

PCIG PASS - Supporting Patient and Carer Participation at the 2026 HTAi Annual Meeting in Istanbul, Türkiye

<https://htai.eventsair.com/htai-2026-istanbul-annual-meeting/pcig-pass-program>

The PCIG PASS supports patients, carers and patient representatives to attend the HTAi Annual Meeting in Istanbul, Türkiye from 6-10 June 2026, where they would otherwise be unable to take part due to financial barriers.

The PASS is offered by the HTAi Patient and Citizen Involvement in HTA Interest Group (PCIG) to strengthen meaningful patient participation and build global capacity in health technology assessment (HTA).

Who can apply?

You may apply for the PASS if you:

- Have lived experience as a **patient or carer**, OR
- Represent patients (for example, through a patient or community organization, including online groups), OR
- Represent patients on an HTA committee (for example, as a consumer/patient/public/lay member), OR
- Have received an HTAi Participation Grant or are a plenary speaker **and** fall into one of the three categories above, and need a *partial* PCIG PASS for expenses not covered by that Grant.

What the PCIG PASS provides

Successful applicants will receive:

- Economy (coach) class travel to/from **Istanbul, Türkiye**, and accommodation for up to **6 nights** (booked by HTAi)
- Complimentary **early-bird registration** for the HTAi Annual Meeting
- Complimentary registration for the **PCIG pre-conference workshop** (Sunday, 7 June 2026)
- Up to **USD 300** for incidentals, such as:
 - Local ground transport (e.g. taxi)
 - Meals (excluding alcohol)
 - Visa costs
 - Accessibility support
 - Additional workshop attendance
 - Formal or informal dinners
 - Mobile data expenses

Additional support for PASS recipients

PCIG also provides:

- A virtual briefing before the Annual Meeting (covering logistics and expense claims)
- Optional buddy support during the Annual Meeting
- A WhatsApp group for PASS recipients to stay connected and ask questions
- Invitation to the PCIG informal dinner

What PCIG asks in return

To help ensure the program runs smoothly and remains sustainable, recipients agree to:

- Accept or decline their PASS offer by **23 March 2026**
- Respond promptly to booking information requests
- Notify PCIG as soon as possible if they can no longer attend
- Attend the PCIG pre-conference workshop and other PCIG activities during the Annual Meeting
- Complete a short post-meeting evaluation

Your feedback helps improve future PASS programs and supports ongoing sponsorship.

Key dates to note

- **12 March 2026** – Application deadline
- **19 March 2026** – Successful applicants notified
- **23 March 2026** – Deadline to accept PASS
- **25 March 2026** – Unsuccessful applicants notified
- **26 March 2026** – Early-bird registration deadline
- **22 May 2026** – Online briefing for PASS recipients
- **6–10 June 2026** – HTAi Annual Meeting, Istanbul, Türkiye

Our sponsors

PCIG gratefully acknowledges:

Sanofi • Roche • Edwards • PhRMA • Menarini

for their sponsorship and commitment to patient participation at HTAi.

How to apply

1. Letter of support

If you have **not applied for a PCIG PASS in the past 3 years**, please provide a short letter from:

- Someone in your organization (not yourself), or
- Another organization familiar with your work

confirming their support for your attendance.

If you have submitted this previously, you do not need to provide it again.

2. Complete the online application form

The form is available [here](#). You will be asked for:

- Full name (as per passport)
- Email address
- WhatsApp number
- Alternative contact person
- Country of residence
- Organization (if applicable)
- Brief description of your patient/community/advocacy role
- Brief description of your interest or experience in HTA or PCIG, and why you wish to attend the Annual Meeting
- Session name (if presenting or contributing during the Annual Meeting)
- Flight departure location
- Passport expiry date
- Any additional needs

Scoring and selection

Although our sponsors are very generous each year, international travel to Istanbul, Türkiye is expensive and we regret that we cannot give a PASS to everyone.

Applications are reviewed by members of the PCIG Steering Committee to confirm eligibility, then scored based on:

- Demonstrated interest or experience in patient involvement in HTA or PCIG
- Contribution to the Annual Meeting

Applications are also assessed to support diversity across health conditions and geographical regions. Each application is reviewed by at least two Steering Committee members. All reviewers declare conflicts of interest.

Please note:

- Previously receiving a PASS does not exclude you from future applications
- Past applicants and past PASS recipients are welcome to apply again. To help broaden participation, applications from people who have not previously received a PASS may be taken into account during scoring
- A PASS is not transferable

Who is PCIG?

PCIG is HTAi's Patient and Citizen Involvement in HTA Interest Group. It was established in 2005 and is a global volunteer network spanning patient organizations, HTA bodies, industry, research, healthcare, and not-for-profits. PCIG develops tools, resources and methods to strengthen patient and citizen involvement in HTA and shares good practice internationally. Find out more about PCIG [here](#).

What is the HTAi Annual Meeting?

This year the HTAi Annual meeting includes:

- A **2.5-day meeting**, plus
- **2 days of pre-meeting workshops**

bringing together patients, researchers, clinicians, policymakers and industry to advance HTA worldwide.

You can find out about the Annual Meeting here: [2026 HTAi Annual Meeting](#)

Any questions?

Email: to.patient-citizen@htai.org