

Report from UEMS-EBDV Spring Meeting, Cyprus 2015

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This April I attended my first meeting as a Swedish representative in EBDV-UEMS. To participate in UEMS-EBDV is important. Through EBDV we stay updated, on a European level, regarding educational matters, guidelines, new laws that have an impact on us, etc. UEMS-EBDV is also an organization to use to address issues regarding our specialty at national level to the next, European, level.

Short introduction to UEMS and EBDV

UEMS is the abbreviation for European Union of Medical Specialties/Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialités. UEMS' mission is to guard and to promote medical specialties on a EU level. The organization is currently composed of representatives from 37 European countries through their National Medical Associations. They all sit in the UEMS council located in Brussels. UEMS main tasks is to develop European standards for medical training, accreditation of Continuing Medical Education (CME) and to ensure a consistently high standard of medical care offered in Europe. They also conduct an extensive political lobbying.

Organization of UEMS

Sections/boards: Forty-two specialist sections, including EBDV. There are also 10 multidisciplinary joint committees, includ-

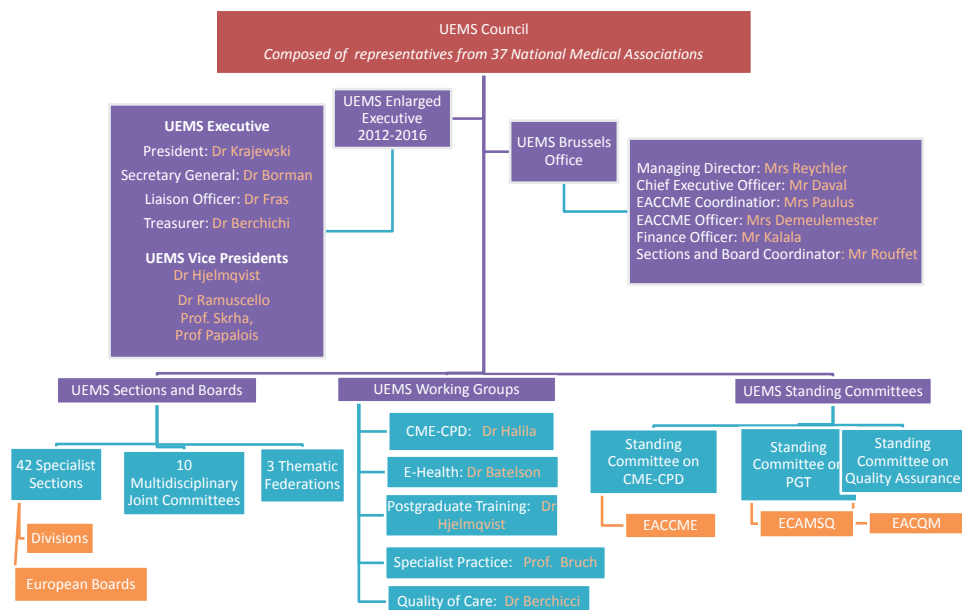
ing Sexual Health and Oncology. Furthermore there are 3 different Thematic Federations including Wound Healing. The latter has recently started on the initiative of dermatologists/EBDV.

Working groups: Five different working groups focusing on the following questions: CME-CPD, E-health, postgraduate training, specialist practice and quality of care.

Standing committees: Three committees who solely focus on one task: The European Accreditation Council for CME (EACCME) – CME-CPD, European Council for Accreditation of Medical Specialist Qualifications (ECAMSQ) – postgraduate training and European Accreditation of quality Assurance (EACQM) – quality assurance.

UEMS Council meet two times a year.

UEMS ORGANOGRAM



Report from the meeting

Every spring EBDV gathers for a 3-day meeting. During the first two days, the subcommissions meet. The last day the Board meeting is held, to which all representatives are invited to participate. Below is a short report regarding ongoing work in the different subcommissions and what was discussed at the Board meeting.

