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Press release

European Medicines Agency launches new organisational structure and new visual identity

The European Medicines Agency officially unveiled a package of changes on 8 December 2009, with the launch of a new organisational structure and new visual identity.

Among the highlights of the new organisational structure is the integration of human pre- and post-authorisation activities into one unit, to guarantee seamless lifecycle-management of medicines. The creation of a new unit for patient health protection further strengthens the Agency's focus on safety-monitoring of medicines. In addition, a dedicated group for the management of product data and documentation will improve the efficiency of data management processes throughout the Agency.

Established in 1995, this is only the second time there has been a major re-organisation of the Agency's services. The Agency's responsibilities and tasks have grown, giving it a stronger role in the protection of public and animal health in Europe. The number of medicines the Agency is overseeing has increased, as has the complexity of procedures. All of this has been underpinned by the creation of additional scientific committees and advisory groups, which bring with them the need for enhanced coordination and support. Legislative proposals currently being considered by the European Parliament and Council are expected to bring further responsibilities to the Agency.

Welcoming the changes, the Agency's Executive Director, Thomas Lönngren, said: "This package of changes aims at preparing the Agency for the future. The new structure reinforces our operational ability to deliver on our increasingly complex tasks, and our new visual identity will help to improve the quality and consistency of our communications with our partners and the public."

The new visual identity will help to promote public recognition of the Agency and its contribution to public and animal health.

A new public website for the Agency is nearing the end of development and will be launched in the coming months. With the current website being visited more than 700,000 times each month, the new site is being designed with the needs of the public in mind, offering improved navigation and search functionality, providing better access to information on public-health issues.

Also from today onwards, the Agency's website has a new address, www.ema.europa.eu, and Agency e-mail addresses take the extension '@ema.europa.eu'.



Notes

- 1. See here for the 5 October 2009 press release announcing the internal implementation of the reorganised structure.
- 2. See <u>here</u> for the revised organisation chart.
- 3. See here for a reference guide to the new organisational structure, including contact details for the Agency's management staff.
- 4. See here for further information on the Agency's new visual identity.
- 5. E-mail addresses for staff and functional mailboxes are composed as follows: 'forename.surname@ema.europa.eu'. Messages sent to old e-mail addresses will continue to be delivered for a period of one year.
- 6. Reference numbers for the Agency's documents will also change from 'EMEA/123456/2009' to 'EMA/123456/2009'. The change will not impact on the sequence number or year index where an existing document is revised and re-published.
- 7. This press release, together with other information on the work of the European Medicines Agency, can be found on the Agency's website: www.ema.europa.eu

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