



The cover image shows a blurred laboratory setting with a microscope in the foreground. In the background, a whiteboard displays a network of terms: 'Data', 'Patents', 'Research', 'Intellectual Resources', 'Development', 'Business', 'Leadership', and 'Insight'. The 'EUROPA BIO' logo is at the top left, and 'SME Bulletin' is written in large, bold letters across the middle.

EUROPA BIOTM

SME Bulletin

Issue 4, December 2011

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Dear Members of SME Platform, Dear friends of SMEs,



As we approach the end of another year, I take the opportunity to relay to you the positive developments for European Biotech SMEs that have taken place during the course of the past 12 months.

While our industry continues to face the challenge of access to finance, considerable progress has been made in shaping policies that can have a positive impact on biotech SME's in Europe. The most notable achievements have been in raising the profile and situation of biotech SME and ensuring that biotech SME's are high on the agenda of European policymakers. These efforts have resulted in a range of tangible initiatives at the European level.

The EuropaBio SME Platform began the year by launching a new publication focussing specifically on Biotech SMEs and what is needed to allow them to champion smart, sustainable and inclusive economic growth in Europe. The report outlined six key recommendations that are necessary in order for biotech SMEs to flourish in Europe: to make the EU funding instruments more accessible to biotech SMEs; to develop measures to increase the availability of risk capital to biotech SME's through venture capital; to ensure that the European State Aid rules do not unduly restrict public finance available to biotech SME's at member state level; to strengthen the ability to capture the more of the value of research within Europe; and, finally, to bring down unnecessary administrative and cost barriers that restrict access to European programmes such as the EU Framework Programme for Research to make these more attractive for biotech SMEs.

EuropaBio has been active in shaping the direction of a number of current and new initiatives of the European Commission affecting finance available to biotech SMEs. One of the notable achievements has been the considerable progress on widening the potential for funding for SMEs under the Commissions Consolidated Framework Programme, FP7. This has been reflected in far greater emphasis was placed on the participation of innovative SMEs, particularly through calls for SME lead topics, simplified and accelerated administrative procedures and a total of 50% of funding being ear-marked for SME-targeted research with the aim to double SME participation in 2012. In addition, in response to our efforts, there has been a commitment to simplify the application process in most cases and to reduce the administrative burden involved in these programmes.

At the end of November the European Commission presented its proposal for the next research and innovation programme for the period 2014-2020, which it has named 'Horizon 2020.' The proposals are now going through the normal legislative process which means that both the European Parliament and the Council of ministers will have to vote and agree on the proposition. A final approval is expected in 2013. Significantly, the new Framework Programme named biotechnology as one of the six enabling technologies that can boost the European economy and



The header features the EuropaBio logo on the left, a network diagram with terms like 'Data', 'Patents', 'Research', 'Intellectual Resources', 'Development', 'Business', 'Insight', and 'Leadership' in the center, and a blurred image of a microscope on the right. The main title 'SME Bulletin' is prominently displayed in a large, dark font.

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gave even greater emphasis to SME participation, with specific incentives in place to entice SME participation in EU funding programmes. Vice-President Antonio Tajani also announced a new programme to boost competitiveness and innovation in SMEs, with an additional budget of €2.5 billion.

A key object of the SME platform has been to raise the profile and importance of biotech SMEs to the European Economy. One important way to achieve this is to bring important “success stories” to the public attention. The year ended on a high with the EuropaBio Most Innovative Biotech SME Award, which took place in the European Parliament in November. More details of the event, which attracted over 100 participants from the business and regulatory environment alike, can be found later on in this bulletin.

Much of the responsibility for ensuring a strong and supportive climate for entrepreneurship and innovation in biotechnology lies with the member states. In order to take advantage of the wider European experience toward this objective, EuropaBio and its National Associations Council with working with the major international firm of Ernst and Young to survey key factors which have shown to be useful in fostering biotech entrepreneurship in selected member states. We are hoping to demonstrate some the measures of “best practice” that can be incorporated into the policy agenda of countries seeking to take greater commercial advantage of their potential in biotechnology.

