

## **Volume 2 / Issue 1 Spring 2007 - EU Section**

### **German Presidency and the EU Healthcare Agenda**

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In the healthcare sector, the German Presidency has defined health promotion, innovation and access to healthcare as its priorities. Its specific aims are:

- î to achieve Lisbon Agenda goals on health issues
- î to finalise the health action programme until 2013
- î to draw a community framework on health services, patient mobility and cross-border services
- î to implement international health regulations
- î to co-operate with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- î to work together with the World Health Organization on health promotion strategies
- î to work on the Commission White Paper on mental health

One of the first major events in the healthcare area was an Event on "The Social Dimension in the Internal Market – Perspectives on Healthcare in Europe". Held at Postdam on January 15-16, it covered the EU's new health strategy and examined its role in a period when national health services face serious challenges ranging from demographic change to new technologies.

The German Presidency coincides with the launch of the Seventh Framework Programme on Research (FP7), with a considerable amount of new approaches on issues such as first-time funding of security research and its opening up to cooperation with third countries. (CC)

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