17 April 2018

Outcomes of the CPME General Assembly and Board meetings on 14 April 2018 in Brussels, Belgium

On 14 April 2018, delegates from 32 National Medical Associations attended the biannual General Assembly and Board meetings of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME).

The CPME Board adopted:

CPME statement on the European Commission proposal for a Regulation on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) (available here):
"HTA cooperation at EU level has the potential to enhance evidence-based decisions on new drugs and medical technologies. To reach that objective, we need to guarantee the application of the highest scientific and clinical standards together with stringent rules on independence and transparency" said Dr Jacques de Haller, CPME President.

CPME considers of utmost importance to ensure a meaningful involvement of healthcare professionals as well as the highest level of independence and transparency in the context of the joint work to foster trust in the system. The voluntary participation of Member States should be favoured and essential aspects need to be further addressed in the proposed regulation. The methodology, timelines and evidence requirements for the joint clinical assessment, which is the cornerstone of this proposal, should be agreed upfront.

CPME Policy on Trans Fats (available here):
"The new CPME policy encourages the EU to take actions to limit intakes of trans fats whose consumption increases the risk of coronary heart disease more than any other nutrient. A legislative limit would protect the health of all EU citizens regardless of their health literacy, financial resources or access to food products. Doctors should receive the necessary nutrition education including information about the health effects of trans fats during their medical training, so that they can contribute to improving and maintaining healthy lives" argued Dr Patrick O’Sullivan, Chair of the CPME Working Group on Diet, Nutrition and Physical Activity.

The CPME policy calls on the European Commission to propose a legislative limit for the amount of industrially produced trans fats contained in foods of 2 g per 100 g of fat, and to introduce mandatory labelling of the trans fats content of foods in the nutrition declaration on food labels.

CPME admits new associated organisation member:
The General Assembly of the Standing Committee of European Doctors admitted the Medical Women’s International Association (MWIA) as new CPME associated organisation member. “MWIA will contribute to raise awareness within CPME on the whole scope of gender medicine, i.e. the differences between men and women as patients and as health professionals, and on key issues such as maternity leave, career progression and fighting discrimination. We look forward to working together with MWIA to reinforce doctors’ visibility and strengthens our influence at European and global level.” said Dr Jacques de Haller, CPME President.

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