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Press Office

Press release

European Medicines Agency publishes final 'Road map to 2015'

Five-year strategy sets out Agency's role as a public-health agency

The European Medicines Agency has published its final 'Road map to 2015', coinciding with the 16th anniversary of its inauguration on 26 January 2011.

The 'Road map to 2015' sets out the Agency's vision in further developing its role as a European public-health agency in the field of medicines. Building on the achievements made by the previous road map initiative between 2005 and 2010, the new road map proposes three priority areas for future actions to strengthen the Agency's role in protecting and promoting human and animal health in the European Union:

- **Addressing public-health needs** by: stimulating medicines development in areas of unmet medical needs, neglected diseases and rare diseases, and for all types of medicines for veterinary use; facilitating new approaches to medicines development; applying a more proactive approach to public-health threats where medicines are implicated.
- **Facilitating access to medicines** by: addressing the high attrition rate during the medicines-development process; reinforcing the benefit/risk-balance assessment model; continuing to improve the quality and the regulatory and scientific consistency of the outcome of the scientific review.
- **Optimising the safe and rational use of medicines** by: strengthening the evidence base in the post-authorisation phase to enable better regulatory decision-making; enhancing patient safety by avoiding unnecessary risks to patients as a result of the use of medicines; becoming a reference point for information on medicines evaluated by the Agency; improving the decision-making process by taking due account of patient experience, thus contributing to the rational use of medicines.

The road map has been drafted in consultation with the Agency's European partners, stakeholders, including patients' and doctors' organisations as well as pharmaceutical industry, and the public, to ensure a broad consensus on the best approach to be taken for the Agency to fulfil its public mandate to protect and promote public health in the European Union over the coming years.

In developing its road map, the Agency continues to ensure that its vision is consistent with and complementary to strategic directions provided by the European Commission, the Council of the European Union and the Heads of Medicines Agencies.

Notes

1. This press release, together with all related documents, is available on the Agency's website.
2. The 'Road map to 2015' is available on the Agency's website.
3. The successful delivery of the Agency's vision is dependent on the availability of the necessary resources.
4. Detailed information on the implementation of the road map will be provided in the document 'From vision to reality', to be published in the course of 2011.
5. The 'Strategy for the Heads of Medicines Agencies', 2011-2015 can be found on the Heads of Medicines Agencies website:
http://www.hma.eu/fileadmin/dateien/HMA_joint/HMA_Strategy_Paper_II/HMA_Strategy_final_version_2_.pdf
6. More information on the work of the European Medicines Agency can be found on its website:
www.ema.europa.eu

Contact our press officers

Monika Benstetter or Sabine Haubenreisser

Tel. +44 (0)20 7418 8427

E-mail: press@ema.europa.eu