



Newsletter No 11 - 07

December 6th, 2007- Schöneck

Dear CAM – supporters,

on October 18th of this year, two events took place that will have consequences for CAM in Europe:

The **1st European Dialogue Forum in Medicine** (*dialogforum- pluralism in medicine*), took place in Brussels, and in Bonn, at **BfArM in Dialogue** the main topic was “*Traditional Herbal Medicine – From Tradition to new Perspectives*”.

We attended both of these important events and will soon have two detailed summaries available for you to read on the new **ANME Homepage**. (In summary, it is worth mentioning that usage of the word “dialogue” should have more accurately been referred to as “permission to ask questions”.)

In Brussels, CAM was divided into “good” (likely to be proven effective scientifically), and “bad” forms of therapy - *Pluralism?* This style of defining Complimentary Medicine (CM), is to be implemented in the reimbursement procedures of health insurance companies.

An obvious goal was that the legal practice of scientifically proven effective Complimentary Medicine in Europe, only be allowed by trained doctors with the title “Master of CAM”. This would very much be in the interest of consumer protection and EU requirements (see ANME – Member’s Newsletter 7-07).

In Bonn (Germany), Mrs. Koch MD of BfArM, gave a very strict interpretation of the EMEA recommended attention given to gene toxicity in herbal medicines: every plant (herbal medication), must be proven not to be genetically harmful. The opportunity to apply for this “presentation of proof” is expected to be available by the end of 2008. With this move, BfArM places all plants under suspicion of damaging a person’s genetic make-up (for very strong minded see attached file).

“*New Perspectives*” of this sort are also supported by Mr. Knöss MD (BfArM), concerning the topic of “Dangerous Interactions”, in the future acceptance of any herbal medication. In the German newspaper FAZ dated Oct. 24, 2007, an article entitled “End of Season for Herbal Medicines”, peppermint, eucalyptus, artichokes, liquorice, stinging nettle, turmeric, ginkgo, garlic, camomile and meadow saffron are all suspected of possible interactions by Mr. Knöss.

On that note, prove to me you don’t own a light blue Rolls Royce!!

We send you our regards
and we wish you all an hopefull CAM - year 2008!

Nora Laubstein

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