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II Post-ISPOR Meeting

'NEW PERSPECTIVES TO IMPROVE HEALTH SYSTEMS OF THE 21ST CENTURY'

On March 26th at the Ministry of Health in Madrid, the II Post-ISPOR Meeting took place. It involved the highest authority on medicines of the Ministry of Health, the general director of pharmacy, Patricia Lacruz.

The first table was moderated by Professor Emeritus, Felix Lobo (Carlos III University) on orphan drugs and the challenges of promoting innovation and costs of therapies, involved top authorities in the field as speakers: Dr Salvador Peiró (Public Health Research Centre of Valencia), Dr Josep Torrent-Farnell (director of the medicine area of Catsalut), Dr Miguel Ángel Calleja (president of the Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacy) and Dr Isabel Pineros (General sub-directorate of Pharmacy).

Orphan drugs are in the spotlight of the Health Administration for their high cost, but, at the same time, there is the intention to encourage research into this area due to the existing high medical need of therapies.

The second table was moderated by Professor Guillem López-Casasnovas (Pompeu Fabra University), discussed trends in the evaluation, selection and funding of healthcare technologies. The speakers were: Dr César Hernández (Spanish Agency for Medicines and Health Products), Dr Miguel Ángel Casado (Carlos III University) and Pedro Luís Sánchez (Farmaindustria).

This session dealt with the new funding models for medicines and healthcare technologies that allow technological innovations to be integrated in the system and, at the same time, maintaining the sustainability of the health system.