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**PRESS RELEASE**

## **HIMSS Europe eHealth Leadership Award Presented to Niels Rossing from Denmark**

BARCELONA (17 March 2010) – HIMSS Europe today presented their first Leadership award at *eHealth week 2010* in Barcelona to Niels Rossing, a former Chief Physician of Copenhagen University Hospital and Advisor to the Director General of the Danish National Board of Health. Mr. Rossing currently works as a Senior Consultant for MedCom in Denmark.

Dr. Petra Wilson, member of the HIMSS Europe Governing Council who presented the award, said that there was only one name that came to everyone's mind when the council reviewed nominees to fit the award criteria.

Niels Rossing, M.D. was Chief Physician at the Copenhagen University Hospital until 1988. He also held senior administrative posts at the National Board of Health in Denmark. In 1988 he moved to Brussels where he spearheaded the European Commission's R&D programme "Advanced informatics in Medicine" and "Health Telematics" until 1994 when he moved back to Copenhagen and continued to work as a CIO in Copenhagen. He has been a member of several national eHealth organizations and has worked as an advisor to the European Space Agency; WHO and ITU. He is an Honorary Fellow of the "European Federation of Medical Informatics" and is a member of the scientific Board of TICSALUT, Catalunya, Spain.

Petra Wilson listed several of Niels Rossing's accomplishments and thanked him for his contribution in the field of eHealth. Dr. Wilson stated that the award was inspired by the memory of Professor Jean-Claude Healy, former Head of Unit, ICT for Health at the European Commission and later Director at WHO, who passed away in April 2008. Apart from being a great inspiration, she said that Jean-Claude did not worry about rules, but about getting things done.

Niels Rossing, said that he was surprised, yet proud and humbled to receive such a prestigious award. He said that he was accepting this on behalf of the entire European eHealth Community, who have already paved the road to eHealth with many significant achievements. He noted in particular the key role of Jean-Claude Healy in creating the roadmap, which has been continued so ably by the current acting Head of Unit, Ilias Iakovidis, PhD.

The Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) is the premier professional member organisation exclusively focused on providing leadership for the optimal use of healthcare information technology. The HIMSS mission is to lead change in the healthcare information and management systems field through knowledge sharing, advocacy, collaboration, innovation and community affiliations. In June HIMSS Europe will be opening the nomination process for the 2011 European eHealth Leadership Award. For more information, please visit: [www.himsseurope.org](http://www.himsseurope.org)

**About the World of Health IT Conference & Exhibition:**

The World of Health IT Conference & Exhibition is the leading forum for the advancement of Health IT in Europe. Addressing the needs of key stakeholders in the European eHealth Community, The World of Health IT Conference & Exhibition offers professional development sessions, vendor exhibitions, best practice exchanges, networking sessions, and debates and discussions on the issues that will shape the future of eHealth. The WoHIT Organising Committee comprises the EC (European Commission), HIMSS (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society), EUROREC (European Institute for Health Records), COCIR (European Coordination Committee of the Radiological, Electromedical and Healthcare IT Industry), EHTEL (European Health Telematics Association) and EFMI (European Federation for Medical Informatics). Since its inception in 2006, WoHIT has welcomed over 5,000 attendees and 180 exhibitors from over 60 countries throughout Europe and Worldwide. Visit [www.worldofhealthit.org](http://www.worldofhealthit.org) for more information.

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