

SEFAC and ESTEVE will collaborate in the development of new technologies in community pharmacy

- **The two entities have signed a framework agreement whereby several courses of action are planned. The first will be the performance of a study on the use of electronic prescriptions and health insurance cards in Spanish pharmacies.**
- **SEFAC and ESTEVE will also work on the development and promotion of new information technologies and new mobile applications aimed at improving therapeutic adherence and facilitate care provided by community pharmacists.**
- **As part of this collaboration, ESTEVE will sponsor a roundtable titled *From Science to Technology* at the VI National Congress of Community Pharmacists, to be held by SEFAC on May 23 in Malaga, Spain.**

The Spanish Society of Community Pharmacy (SEFAC) and ESTEVE have signed a framework agreement whereby both entities will collaborate to train on, investigate and foster new technologies used in community pharmacy. **Jesús C. Gómez, chairman of SEFAC, and Eugeni Sedano, ESTEVE's Director of Institutional Relations, signed the agreement** which, among other activities, envisages the performance of a study on the implementation and operation of electronic prescriptions and health insurance cards in Spain.

This study is already underway, coordinated by SEFAC's Commission on electronic prescriptions and health insurance cards, and has two objectives: one, to perform a thorough analysis of the characteristics of electronic prescriptions in the autonomous communities where electronic prescriptions are already implemented in different phases; and two, to conduct a **national survey, hosted at www.sefac.org, to ascertain the opinion of community pharmacists on this tool.** This work analyzes aspects such as the general usefulness of electronic prescriptions; whether these have allowed improving the quality of healthcare and the rational use of drugs; the extent to which patients benefit from them and bureaucracy is reduced; whether they are helping care provided by community pharmacists; pros and cons; and the changes that could or should be implemented to improve operation, among other subjects.

In addition, the agreement between SEFAC and ESTEVE also envisages the collaboration of both entities to **develop, promote and disseminate new technologies and applications** likely to help improve the quality of healthcare among community pharmacists and the communication of these with the rest of healthcare disciplines and with patients.



In this context, ESTEVE will sponsor a roundtable titled *From Science to Technology* at the VI National Congress of Community Pharmacists, to be held by SEFAC on May 23 in Malaga under the motto “Making a Difference”. This table will **address the different technological tools used to support healthcare as provided by pharmacists, ranging from pharmacogenomics- and therapeutic adherence-related computer programs to mobile terminal applications, including ESTEVE’s *expertSalud* application designed to improve self-care.**

About SEFAC

The Spanish Society of Community Pharmacy (SEFAC) was constituted in March 2001 as a scientific and professional association at the national level. With more than 2,400 members and nine local offices, SEFAC’s primary objective is to go more deeply into the care portfolio of community pharmacists and become a key scientific contact for community pharmacist communication with the different administrations and the rest of healthcare disciplines. More information at www.sefac.org

About ESTEVE

ESTEVE (www.esteve.com) is a leading chemical-pharmaceutical group in Spain and has a strong international presence. Ever since its foundation in 1929, ESTEVE has been firmly committed to excellence in the healthcare setting and has used its best efforts to promote health and improve the quality of life of people. Research being ESTEVE’s hallmark, a portfolio of highly innovating projects aims to provide responses to unmet medical needs. You may follow ESTEVE at Twitter’s link: http://twitter.com/esteve_news