While much has been achieved in the past year, there is still work to be done. Communicating to SMEs that Framework Programmes in Europe have become more accessible has become a key objective of the SME Platform, while at the same time encouraging the Commission to further simplify the rules. Different funding mechanisms and legislation needs to be in place for innovative and non- innovative SMEs and the EuropaBio SME Platform will continue to strive towards achieving this goal all within the context of achieving the economic potential that is reflected in Europe’s strong managerial and scientific base in biotechnology.

The SME Platform was intended to draw together a wide representation of stakeholders to identity and promote the objective of ensuring a successful and sustainable community of small and medium-sized companies translating Europe strong science base into socially and commercially valuable opportunities. I want to thank all of those individuals and organisations who have been involved , as well as the staff of EuropaBio for their efforts this year. May I wish all of you a very happy holiday season and successful New Year.



Thomas Reese Saylor, Chairman Europabio’s SME Platform & CEO Arcor.

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SME of the month

In this month's addition we here from Prosensa Therapeutics, this year's winner of the EuropaBio Most Innovative European Biotech SME award presented at a ceremony in Brussels on 8 November 2011. Prosensa achieved significant progress throughout the past 12 months in their work, which focuses on developing treatments for rare disease, so much so that they went from being a candidate for the EuropaBio Award in 2010 to over-all winners in 2011. CEO Hans Schikan and CBO Luc Dochez describe what it feels like working for a company that provides amazing innovative solutions for some of society's greatest concerns.



*Hans Schikan, CEO Prosensa
Speaking at the EuropaBio
Most Innovative Biotech SME
Award ceremony, Nov 8*

I first met a patient with a rare disease in 2004, and the first thing she did was approach me and tell me everything I needed to know about her disease. This was a real eye-opener for me: a patient, rather than a health professional, was going to inform me about her disease. That same patient later became a key advocate and played a key role in creating access for a treatment for her condition. Reflecting on this experience, at Prosensa we have put patients and patient advocacy groups at the centre of what we do.

Focusing on rare diseases with unmet medical need

Prosensa is a Dutch SME company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of RNA modulating therapeutics correcting gene expression in rare diseases. Our focus is on developing treatments for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), as well as Myotonic Dystrophy (DM1) and Huntington's disease.

DMD is a highly debilitating disease that gradually weakens the muscles in the arms, legs and body and predominantly affects young boys. Initially, boys have difficulty to climb stairs and they tire easily. Before they become teenagers, the boys' respiratory muscles are also affected leading to respiratory failure, and the requirement for overnight-, and then, 24 hour-assisted ventilation. Few patients survive the age of 30.



The logo for EUROPA BIO SME Bulletin features the text 'EUROPA BIO' in a stylized font with a caduceus symbol, and 'SME Bulletin' in a larger, bold font. A network diagram with nodes like 'Data', 'Patents', 'Research', 'Intellectual Resources', 'Development', 'Business', 'Insight', and 'Leadership' is overlaid on the text. The background shows a blurred laboratory setting with a microscope in the foreground.

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DMD is caused by the absence of or a dysfunctional dystrophin protein. While dystrophin only makes up a very small proportion of muscle tissue, its absence or presence of a dysfunctional form leads to the symptoms described above. Specifically, DMD results from mutations in the gene encoding for dystrophin (the DMD gene). These mutations in the DNA result in erroneous RNA, during transcription of the gene. When protein synthesis mechanisms then attempt to “read” the erroneous RNA, the sequence is incomprehensible. This causes premature abortion of protein synthesis, resulting in the absence of dystrophin in the muscle tissue, or a presence of a dysfunctional form and hence disease symptoms.

Prosensa’s technology is aimed at rectifying these errors, using a cutting edge molecular biology technique called exon skipping. This method creates a “readable” RNA sequence, leading to protein synthesis of a dystrophin protein with restored function. Most importantly, this should reverse the symptoms of disease. The real subtlety and power of our approach is that, by precisely knowing which mutation DMD patients have, we can design the most appropriate exon skipping compound to correct this error. This versatility enables us to address the majority of mutations that occur in the DMD gene.

Building a biotech SME

The rare diseases field has recently attracted significant interest from big pharmaceutical companies, but it hasn’t always been that way. Historically, companies involved in rare diseases and orphan drugs – drugs for diseases affecting fewer than 5 in 10,000 people in the EU – found difficulty in attracting investment opportunities from venture capital and pharmaceutical companies.

