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The 2010 "Prescrire Encounters"

Organised by the Prescrire team, with the participation of Belgium's CAMG (Centre académique de médecine générale de l'Université catholique de Louvain), GRAS (Groupe de Recherche et d'Action en Santé), SSPF (Société scientifique des pharmaciens francophones) and FMM (Fédération des maisons médicales), the next "Prescrire Encounters" will take place in Brussels, on 28 and 29 May 2010.

The theme: ensuring access to quality healthcare for all

There is no shortage of obstacles standing in the way of access to quality healthcare for all. Some are financial, cultural, or social. Other obstacles stem from mentalities, or from the way public healthcare and welfare systems are organised. Such is the case, for example, in the way roles are divided up between different healthcare professionals, in the way healthcare professionals are paid, and in the impact of the healthcare system's organisation on the quality of care.

Key avenues of thought and discussion

Ensuring access to quality healthcare for all requires:

- a clear vision of the principal obstacles to access, and knowledge of just who we are working for;
- targeting necessary care, (re)discovering what is essential, avoiding preventable adverse effects, avoiding the waste of resources, and whenever possible involving the patient, who is the interested party, in decision-making;
- undertaking concrete actions in terms of the organisation of healthcare, in particular methods to ensure quality and independence for primary healthcare providers.

Save the date

The 2010 "Prescrire Encounters" will feature a friendly atmosphere and a programme of group discussions, workshops and plenary sessions, in addition to a display of posters from the various participants.

The proceedings will be in French, but a broad range of European and international participants and viewpoints are expected, and encouraged.

Save the dates (28 and 29 May 2010 in Brussels), and check online at www.prescrire.org from January 2010 for more information.

For full details: rencontres2010@prescrire.org