ENGLISHEDITION CONCERNENTS THU 27

**ELDERLY PEOPLE** 

# The podiatrists point out that the CAP service would only be needed in Encamp

The school assures that there is still no closed protocol either with Health or with CASS

Miguel rules out the manor houses, an option that is also viewed with suspicion by Zapatero



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## EL PERIÒDIC ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

he speech of the head of government, Xavier Espot, last week during the great party, in which he announced the measures to respond to the various demands of the elderly, still continues annoying. First was the federation of the elderly, which pointed out that it did not look favorably on the option of providing a podiatry service to seniors in manor houses, while last Tuesday the College of Podiatrists spoke out, which endorses the thesis of the elderly about nursing homes and, in addition, clarifies that the service at the Primary Care Centers (CAP) should only be provided in Encamp and Pas de la Casa, since in this parish there is not podiatry consultations.

«Since the Ministry of Health wants podiatry to enter through the CASS, they also want the elderly to have a podiatrist close to home, so we said that this CAP could be looked at, but only in places where there are consultations from podiatrists», explained the president of the College of Podiatrists, Nerea Miguel. For example, in Andorra la Vella or Sant Julià de Lòria, where there are many consultations, there would be no need for a podiatrist at the CAP, because the elderly have many options relatively close to home. According to Nerea Miguel, «it makes no sense to go to the CAP, where there is neither the necessary equipment, nor the machinery, nor the furniture». In addition, «the CAP people knew nothing about this and they don't agree either, since they have to allocate a place and a time

### NEREA MIGUEL

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PODIATRISTS «The CAP people also do not agree, since they have to allocate a place and a time that they cannot use»

«There are better options, such as the residences, and that's why I don't see any point in the option of the houses and the CAPs»

that they can't use, because they have other work, so the idea can't be like they have explained it from the Government, because it is not a service that can be generalized», she affirmed. Regarding the protocol for providing this service, from the College of Podiatrists they point out that it is not just about giving up space to the CAP, but that «there must be someone who wants to do it» and, moreover, since «we haven't been offered any conditions, we haven't said anything to anyone yet, because I can't guess if there is any member who is interested in providing this service», pointed out Miguel. In fact, «we haven't finalized anything, because I warned that no podiatrist would go to the CAPs where there are already podiatry consultations, and those that aren't there, we can look it, but they didn't tell me how, we don't know anything else.»

In this regard, podiatrists do not want to specify what the protocol would be and the conditions under which this service would be provided until the Ministry of Health suggests one. «Working in a CAP is not the same as working in a consultation», he clarified. In addition, «we are waiting for the CASS, since this is supposed to be a service that would cover social security, and we have not yet been called to talk», he said about whether podiatry will enter the portfolio of para-public services.

They haven't told me anything  ${/\!\!/} As$ for the manor houses, where Espot said it would also provide service, the president of the podiatrists assures that «they haven't told me anything». In this sense, Miguel agrees with the president of the federation of the elderly, Fèlix Zapatero, since, just as in the case of CAPs, depending on which areas there are podiatrist consultations near the homes. «If the service is the same, the school has established minimum prices, and what we cannot do is charge differently depending on where the service is provided,» she explained. In fact, «there are better options, such as in old people's homes, and that's why I don't see any sense in the fact that there are podiatrists in the CAP and in the manor house», she emphasized.  $\equiv$ 



# el Periòdic news

# Hybrid vehicles are the first choice at the Andorra la Vella Fair

Despite this, direct sales are reduced due to the lack of supplies of some brands.

# EL PERIÒDIC ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

ighly efficient vehicles and, specifically, hybrids, are the main options of interest for all the attendees who came to the car stands of Andorra la Vella Fair last weekend. In the same way, 100% electric cars and plug-in electric cars enjoyed great attention from buyers. This was emphasized by the president of the Association of Vehicle Importers of Andorra (AIVA), Carles Sansa, noting that «the public's attention to sustainable mobility is becoming more noticeable, taking into account that hydrocarbons will reach the limit of its exploitation».

Making a general summary of the stands of the automotive brands, Sansa made a general positive assessment about the development of the fair and the number of visits to the stands. Despite this, he indicated that in most cases a first contact between buyer and supplier was carried out, while direct operations were in the background compared to last year, in

Over the next few weeks, registrations resulting from the event will trickle down

which they were superior. In fact, Sansa stated that, at the moment, it is not possible to extract any specific data on the number of sales operations that took place at the Fair, but «over the next few weeks registrations will trickle in from the contacts made to give us a rough idea of the impact it has had.»

Going into the details of the causes of this decrease in direct sales, Sansa pointed to the current circumstances of lack of supply of some brands and models of vehicles. Likewise, he emphasized that the increase in the price of manufacturing materials, together with the increase in the price of hydrocarbons (focused on combustion cars) and electricity tariffs (focused on



►► The stands of the car brands at the Andorra la Vella Fair, the last weekend.



Carles Sansa PRESIDENT OF AIVA

«The attention of the general public to sustainable mobility is more noticeable considering that hydrocarbons will reach their limit»



cars that do not emit polluting gases) also contribute to the fact that «buyers spend more time thinking about which product is the most profitable for them at an economic level».

On the other hand, the AIVA president stressed that the absence of the Engega Plan, which develops the regulation of financial aid for electric mobility, energy efficiency and the safety of the car fleet, makes it difficult to promote vehicles with zero CO2 emissions. The budget item that the Government dedicated for this year was 800,000 euros and had November 15th as the due date, but the resources have previously been used up. In this sense, «many operations are on hold while waiting for the new Start-up Plan to be activated», Sansa said, at the same time predicting that towards the spring of next year the subsidies and aids will be reactivated, «but everything depends on budgets and the political will to promote sustainable transport».

Regarding the sale of conventional combustion vehicles in the context of the Fair, Sansa recognizes that vehicles with gasoline engines continue to maintain the hegemony over diesel ones, mainly due to the difference in the price of both types of hydrocarbons In addition, the sale of cars continues in the same dynamic as in previous editions. «It is not because of the fair that the sales of a particular brand increase, but there is a great variety of interests, as happens every year», pointed out Sansa.

Referring to the event's new location in the future multifunctional venue, the president of the AI-VA admitted that this place «will continue to be a relevant point of attraction, both in the country and in the areas adjacent to the Pyrenees». Despite everything, «time will tell how the influx of people to the Fair evolves, taking into account the sectoral differentiation of the

products and services offered», although the desire of the organizers and collaborators is «to grow the supply and demand and arouse the same interest in this meeting', affirmed Sansa. ≡