For Prosensa, early stage financing came from support of strong patient advocacy groups, willing to invest in Prosensa’s plan of developing pharmaceuticals for DMD. We then attracted financing from a strong syndicate of investors and have raised EUR 31.5 million to date. We also set out to find a suitable pharmaceutical partner for our drug; to this end we announced a partnership with GlaxoSmithKline on 13th October 2009, and a further strengthening of this collaboration to encompass additional DMD drugs in 2010 and 2011. The alliance is worth approximately GBP 428 million in milestone payments plus double digit royalty payments.

“In the past 12 months, we have made significant advances in our DMD programme and our efforts to transform into a specialty company in rare diseases”, commented Luc Dochez, Chief Business Officer for Prosensa “Our most notable development was the start of the Phase III clinical trials our lead compound, PRO051, in collaboration with GSK. This trial is designed to assess the efficacy of the drug in patients who carry specific mutations in their DMD gene. We also reported positive results from the Phase I/II clinical trials in the New England Journal of Medicine.”

Prosensa is currently developing the most advanced portfolio for the treatment of different subpopulations of DMD patients. In addition to PRO051, we are developing 5 additional programmes targeting exons 44, 45, 52, 53 and 55, which are in various stages of preclinical and clinical development. The collaborative spirit we have cultivated with GlaxoSmithKline has allowed us to extend our portfolio from initially two compounds to six, four of which are part of our agreement with GSK. Both companies remain firmly committed to advancing the programmes, with the aim to provide treatments to as many DMD patients as possible.



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It was perhaps the combination of the above – drug pipeline advances, extension of our collaboration with GSK, close collaborations with patients and patient advocacy groups – that convinced this year’s judges to give us the EuropaBio award.

Challenges that lie ahead

Despite the recent advances, we do not want to rest on our laurels. There are significant challenges ahead, especially regarding orphan drug development and legislation.

DMD patients with different mutations need different compounds for treatment. This requirement poses a particular challenge for the design of an appropriate clinical development plan, especially for compounds that are intended to address the more rare mutations in DMD patients. The scarcity of patients makes it almost impossible to recruit appropriate numbers and design clinical trials in the same way as for common diseases.

Instead, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies and patient groups are advocating a more rational approach, in which data from the safety and efficacy of lead compounds could potentially be used as evidence for the safety and efficacy of other similar compounds. This will significantly aid development and drug regulatory approval of treatments for DMD patients that could not have been approved by the current standards of regulatory legislation.

Another challenge that pharmaceutical companies face after EU market approval is the existence of country-specific policies regarding access to orphan drugs. Adoption in certain member states may be impeded, as each EU member state has control over its healthcare system may set its own criteria for the pricing and reimbursement of orphan drugs. Many pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies have advocated for the need of a European-wide policy on access and reimbursement to orphan drugs. To this end, the European Commission has launched several initiatives in the field of rare diseases, in an effort to provide strong recommendations for all stakeholders in the EU-member states.

Despite those challenges, we are optimistic. All employees of Prosensa have one common objective: to make a difference for patients, affected by a devastating disease for which no treatment exists. This is the passion which is felt in Prosensa every single day. This is the dedication which fuels our growth.

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SME Platform activities

EuropaBio Most Innovative Biotech SME Award 2011



Now in its second year, the EuropaBio Most Innovative Biotech SME Award took place on 8 November, at the EuropaBio event entitled "Biotechnology: what's in it for you", hosted at the European Parliament by Julie Girling, MEP. Prosensa Therapeutics, who were a candidate for the award in 2010 were revealed as this year's winner. They fought off stiff competition from 26 other applicants from across the EU, all of which demonstrated ground-breaking research in the field of biotechnology in its healthcare, agricultural and industrial applications.

The press release can be found [here](#)

The Top five 2011 candidates were:

[AiCuris](#) (DE); [BioCentras](#) (LT); [Cardio3 Biosciences](#) (BE); [Prosensa Therapeutics](#) (NL); [To-BBB](#) (NL)



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The Keynote speakers were G.Steven Burrill, founder and CEO of Burrill & Co as well as Daniel Calleja-Crespo, SME Envoy & Deputy Director General of DG Industry and Entrepreneurship, European Commission.

