

HOSPITAL PHARMACY

## EU: a platform consensuará specialty in hospital pharmacy

European society of hospital pharmacy takes the first steps to harmonize the studies within the European Union.

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**Roberto Frontini, President of the European Association of Hospital pharmacists. (CF)**

The European society of hospital pharmacy (EAHP, its acronym in English) is taking the first steps towards the creation of a specialty shop for these professionals in the European Union. As explained by its President, Roberto Frontini, interview exclusively with CF, "the road would be the creation of a platform in which at least nine EU countries will pool and create a joint specialty". For now, allegedly already would have the approval of six: Austria, France, Italy, Hungary, Czech Republic and Spain. And will they be added to "Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany, esteem.

The figure of nine members is not trivial: "is the minimum required by the European Commission - at least one-third of the countries member - to give the go-ahead to specialisation, without the need to approve in the European Parliament", explains Frontini. The initiative was born to the slipstream of the updating of the European directive on recognition of professionals launched in December by the European Commission and aims to stimulate and facilitate the exchange of professionals between EU countries, an initiative that proposes, among other things, create a European professional card to facilitate the recognition of workers between countries (see CF III 16, 2009).

**"Without a doubt, the European Commission will accept changes in the directive when many show that specialization is necessary"**

In essence, the text would affect the healthcare (physicians, pharmacists, nurses and dentists) and only medicine specialists. In this regard, the EAHP has submitted claims to the Commission in the final version "it opens the door to proprietary medicinal products, including the hospital".

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European society intends to embark on a lobby to "those countries where specialization is compulsory or is established". The first step is to convince national responsible for specialization and scientific societies, and ministries later. To date, only the Ministry of health Czech has been the official Yes, arguing that it will help to "provide the best care to the patient". Frontini hopes that through 2012 ministries go adding to the proposal.

After a first meeting with the President of the Spanish, José Luis Poveda, and the President of the National Commission for the specialty, Joaquín Giráldez, Frontini is optimistic ". He hoped that Spain "adopt a pro-active role", given that "has made a large role with the specialization, getting to equate the position of the pharmacist your doctor".

Frontini understands that aligning this project to nine of the countries where the specialty is regulated, will be "the approval of the Commission". His approach, explains, "is on the line accept the change in the directive when many countries demonstrate the need for the title".

#### SIMILAR TO THE EURO

The reference for the model of specialization which raises the EAHP is similar to the functioning of the euro. It would not be compulsory for all the countries of the EU, but those who join will have to comply.

The common approach, explains, is that studies "have a duration of four years, which is the standard that it has also set for medical specializations".

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