

Tell me about the EDQM's activities in the field of blood transfusion.



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Answer:

Since 1 January 2007, the Council of Europe's work in the area of blood transfusion has been the responsibility of the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM). The steering committee on blood transfusion (CD-P-TS) continues the work of the former Council of Europe Committee of Experts in 'Blood Transfusion and Immunohaematology' (SP-HM). The secretariat was handed over to the Department of Biological Standardisation, OMCL Network and HealthCare (DBO) within the EDQM.

In transferring the activities, special consideration was given to continuing the promotion, implementation and follow-up of ethical issues and high quality and safety standards for professional practices in this field. Special consideration was also given to the organisation of the blood transfusion system in such a way that it protects donors and patients alike.