Welcome to the new Health Commissioner-designate Vytenis Andriukaitis
September 2014

The European Heart Network (EHN) congratulates Mr Vytenis Andriukaitis on his nomination as Commissioner for Health and Food Safety and we look forward to working with him to tackle Europe’s and the European Union’s leading cause of death: cardiovascular diseases.

We have taken note of the addition of ‘food safety’ in the title of the European Union’s health chief. Certainly everybody recognises the importance of a high level of food safety. But, equally important is the nutritional quality of our food. “We strongly recommend that Mr Andriukaitis and his team and services continue to ensure that labelling and marketing of food in Europe focuses on promoting the most healthy food products. After all, providing people in Europe with healthy food is essential to prevent unnecessary chronic non-communicable diseases” says Susanne Løgstrup, Director of the EHN.

The regulation of pharmaceutical products and medical devices has been relocated from DG SANCO back to DG ENTERPRISE as has the responsibility for EMA. We are not aware of the reflections behind this relocation but we will continue to follow these dossiers looking out for the interests of millions of patients suffering from cardiovascular diseases.