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Medicines and medical devices in the portfolio of the future Commissioner for Health

Medicines and medical devices are an integral part of health policy and therefore pharmaceutical and medical devices policies should be transferred from the portfolio of the Commissioner for Enterprise and Industry to the future Commissioner for Health. This governance change should also be reflected at the Directorate General level, with the health-focused DG bearing the responsibility for these files. In addition, it would reflect the changes introduced by the Lisbon Treaty to the Article on public health and would bring the management of this dossier within the European Commission in line with the Member States, the European Parliament and of the Council of the EU, where medicines and medical devices are treated as a matter of public health.

Not only would this signal to Europeans that the EU puts their health first, but this would also ensure a coherent and consistent approach to health policy at EU level.