News Release

‘The CLEER Project’
(Contact Lens European Evidence Reporting)

www.cleer-project.eu

Only 4 months left until the end of the project - December 31st, 2009!

*Appeal for more Eye Care Professionals to take part*

Brussels, September 1st, 2009

The www.cleer-project.eu was launched on June 1st 2008. Today, with only 4 months left, Eye Care Professionals (ophthalmologists, optometrists and opticians) from over 22 countries have entered 450 reports. Thanks to the co-operation with national programs in Germany, the Netherlands and the UK, the organizers expect to add another 250 reports. While satisfactory, the more reports are entered, the more convincing our data will be.

The deadline for submitting reports is December 31st 2009.

Keep in mind: All adverse incidents going back to June 1st 2008 can still be reported.

The objectives of CLEER are straightforward:
- to provide factual data i.e. evidence about significant incidents in Europe with contact lenses (including plano cosmetic lenses).
- to use this data to factually support discussions with European and national authorities to regulate the supply of contact lenses in order to ensure the best protection of the public.
- to use this data to factually support the request to European authorities to regulate plano cosmetic contact lenses as medical devices in order to ensure the best protection of the public.

While consumer safety is a key issue for forthcoming European legislation, be it the Medical Devices Directive or initiatives regarding alternative sales channels, it is astounding that little or no attention has so far been paid to issues like the regulation of non-corrective lenses as medical devices or the safe distribution of contact lenses. Other countries including the US and Japan have already put in place a strict legal environment for such products.

We need your reports to make CLEER an even greater success!

Don’t delay, send those reports now!

The website: www.cleer-project.eu gives full details on how to register and report.

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The European Contact Lens Forum (ECLF) consists of the following members (in alphabetical order):

- the European Contact Lens Society of Ophthalmology (ECLSO)
  www.eclso.eu

- the European Council of Optometry and Optics (ECOO)
  www.ecoo.info

- the European Federation of the Contact Lens Industry (EFCLIN)
  www.efclin.com

- the European Federation of National Associations and International Manufacturers of Contact Lens Products (EUROMCONTACT)
  www.euromcontact.org

- the European representative of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE).
  www.iacle.org

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www.CLEER-project.eu and www.euromcontact.org