



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PATIENTS' ASSOCIATIONS FOR ANTHROPOSOPHIC MEDICINE

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Public consultation on measures for improving the recognition of prescriptions issued in another Member States

The European Federation of Patients' Associations for Anthroposophic Medicine, representing 15 national patients' associations for anthroposophic medicine in Europe (12 in EU-member states, 3 in non-EU European states) likes to thank the European Commission for the opportunity to provide comments to the public consultation for improving the recognition of prescriptions.

EFPAM would like to draw the attention of the Commission to the following facts:

- Despite efforts by various European and national authorities the registration of a large number of anthroposophic remedies in various European member states has up to date not been resolved satisfactorily. This prevents the unhindered availability of said remedies throughout the European Union and causes unnecessary distress for patients who rely on these products.
- In those member states where Directive 2004/24/EC has been implemented in national law it has often been done in such a way that new hurdles and obstacles have been created.
- Patients in various member states, among them in the Netherlands and Sweden, are confronted with the fact that prescriptions by their doctors cannot be fulfilled by local pharmacies in their own country and they are forced to obtain their prescribed medicines through sources (pharmacies) in other member states. This causes not only unnecessary delays in delivery, but also additional costs.
- This cannot be the aim of the Directive, but has been the result of different interpretations of the legal texts.

EFPAM invites the European Commission in particular to improve the recognition of cross-border prescriptions for anthroposophic medicines (prescribed by medical doctors) and their cross-border availability in pharmacies in all European member states without obstacles and the least possible costs by addressing the problems caused by another directive.

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