Further information, including the event video, presentations and media coverage can be found on the SME centre of the EuropaBio Website [here](#)

SME Stakeholder Roundtable Initiative

A first of its kind biotech SME stakeholder roundtable discussion took place in the European Parliament on November 8th. The event was hosted by MEP Julie Girling. Among the speakers and guests were: the EuropaBio SME award candidates; National Biotech Association representatives; G.Steven Burrill, founder and CEO of Burrill & Co; Jos Peeters, founder and CEO of Capricorn Venture Capitalists; Robert Madelin Director General DG Digital Agenda; Daniel Calleja-Crespo, SME Envoy & Deputy Director General of DG Industry and Entrepreneurship, European Commission; Maive Rute, Director for Food & Agriculture, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission; Stephane Hogan, Head of Unit, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission ; Marc Schublin, Director, European Investment Fund, European Investment Bank ; Martin Koch, DG Research and Innovation, SME Unit/Financing, European Commission.

Following the positive outcome of the discussions, several workshops in conjunction with the Commission as well as further SME Platform roundtable initiatives will take place in 2012. Details of such events will be uploaded to the EuropaBio website.

SME Platform Press Activities

[Nature Biotechnology Magazine: “Money Pot for SME’s”](#)

The European Commission (EC) has allocated €654 (\$941) million to fund 38 health-related topics, and this time small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are encouraged to apply. The EC's 6th call for health research proposals, funded by the 7th Framework Programme for 2012, was launched in July and contains several changes that should be of clear benefit to SMEs. “I've never seen such a quick turnaround from feedback into action,” comments Nathalie Moll, secretary general at EuropaBio in Belgium.[Further reading](#)

[Chemistry & Industry Magazine: Biotech: positive thinking needed](#)

Within the European Commission (EC), there is increasing recognition that biotech SMEs are important drivers of innovation. In July 2010, the EC committed €6.4bn to research and innovation in the sector. Some national governments have also taken a hand in funding innovation. In France, for example, OSEO – a collaboration between the innovation agency ANVAR and the development bank BDPME – is financing biotech companies.



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Network diagram terms: Data, Patents, Research, Intellectual Resources, Development, Business, Leadership, Insight.

Nevertheless, biotech SMEs face a difficult journey towards financial sustainability and success. During 2010, they operated against a backdrop of slow economic recovery, cost-cutting governments and a reorganising pharmaceutical sector. Public markets were almost closed, and venture capitalists (VCs) were reluctant to invest, particularly in early-stage companies. Times were tough in Europe in 2010, reports Tom Saylor, chair of EuropaBio's SME Platform and ceo of Arecor, but are getting better.

[Further reading](#)

[EuropaBio Press release: Horizon 2020: Biotechnology to play a major role in meeting European 'Grand Challenges'](#)

The European Commission's Horizon 2020 launch on November 30th named biotechnology as one of the six enabling technologies that can boost the European economy, ensuring that the EU remains sustainable, globally competitive and a centre for excellence in science. Horizon 2020 - the European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation- also outlines the most prevalent Grand Challenges that EU research and Innovation policy should tackle.

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Overview of SME News

July

Commission announces latest €7 billion of investment in research and innovation – frequently asked questions

The latest European Commission calls for proposals (invitations to bid for funding) for research and innovation projects under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) are worth €7 billion. They focus on tackling the challenges that matter most to Europeans today and on creating sustainable growth and jobs. The Commission has adopted the 2012 work programme today (19 July), most of the calls will be formally launched tomorrow (20 July), deadlines for application are spread over the period leading up to the turn of the year and decisions on allocating the funding to individual projects will be taken in 2012.

Access to finance: instrumental in SME success

While small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are crucial to Europe's economic well-being, they often find it difficult to secure financing. To tackle this issue, the EU has developed tools specifically aimed at giving SMEs greater access to loans and equity finance: these financial instruments, funded under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), have a strong track record of success.

September

Call for proposals for small to medium-sized enterprise internationalisation through clusters

The European Commission has published a call for proposals for small to medium-sized enterprise (SME) internationalisation through clusters.

The purpose of this call is to support the preparation and organisation of five events in 2012 and 2013. These offering matchmaking opportunities for European cluster organisations and their member small to medium-sized enterprise with international partners outside Europe.

