Complementary and Alternative Medicine (Integrative Medicine)

European citizens – the patient’s voice

- Anthroposophic Medicine
- Ayurvedic Medicine
- Naturopathy
- Herbal Medicine
- Phytotherapy
- Homeopathy
- Traditional Chinese Medicine

European citizens – the patient’s voice
Users of CAM

- Some 250,000,000 European citizens use CAM on a regular basis or occasionally
- In 2/3 of the EU Member States
What do patients want?

- Responsibility for their own health (Patient in the driver seat)
- Patient-centred health care that respects their needs, preferences and values
- Freedom of choice (plurality) in medicine
- The best standard of care
- Included in our health care insurance systems
  - Reimbursement of complementary medicine and medicinal products

*European citizens – the patient’s voice*
What is the problem with Medicinal Products used by CAM modalities?

European citizens – the patient’s voice
Four main problem areas

- Accessibility
- Applicability
- Availability
- Affordability
Four main problem areas

- **Accessibility**
  - National legislation or no legislation in force
  - Diverse interpretations

- Applicability

- Availability

- Affordability

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- **Applicability**
  - Huge administrative hurdle (costs!)
  - Not applicable to full range (limited scope)
  - Each market has its own peculiarities

- **Availability**

- **Affordability**

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- **Availability**
  - Availability is not universal: unavailable or (extremely) limited
  - Development of a grey/black market in Europe (safety!!)

- **Affordability**

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- **Affordability**
  - Prices have risen enormously due to overregulation
  - Limited or no reimbursement

*European citizens – the patient’s voice*