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TATTOOING, FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND TRENDS WITH A REVIEW OF THE PRE-CONGRESS SEMINAR

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Tattooing is an ancient procedure that nowadays is increasingly a subject to regulations on the part of authorities. The pre-congress will focus on the current state of tattooing in Europe compiling epidemiologic data and the business of tattooing. This should include complications of tattoos, state of art of basic science as a prerequisite to regulation.

It is important that regulations will cover the EU nations to ensure the safety of tattoos and the protection of consumers along with the coming EU/CEN standard for tattoo hygiene in Europe. Adverse reactions to tattoos are frequently reported in the medical literature. Thus, surveillance of adverse tattoo events would be an important step to quantify the risks of tattooing.

The future outcome of such surveillance should be correlated to the knowledge about tattoo colorants and its ingredients proven by chemical analysis. All the information should be wrapped up to support regulatory requirements on national basis and EU-wide.