Envoy: SME funds will not be sector specific

The EU executive and member states should be forced to consider the impact that their laws will have on SMEs before they introduce them, according to Daniel Calleja Crespo, the EU's SME envoy. He also confirmed that extra financing with the EU's new budget will be targeted at any type of SME which has a growth potential and will not only be reserved for innovative or research-led companies focusing on EU priorities.

Envoy calls for European 'SME brake' on new laws

EU member states should apply an 'SME test' to ensure that draft laws do not clash with smaller companies' growth, according to proposals by the EU's SME envoy, who also called for diverting research funds to small businesses.

Commission requests France and Luxembourg to cut administrative burden on SMEs

The European Commission has requested France and Luxembourg to reduce administrative burdens on small and medium sized companies by complying with their obligation to fully implement Directive [2009/49/EC](#) of 18 June 2009 as regards certain disclosure requirements for medium-sized companies and the obligation to draw up consolidated accounts. The Directive, which was due to be implemented by Member States by 1 January 2011, relieves the reporting burden imposed on SMEs.

October

The proportion of unsuccessful loan applications by SMEs has risen with the economic crisis

The economic crisis has made it more difficult for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to access banking credit. The proportion of unsuccessful loan applications² rose between 2007 and 2010 in 19 of the 20 Member States for which data are available. The largest increases in unsuccessful loan applications were observed in Bulgaria (from 3% in 2007 to 36% in 2010), Ireland (from 1% to 27%) and Latvia (from 4% to 26%). Unsuccessful applications fell only in Sweden (from 9% to 6%).

In 2010, the highest percentages of unsuccessful applications were found in Bulgaria (36%), Ireland (27%), Latvia (26%), the Netherlands (23%), Lithuania and the United Kingdom (both 21%), and the lowest in Finland (0.2%), Malta (2%), Cyprus and Poland (both 4%) and Italy (5%).

Commission report notes economic climate threatens performance; SME Week 3-9 October

The European Commission presented today its 2010 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) report "Are EU SMEs recovering from the crisis?" - including surveys on each EU Member State (the SBA Fact Sheets) - on the occasion of the SME Week taking place throughout Europe from 3–9 October.

Small and medium sized enterprises: the situation in EU Member States 2010

The European Commission has just published Fact-Sheets on the situation concerning SMEs and regulations applying to them in all Member States. These form part of the SME Performance Review as a tool to monitor and assess Member States' performance in implementing the Small Business Act (SBA) on the basis of a wide range of success indicators, focusing most notably on the measures in the SBA Action Plan. In the review of the SBA in February 2011 the Commission and the Member States acknowledged that strong governance is key to successful implementation of the SBA.

European Digital Agenda: New EU-funded project aims to lower language barriers for SMEs

As part of the European SME week that took place in Brussels and in all 27 member States, UEAPME (the European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises) and ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) recently organised a high level conference on the benefits of the Digital agenda for SMEs at the European Parliament.

“Making Progress and Economic Enhancement a Reality for SMEs”: New Approaches Towards RTDI Programmes

The Opening ceremony had the following distinguished participants: Mr Gianluca Spinaci (Member of the cabinet of president of Committee of the Regions), Mrs. Lieve Van Woensel (DDG Research, European Commission), Mrs Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortinés (Member of the European Parliament) and Dr. Julián Seseña, chair of the European Experts Panel on Research by SMEs and Coordinator of the MAPEER SME FP7 project, funded by the European Commission.

Commission requests Belgium to cut administrative burden on SMEs

The European Commission has requested Belgium to reduce administrative burdens on small and medium sized companies (SMEs) by complying with their obligation to fully implement Directive [2009/49/EC](#) of 18 June 2009 as regards certain disclosure requirements for medium-sized companies and the obligation to draw up consolidated accounts. The Directive was due to be implemented by Member States by 1 January 2011.

European Medicines Agency simplifies SME assignment process

The European Medicines Agency has introduced a simplified process for handling requests from companies that wish to register as micro, small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The new process, which is based on more than five years of experience of working with SMEs, is expected to reduce the administrative burden on companies and to speed up the SME assignment and renewal process. The simplifications include:

- a move to electronic-only submissions;
- introduction of an ownership checklist to improve accuracy of submissions;
- a risk-based approach to the Agency's review process, reducing the number of submission that need to be checked;
- replacement of formal SME qualification documents with electronic versions.

