# Obesity Platform Belgium

Why, how, what



# Obesity Platform Belgium

## Why



Obesity has been earmarked as **a health care priority** to work on in **2022-2024**. This is an important signal from the **Federal Minister of Public Health Mr. Frank Vandenbroucke and the RIZIV/INAMI**, the Belgian institute for health and disability Insurance.

This creates **a unique momentum for a coalition of Belgian obesity experts**, pleading for a care path that focuses on accessible and efficient obesity care. The right care should be given at the right time and adapted to every individual's needs. The exceptional collaboration, coming from different perspectives within the Platform, has **one main purpose: to provide solutions to the many challenges surrounding effective obesity care**.

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## Mission & Vision



### The Obesity Platform Belgium

The Obesity Platform Belgium wants to provide **a joint answer** to the many challenges regarding the obesity care in Belgium and translate these into **action points for policymakers**.

### The vision of Obesity Platform Belgium

The Platform **stimulates the cooperation of a diverse group of experts in the field of obesity** in order to achieve **effective obesity policies** and, hence, lead to better care and improved health outcomes for people living with obesity in Belgium.

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## Mission & Vision



### The mission of Obesity Platform Belgium

The mission of the Platform is **to support policymakers** to improve access to **evidence-based and structured care** in a **cost-effective** manner, and to **raise the standards of quality care**.

The Platform wants to **eliminate obesity-related prejudices and stigmas** and wants to **inform policymakers** and other actors about **the nature of the disease and its treatment methods**. It is through this change in narrative that people living with obesity may gain access to the same medically necessary and covered care that is offered to others who suffer from chronic diseases

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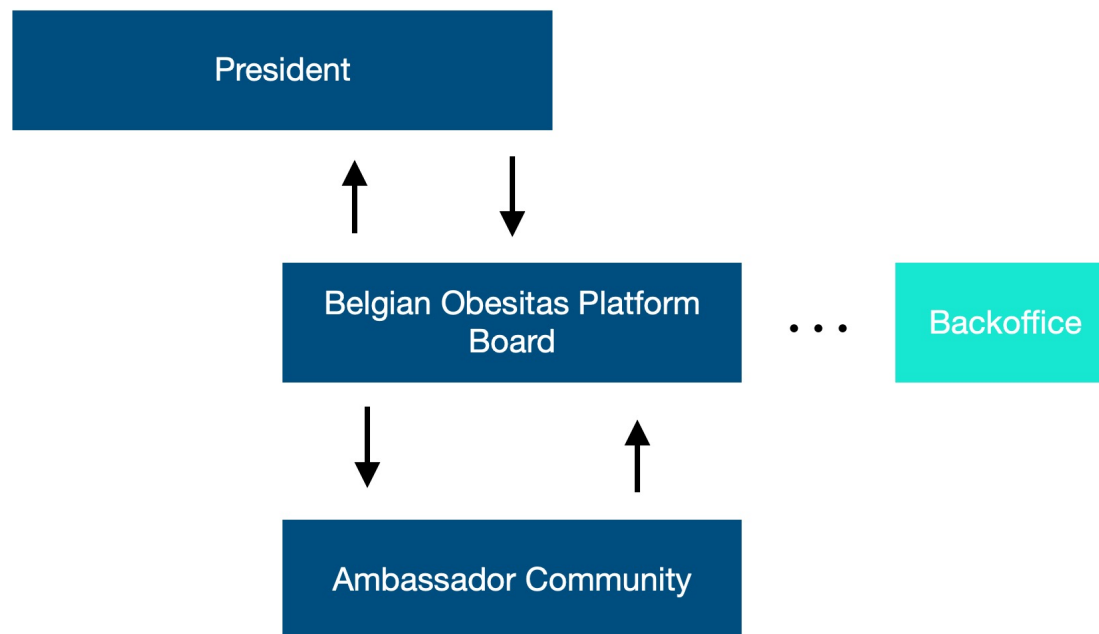
First focus points



**The first action point** on the Platform's agenda is to generate **stepped care path proposals for children and adults suffering from obesity**. These will serve as a basis for dialogue with RIZIV/INAMI, the Belgian Institute for health and disability insurance, and with other policymakers. By tackling this in a **coordinated way** and by **speaking with one voice**, the Platform's proposals can be conveyed more forcefully and will generate more impact on policy.

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## Structure



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## Structure



**The president**, elected by the Board, oversees the strategic direction of the board.

**The board**, under the lead of the president, is responsible for the set-up and management of the strategy. The board strives to achieve a multidisciplinary approach and geographical spread within Belgium between its members. The board can consist of scientific experts, patient associations, policy makers...with a unified voice to achieve efficient policy engagement to provide better care and health outcomes for people with obesity.

The **ambassador community** gathers stakeholders of the entire obesity landscape that are willing to support the board strategy and implement the proposals and actions as decided by the board.

**The backoffice** is mandated by the board to perform administrative and operational tasks that are predefined in common agreement. The backoffice concerns a third party supplier and is mandated on an annual basis. The backoffice reports back to the board on a quarterly basis.

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## Membership



The Belgian Obesity Platform consists of a mix of **non-funding and funding members**. All non-funding members have the same rights and perform activities on a **voluntary basis**, to support the board strategy and implement the proposals and actions as decided by the board. They are **not remunerated** for their participation to any of the activities related to this platform.

Non-funding members: These members are non-profit organizations or individuals that contribute to the Belgian Obesity Platform.

Funding members: These members are for profit companies also contributing financially to the Belgian Obesity Platform.

The Belgian Obesity Platform is open to **everyone willing to advance multidisciplinary care of obesity in Belgium** adhering to the mission and the vision of the obesity platform. It is an independent platform that has not been established to promote individual treatments or technologies from any of its funding members.



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## Membership



### Engagement of the members:

An **active and constructive role** is expected from every member to help achieving the mission and vision of the Belgian Obesity Platform. Every member is expected to take up a proactive and **ambassador role** e.g. adhere to the mission and vision of the Belgian Obesity Platform, promote events of the Belgian Obesity Platform, connect the dots with interested new members,...

### Ambassador community:

**In first instance the president and founding members will constitute the board** and decide upon the direction of the Belgian Obesity Platform. **In second instance, once the board will be up and running, the ambassador community will be created.** New members are approved by the board upon receipt of application through mail via the backoffice. Members who wish to dismiss can do so by notifying the backoffice via mail.



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