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Annual Conference

6th EHFCN Annual Conference
Edinburgh, 6-7 October 2009

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EVENT
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Dear Members

At long last here is our somewhat overdue EHFCN newsletter! There have been many things to plan and organise at the EHFCN office recently and no time left to write sooner..... We do hope you have noticed that the office and the network have been increasingly active over these last few months. The EHFCN Office has been working hard to increase its visibility to the network and enhance external as well as internal communications with members. Preparations for the EHFCN Annual Conference are well under way and the new EHFCN website has also been launched. We are also taking the opportunity of our Conference to present a new initiative, the EHFCN Excellence Award and we are in the process of preparing an Annual Report on fraud and corruption in the healthcare sector across Europe.

> EHFCN Annual Conference – Edinburgh, 6-7 October 2009

With less than two months to the 6th EHFCN Annual Conference we are well on track for a landmark meeting that will assemble people committed to the fight against fraud and corruption in the healthcare sector. If you haven't registered yet, there is still time to join us. To do so simply follow this link :
<http://www.cfs.scot.nhs.uk/events.php>

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Scottish Government and the National Health Services Scotland for extending the invitation to host our conference in Edinburgh and for their continuous support to make this conference a success.

In order to give you a flavour of the conference and the work of our Scottish counterparts the September-October issue of our newsletter, due mid September, will be entirely devoted to the activities that take place in Scotland to fight healthcare fraud and corruption. You can expect articles on how the General Medical Council and the National Health Service Scotland Counter Fraud Services work together to stamp out fraud as well as contributions from the Royal College of Nursing, Audit Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service. We have also asked a Fraud Liaison Officer to share his experience of working in the fight against healthcare fraud and corruption.

> EHFCN signs Memorandum of Understanding with Canadian and American healthcare anti-fraud associations

EHFCN recently announced the signing of a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the Canadian Health Care Anti-Fraud Association (CHCAA) and the American National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association (NHCAA).

All three organisations share the common goal of reducing and eliminating healthcare fraud in their respective jurisdictions, as well as globally. The action aims to create an international network of healthcare counter fraud organisations and professionals and pursue a co-operative and collaborative approach to combating the problem of healthcare fraud.

[Read more](#)

> EHFCN Website – www.ehfcn.org

The new EHFCN website was launched on 16 July and we strongly encourage you to take a look and provide us with any comments or feedback. Some parts of the website are still under construction, the extranet, among other features, which will be available in a few weeks' time, however we wanted to go live with this website in order to provide you with new information and easier navigation.

We hope that the new site serves as the meeting place for all EHFCN members, a place where you can share information and exchange best practices on the secure part of the website, but it should also function as the landing site for people wishing to know more about the work of EHFCN and who are looking for information on our activities. Whilst members remain a priority, the aim is to reach a wider audience involved in healthcare and/or counter fraud activities such as decision-makers, healthcare providers and their representative organisations (physicians' colleges, nurses organisations for example), health insurance funds, and ultimately patients themselves.

We really hope that the new website will be an incentive for our members to come together and create further input. We would also like you to inform us about:

- Any event (seminar, training, conference) that your organisation is involved in; any conference you plan to attend which is related to countering fraud and corruption in healthcare;
- Any news and press releases that your organisation sends out – we are very keen to be added to your news and media lists.

Please send these and any other relevant information to :

office@ehfcn.org

> EHFCN Excellence Award

At the occasion of its 6th Annual Conference EHFCN will confer its first Excellence Award. The award is granted to an organisation or individual who has proven excellence in the field of countering fraud and/or corruption in the healthcare sector by means of a particular action or initiative. It aims to stimulate best practices in counter fraud and counter corruption activities in healthcare. Recognising a particular action or initiative and giving it the credit deserved will also help EHFCN promote its aim, which is to improve European healthcare systems by reducing losses to fraud and corruption. Nominations can be made until 31 August 2009 and we encourage you to do so. The results of the Excellence Award will be announced in September 2009 and the Award will be presented at the EHFCN Annual Conference in Edinburgh (Scotland, UK) on 6 October 2009.

> EHFCN Annual Report – Survey

EHFCN is preparing an Annual Report with the aim to provide up-to-date information on fraud and corruption and on counter-fraud and counter-corruption activities in healthcare and their resulting effects in the 47 Member States of the Council of Europe. We strongly believe that the sharing of such information between different healthcare organisations will be to the benefit of all national healthcare systems. The EHFCN Annual Report can only be of added value to your organisation as well however, we need your input! Please assist us in gathering the requested data, figures and information via our survey or help us identify the right organisation/ person in your country who is best placed to answer these questions.

[Enter the survey](#)

Thanking you in advance.

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