



European Medicines Agency
Press Office

London, 2 June 2006
Doc. Ref. EMEA/195895/2006

PRESS RELEASE
‘European Quality Leader of the year 2006’ award goes to EMEA staff member

The European Medicines Agency’s Integrated Quality Management (IQM) adviser Marijke Korteweg has been awarded the title of ‘European Quality Leader of the Year 2006’ by the European Organisation for Quality.

Dr Korteweg has received this prestigious award in recognition of her continuous striving over two decades for quality and improvement of the European medicines system.

She has made substantial contributions to putting in place an integrated quality management system at the European Medicines Agency that aims to ensure effective planning, operation and control of processes within the Agency and to continually improve its interaction with partners in the European network. This system enables the Agency to consistently perform its legal tasks in the best possible way and to use resources made available to the Agency in an effective, efficient, prudent and transparent way. She has also been instrumental in introducing, in view of the EU/EEA enlargement, a system of self-assessment and benchmarking, based on ISO9004:2000, which is tailored to the processes at medicines agencies and used to measure performance improvement of the EMEA and its networkpartners in a cost-effective way

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1. Marijke Korteweg holds a PhD in Chemistry and a PhD in Biochemistry (Professor’s degree) and is Fellow of the Institute of Quality Assurance. She joined the European Medicines Agency in London in 1997.
2. More information about the European Medicines Agency integrated quality management system is available [here](#).
3. More information about the European Organization for Quality is available at www.eoq.org.
4. This press release together with more information about the European Medicines Agency is available at www.emea.eu.int.

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