



## Damien Peelo (COPD Support Ireland)

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“Opportunities for patient involvement are growing all the time and patients are becoming more empowered to engage in meaningful ways in all stages of medicine and research development.”

“I would like to see Ireland becoming a leading nation in active patient involvement. From my own experiences as a patient and a patient advocate, I have experienced the significant benefits of the partnership arrangement between patients and academic, hospitals, State and corporate institutions and also seen how things can go wrong when the patient voice is an afterthought. Inclusion is always better than exclusion.”

### Expertise / Areas of interest

- EUPATI fellow
- BSC (hons) University of Ulster Community Development and Social Policy.
- I am interested in research into self-management of chronic disease, genetic diseases and the use of biological drugs to manage chronic disease.

### Patient involvement experience

- I have experience of research as a participant (passive) into genetic disease where blood samples are gathered and no other involvement is required. This has led to an increased desire to be more active in research.
- With COPD Support Ireland we are working as a stakeholder in a multi organisation and international application for research which includes our active participation in all stages of the application process.