November

‘Small Business, Big World — a new partnership to help SMEs seize global opportunities’

The European Commission proposes a new strategy aimed at helping small and medium-sized enterprises to expand their business outside the European Union. The new strategy sets out 6 fields of action:

1. Strengthening and mapping the existing supply of support services
2. Creating a single virtual gateway to information for SMEs

3. Making support schemes at EU level more consistent
4. Promoting clusters and networks for SME internationalisation
5. Rationalising new activities in priority markets
6. Leveraging existing EU external policies

Advisor opens new line on SME funding

Cash-strapped European small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have a new channel to access funding after an online platform for private company shares opened up to European investors for the first time.

Less regulatory burden for small businesses

On 23 November, the Commission presented a new approach to ensure that the EU responds better to the needs of small businesses. From now on, the European Commission will seek wherever possible to exempt micro-enterprises from EU legislation or introduce special regimes so as to minimise the regulatory burden on them.

Commission announces support for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and research projects in Jordan

On 24 November, The European Commission adopted two programmes in Jordan, which will provide support to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), as well as to research projects, helping to generate economic growth and employment in the country.

Horizon 2020: Commission proposes €80 billion investment in research and innovation to boost growth and jobs

The European Commission has presented a package of measures to boost research, innovation and competitiveness in Europe. On November 30th Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn announced Horizon 2020, an €80 billion programme for investment in research and innovation. Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou has put forward a Strategic Innovation Agenda for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), which will receive €2.8 billion of funding under Horizon 2020. In parallel, Vice-President Antonio Tajani has announced a complementary new programme to boost competitiveness and innovation in SMEs, with an additional budget of €2.5 billion. The funding programmes run from 2014 to 2020.

€ 2.5 billion to boost business competitiveness and SMEs 2014-2020

With a budget of € 2.5 billion over the period 2014-2020, the Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs, COSME is a funding instrument, which is largely continuing the activities under the current Competitiveness and Innovation programme (CIP).

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European Commission, EIB and EIF launch new scheme to help SMEs get loans for research and innovation

The European Commission and the European Investment Bank Group have launched a new guarantee facility for innovative small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to help them access finance from banks. This builds on the success of the Risk-Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF), launched in 2007, that has so far helped 75 companies benefit from over €7 billion in EIB loans to projects enhancing European growth and competitiveness. The new risk-sharing instrument for SMEs will be managed by the European Investment Fund (EIF). In addition, the EIB and the European Commission are to provide extra resources for research infrastructures.

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Upcoming Events in 2011

March 2012



Bio-Europe Spring 2012: 19-21 March 2012, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

BIO-Europe Spring[®] is the springtime counterpart to EBD Group's flagship conference, BIO-Europe[®], and continues the tradition of providing life science companies with high caliber partnering opportunities.



Economist Conferences: Healthcare in Europe, 22 March, Geneva

Healthcare in Europe, returning for its second year, will confront the major health challenges facing the continent. You'll be able to engage in genuine dialogue and discover practical solutions with a high-level group of influential healthcare stakeholders.

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Building on the success of this year's summit, next year's conference will again bring together key stakeholders from across the healthcare sector to debate the future of healthcare systems in Europe. Speakers already confirmed include:

- Recep Akdag, Minister of Health, Turkey
- David Byrne, Former EU Health Commissioner
- Sir Andrew Dillion, CEO, National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
- Else Smith, Director General, National Board of Health, Denmark
- Anant Kumar, CEO, LifeSpring Hospitals



European Commission: Innovation in Healthcare, 30-31 March, Brussels

The conference will bring together the key stakeholders involved in the innovation process of the healthcare sector in view of Europe 2020 and the Innovation Union Plan.

The main objective of the conference is to act as an innovation in healthcare policy forum involving the key actors and policy-makers in order to:

- Identify major challenges and build consensus to address them,
- Develop initiatives and opportunities for Healthcare Innovation;
- Provide continuity with previous events.

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If you would like further information on any of the above, please contact:

Alicia Venables

Tel- +32 2 739 11 81

a.venables@europabio.org

Or

Rosalind Travers

Tel- +32 2 739 11 73

r.travers@europabio.org

You can also visit our SME Centre website:

<http://www.europabio.org/sme-0>