



**Fédération Européenne  
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### **CESM-Spain (October 2013)**

On July 30<sup>th</sup> CESM, representing the labor rights of the physicians, has signed with other medical institutions an important agreement with the Spanish Ministry of Health in order to guarantee the maintenance and quality of the public health system, a proper legal framework and a direct dialogue with the Administration.

The pact was signed by the Forum for the Medical Profession (FPME) formed by the Confederation of Medical Unions (CESM), the General Council of Physicians (CGCOM), the National Conference of Deans of Spanish Medical Universities (CND-Medicine), the Federation of Spanish Medical- Scientific Associations (FACME) and the State Board of Medical Students (CEEM). Our main goal is to secure the current model of the Spanish Public Health System, considered as one of the most important "pillars" of the Spanish State of Welfare.

The agreed document is the result of a very long negotiation which began on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February, date on which the Ministry of Health and the Forum for the Medical Profession (FPME) created three working groups on the following topics: "Health Agreement", "Human Resources" and "Clinical Management".

We summarize some of the main points:

- Ensure public health care: free, universal, equal, of quality and tax-funded.
- Ensure the quality of public services and the rights of patients in the context of a responsible government, transparent, under public scrutiny and public participation.
- If necessary, contracting with private institutions provided they meet certain legal requirements, conditions and quality standards, as long as they are compromised to ensure that the resources of the public health system are optimized.

#### Clinical Management

The agreement can be considered as a Decalogue of "good intentions" and it must be developed, previous the approval of all parties involved.

Meanwhile, some of the Spanish medical unions that form CESM, have expressed some doubts regarding the content of the agreement that right now are being discussed before the agreement starts to take shape. We are concerned about the implementation and development of the Clinical Management Units, in order to avoid any loss of rights or deterioration of our working conditions.



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The three main arguments in favor of this agreement: 1) services managed by the physician (in the Clinical Management Units) will be voluntary and without loss of rights, 2) rejection of any approach that do not involve an expectation of improvement, 3) leading health management could constitute an alternative to privatize the Spanish Public Management model and to avoid it, CESM will work hand to hand with the Spanish Ministry of Health.