



EUROPEAN UNION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS
UNION EUROPEENNE DES MEDECINS OMNIPRATICIENS



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NATIONAL REPORT OF THE SPANISH DELEGATION
Toledo, 26th October 2007

1. The Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs continues passing laws at national level

- Medicinal Products Acts reserves the right of prescription to doctors and dentists.
- Antismoking Law that forbids smoking in public places, as well as tobacco publicity and sale to minors.
- Withdrawal of the Anti-alcohol and prevention of minors' alcohol consumption Law. The main causes of this withdrawal have been the treatment given to the wine sector and the enterprises and political pressures.
- Dependency Law for helping families and caretakers of dependent patients. This law has been elaborated behind doctors and patients back, leads aside the sanitary aspects of care and is centred solely in the social aspects of the dependent citizens. With nearly 2700 million euros of budget, it will not be totally performed until 2015.
- Generalization of the implementation of the Medical Professional Career in the 17 Autonomous Communities.

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Yet the present situation of the medical professionals, mainly in the scope of Primary Care (MG/MF and Paediatrics) is of lack of motivation, with increased labour and bureaucracy loads, extreme overcrowding in offices and lack of autonomy in the decisions, with an evident budgetary abandonment for PC (15% of the Health Budget at present). It is why nearly 5,500 PC Spanish Doctors has gone away in the last years, and we are receiving more than 3,300 of EU and non-EU doctors, many of them with degree and training criteria of doubtful suitability in most cases.

2. Consejo General de Colegios Médicos (GCC OM):

There are numerous and determined performances in defence of the medical profession and specifically of PC supporting its vindications in favour of the dignity and the professional improvement, integrated in a Platform formed by more than 52 institutions, scientific, professional and union associations called "10 minutes Platform", that asks for: to have at least 10 minutes by consultation, enough time for training, prevention, teaching and investigation, and community work; to diminish the bureaucracy (multiprescription); eradication of "junk" contracts and avoiding the professionals drain, as well as greater levels of professional autonomy and motivation, and recognition of their work and devotion. A strike for al PCS was called on the 10th November 2006, and a more recent one on the 10th April; but it seems there are attempts, for the moment on the paper, to improve the situation.

The opening of the CGCOM to the citizenship and population in general has shaped in numerous Days of Socio-Sanitary Spreading with great success, among which we emphasized: Days of Ethics of the Prescription, Smoking, Teenagers' Alcohol Consumption, Palliative Care, Child and Youngs' Obesity, Euthanasia, etc.

A collaboration agreement has been signed in 2007 between the Minister of Health and the CGCOM President which, besides recognizing the role of doctors to improve the caring quality of the National Health System, announces the development of measures to boost it and special measures to support the work of the medical professionals in search of quality standards.

Last 29th of March, the Spanish Medical License Card was successfully presented in the Spanish Senate Palace. This is a project of the CGCOM to certify doctors' identity, as much in the physical as in the digital world. It is based on electronic signature technology and digital certification systems. It guarantees universal access to health services outside the patient's residence, allows identification of Spanish licensed doctors in all European Union countries and in the USA, guarantying security and reliability.

To the above-mentioned institutional event attended, as special guest, the UEMO President Dr. Isabel Caixeiro, as well as the CPME General Secretary and other authorities.

From June 2007, there is as new Ministry of Health, Dr. Bernat Soria, physician specialized in investigation.

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