



CPME/AD/Brd/210902/16/EN/fr

At its Board meeting, Brussels, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2002, the CPME adopted the following policy : **Proposed CPME comments on the report “G10 Medicines** (CPME 2002/073 Final EN/fr)

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**Proposed CPME comments on the report “G 10 Medicines” –CPME Info 32-2002.**

The provision of Medicines to patients is a key area in order to provide the citizens of the European Union the best health care possible. CPME welcomes the report. It is well written, valuable and analyses the topics concerned and focuses on a small number of important recommendations.

CPME also welcomes the methodology used including working parties and broad consultations to seek the views of other stakeholders. The program of workshops to examine specific issues in more detail has also proven to be a success. Some comments though emphasising areas of special importance.

**Concerning: Competitiveness and Performance Indicators**

CPME supports Recommendation I.

**Concerning: Competition, Regulation, Access and Availability in Markets**

CPME supports Recommendation II but underlines that medicines are special products. The aim must be not to improve market penetration but to ensure prompt market availability of new improved therapies.

CPME supports Recommendation III and IV.

CPME expresses its concern about recommendation V a). Prior to treatment it is absolutely vital that a diagnosis is secured. Serious illnesses might be obscured by treatment, medication, based on symptoms only. CPME, AESGP, UEMO and UEMS (CP 1997/006, CP 1998/066) have jointly agreed upon Patient Empowerment and Self-Medication in response to an initiative by the Commission on community action in the field of public health (Com (94) 202). Underlining patient safety and public health, CPME confirms its support of these joint statements. In addition CPME reiterates its concern stated in CP 2001/151 Final that a generous liberalisation of the OTC market may lead to a situation where patients lacking information have a higher consumption of medicines than appropriate and thus putting public health at risk.

CPME supports recommendations VI and VII.

**Concerning: Stimulating Innovation and improving the EU Science Base**  
CPME support Recommendations VIII, IX.

Recommendation X is a key recommendation and CPME expresses its readiness to take part in this crucial work to find a distinction between marketing and information. CPME also underlines the need for the public to identify quality approved information on the internet.

CPME reiterates the need for accurate information in patient information leaflets. The medical profession must take part in this review not only as experts but also as stakeholders as a profession (recommendation XI).

CPME supports recommendations XII, XIII and XIV.

Reference documents : CP 2001/151 Final  
CP 1998/066  
CP 1997/006  
CP 1996/036 Final  
CP/PGEU/AESGP, Symposium on “Self-Medication in the European Healthcare Systems: Changing Roles For All Partners” Supported by the European Commission