



Outcomes of the CPME meetings on 6 April 2019, Valletta (Malta)

On 06 April 2019, delegates from 32 National Medical Associations attended the biannual General Assembly and Board meetings of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME). The CPME Board adopted among other items:

Enable healthy living for all

This [CPME policy on healthy living](#) calls on central and local political authorities to structure local communities and health services in a way that ensures equal possibilities for healthy living for all. It asks to continue to reinforce structural measures locally and nationally that support the availability of healthy food, limit or prevent access to alcohol, tobacco and other addictive substances. Furthermore, it recommends facilitating regular physical activity and promote healthy environments. CPME also calls on national medical associations to encourage all doctors to promote healthy lifestyles during their contacts with patients.

Respect ethical dimension in AI

CPME welcomes the European Commission's ambition to include the ethical dimension when shaping the future EU framework on artificial intelligence (AI) and reaffirms the importance of ensuring data security and safeguarding medical confidentiality. In its statement, CPME pledges for the appropriate involvement of DG SANTE and relevant stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, in future EU developments affecting the healthcare sector. Following this [first statement](#), CPME will prepare a more comprehensive policy paper on artificial intelligence to be adopted later this year.

Commitment to high quality care

The new [CPME position paper on defensive medicine](#) underlines the importance of evidence-based medicine appropriate for each individual patient's health needs. At the same time, the position paper recognises the prevalence of defensive medicine. To tackle this phenomenon, CPME sets out a series of recommendations which focus on systemic factors which can prevent defensive medicine. Such factors are the adherence to clinical guidelines and continuing professional development, as well as the meaningful patient communication, in the case of adverse events.

BREXIT: BMA will stay in CPME

In unanimity the General Assembly confirmed the decision to maintain full membership of the British Medical Association (BMA) notwithstanding the results of the Brexit process. British medicine is European medicine!

CPME President Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery concluded "I would like to thank all CPME members for their active contributions to the successful CPME meetings. Our decisions show that together we, the European doctors, take the best decisions to defend public health, human rights and high-quality healthcare."

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