European Board examination

European Board examination takes place every year in August. The Board exam runs over two days, and consist of 370 questions. There are still few people who take the exam – 36 participated in the exam last year. Approximately 50% pass the complete exam on their first try. Ophthalmology, a specialty of our own size, has nearly 400 participants every year. An important goal for EBDV is to increase the amount of participants. I got the opportunity to take part in the review of questions for this year's exam. The requirement for theoretical knowledge is high and the exam also has a strong focus on dermatopathology. From 2016 and onwards the exam will be transferred into a digital format, and on a long-term the format should be adapted according to recommendations formulated by UEMS central. The cost for taking the exam is 400 EUR. There are currently two scholarships to apply for through EADV. Also European Dermatology Forum (EDF) is awarding one scholarship each year in conjunction with the course Euroderm Excellence. EBDV encourage the national organizations to spread the information regarding the examination. As one of UEMS tasks is to harmonize the quality of the specialist training programs, an approved degree at European level is one way of securing a consistent high quality of the specialist doctors working in Europe. There are suggestions, that in the future, one should require an approved examination to obtain the possibility to work throughout different countries in Europe, besides the country where the doctor had its specialist training program. Sweden, Denmark and Norway are currently the only countries in Europe that do not perform a test, an exam, at the end of residency program, in addition to recognition of log books etc., to ensure that the doctor reached the desired skills.

European Training Requirements for Dermato-Venereology

European Training Requirements for Dermato-Venereology is a document in progress to introduce a new European training curriculum for dermatovenereology. The plan is to have an approved curriculum before the end of 2016. The draft will be presented to the delegates this fall (2015). There is a simultaneous effort to design a worldwide curriculum for Dermato-Venereology, and the subcommission hope to have that at hand as a background material. The document should specify which general and specific competencies the doctor shall achieve and maintain over time, through continuing medical educations, to certify a high level of skills and knowledge. The European

Training Requirements considers being an important document on a national level to guarantee that the country meets the European standards for the training programs and in the end achieved knowledge for the individual doctor. All countries which attended the meeting, except the Nordic countries, have currently requirements regarding regulated CME points.

Subcommission Guidelines

The subcommission Guidelines reviews and comments the guidelines drawn up by EDF, to apply in Europe. The group works primarily via an e-mail platform. The EBDV guideline group works closely with the authoring group in EDF. It is desirable that each country has an EBDV representative working in this subcommission, to get comments from a national level and also to better spread the information regarding new guidelines to us in the subcommission. All European guidelines can be found at EDF's home page, though it is only the latest guidelines that are externally reviewed by the subcommission.

Subcommission "Wound healing"

The group "Wound healing" has drawn up a so-called "Internal position paper" and they are currently working on a proposal on a EU "Core curriculum in wound healing". The group has initiated a thematic federation for wound healing. In this federation there are also representatives from Plastic surgery, Vascular surgery, Diabetology and Primary health. The next task is to develop a so called external position paper and also, in collaboration with EADV, plan for a Fostering course in wound healing. Through the Thematic federation one want on the long run to elaborate rules to accredit specific centers in Europe where high-quality care in respect of wound healing is conducted.

Subcommission STIs

The STI group works within the following areas: European Board Examination – creating questions and participation at the exam, develop curriculum and training requirements, to apply in Europe, and reviews STI specific Guidelines. The subcommission also has one member to represent in the UEMS Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Sexual medicine, (MJCSM).

Board meeting, day 3: During the board meeting, the subcommissions informed the members on their ongoing and completed work. In addition, cross cutting issues were discussed, including CEN initiative and Blue Print Allergology. A new president for EBDV was elected, *Professor Peter Ahrenberg, Prauge*. He currently holds the post of Secretary in EBDV and he will succeed the current President, *Professor Magdalena Czarnecka-Operacz*, Polen, in the Spring of 2016.

For anyone who wants more information regarding UEMS and EBDV, please visit their websites: www.uems.eu och www.uems-ebdv.org.