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ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
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ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟCΙΑCΙΑ ΝΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΝΗCΗΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ**

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MEDICAL CAREERS

The main topic of discussion with the Health Ministry is the medical career structure. The Portuguese Medical Association intends to extend the medical careers structure to all sectors – private and public sectors, public sector with private management, companies in public sector – in cross section, in order to allow doctors to change from one institution to another keeping the same medical title or category.

The Portuguese Medical Association must be responsible for this process of medical qualification in the same way that it's done for medical internship – defining programmes, pointing out the juries and establishing methods of evaluation.

This negotiation is being carried out also with medical trade unions discussing salaries, medical categories and labour conditions.

The PMA is rather sceptical about reaching an agreement before the elections for the Parliament that will take place in October 2009 because the discussion with trade unions is being hard.

GENERIC'S POLICY

The National Pharmacy Association (NPA) set up a campaign to substitute, in the pharmacy, the doctor's prescription without his consent, shifting the responsibility to the patient.

The argument is to reduce expenses for Government and patients but the real motive is to make more money selling the most profit ones considering that NPA is now producing generics.

The position of the PMA is that doctor's prescription (generic or trade-mark), should be respected by pharmacists and no substitution allowed without doctor's permission. In this matter the key point is trust and patient's safety.

The steady position of PMA and the intervention of Health Minister stopped this campaign but the discussion is still in the media.

LACK OF DOCTORS

We'll have an important reduction of doctors in the next years but will increase after 2016. The Government is trying to import doctors from South America sometimes without accomplishing the rules of Portuguese Medical Association for foreign doctors, but we soon hope to reach an agreement avoiding a diplomatic conflict between Governments.