



Brussels, 29 March 2011

***Invitation:  
Meeting of the European Parliament Interest Group  
on Complementary and Alternative Medicine***

**Topic:** Healthy ageing, chronic disease management and the potential contribution of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) in these areas

**Date:** Tuesday 12 April 14.00 –16.00

**Venue:** European Parliament --- Room XXX XXXX

Middle-aged and older people are increasingly turning to CAM to help maintain their health and to treat their chronic healthcare problems. CAM improves the quality of their lives through helping prevent or slow the onset of chronic conditions that may eventually lead to disability. CAM has the potential to both supplement potentially expensive orthodox healthcare and to prevent people from needing it. Unlike conventional medical care, which relies heavily on high technology and pharmaceuticals, CAM is typically low-tech and generally less costly. CAM focuses on maintaining the health and wellness of citizens of all ages and thereby helps establish an active preventive agenda as ageing inevitably takes place.

Representatives of CAM stakeholders have been invited to make brief presentations outlining the evidence for CAM, its cost-effectiveness and how it can contribute to the Healthy Ageing Agenda. The meeting will offer the opportunity for relevant policy makers and stakeholders to enter into an active dialogue and thereby assist the EP Interest Group on CAM to make informed decisions on a subject that is highly relevant for the health of all EU citizens.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to welcoming you on 12 April.

With best wishes,

Elena Oana Antonescu MEP

Marian Harkin MEP

Liisa Jaakonsaari MEP

Sirpa Pietikäinen MEP

Thomas Ulmer MEP

Chiles Chichester MEP

## **AGENDA**

- 1 Welcome and introduction: Marian Harkin MEP**
  
- 2 Position of DG Health and Consumers**  
Subject: Healthy Ageing and the Innovative Partnership  
  
**Mr Jorge Pinto Antunes**  
DG Health and Consumers, Unit Strategy and Analysis
  
- 3 Position of EUROCAM, the alliance of European umbrella organisations of patients, physicians and practitioners in the field of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)**  
Subject: Healthy ageing, chronic disease management and the potential contribution of Complementary and Alternative Medicine in these areas  
  
**Dr Ton Nicolai**, President ECH  
  
**Mr Seamus Connolly**, President EFCAM
  
- 4 Open discussion**
  
- 5 Close: Marian Harkin MEP**