



## The European Pharmacopoeia / European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines (EDQM) of the Council of Europe has become the "*EDQM & HealthCare*"

Strasbourg: 14.12.2006 - The Council of Europe has decided to apply the EDQM's expertise in consultation and networking activities at the European and world level to two new areas of great importance:

- **Blood transfusion:** the work programme is based on three main principles:
  - no commercial use of products of human origin,
  - voluntary, non-remunerated donations,
  - protecting the health of donors and recipients.
  
- **Organ transplantation:** the work programme is based on the following principles:
  - guaranteeing human dignity,
  - striving to maintain and improve the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
  - ensuring that there is no commercial use of products of human origin,
  - protecting donors as well as recipients.

The transfer of these activities becomes effective at the beginning of 2007.

The EDQM of the Council of Europe is one of the main "harmonising and co-ordinating" European organisations involved in standardising, regulating and controlling the quality of medicines.

Set up in 1964 with the signature of the [European Pharmacopoeia Convention](#), the EDQM's activities were extended in 1994 to other areas concerning medicines for human and veterinary use. From the beginning, it has developed its activities in close collaboration with the European Union and other partner organisations to promote the implementation of a coherent regulatory framework that satisfies public health needs.

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