Aspects of Postgraduate Training in Occupational Medicine from the European Perspective
EASOM

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What is EASOM:

- Founded 1993 in The Netherlands
- Non governmental and non profit organization (NGO, NPO)
- 35 Members from 20 European countries

Aim:

- Development and improvement of education and training of physicians working in Occupational Medicine in Europe

Membership:

- Institutions  that provide post-graduate education and training resulting in specialist qualification
- Individuals working in the field
- Institutions, which support education and training
Strategies:

- Supporting institutions providing education and training in Occ. med./health
- Making knowledge and information in Occ. med. available by different means incl. meetings on Occ. med. teaching
- Overview of training programmes and curricula of member schools
- Encouraging exchange of teachers, students and teaching materials
- Initiating research incl. CME
Activities:

• Annual Summer Schools: three days‘ events to improve training methods. Results are open to public on www.easom.org

• Module on occupational medicine epidemiology

• European module for undergraduate teaching in Occ. med. (EMUTOM), www.emutom.eu
Current situation in post graduate training in Occupational Medicine in Europe

1. **EC** directive 2000/31/EC

   Grants to pursue the same profession in all Member States

2. **EC** directive 2005/36/EC

   a. 4 years specialist training, only Estonia has no automatic recognition of professional experience

   b. Reality: different length of post graduate training in Member States, up to 5 years

   c. National accreditation bodies can re-examine single cases of automatic recognition

   d. UEMS proposal: harmonised instead of minimal training requirements to avoid national lowering of standards
EASOM
European Association of Schools of Occupational Medicine

Current situation in post graduate training in Occupational Medicine in Europe

3. **Responsibility** for specialist training

a. Chamber of physicians

b. Governmental institution

c. Semi-governmental institution („College of occupational Medicine“)

d. University

e. Professional Association
Current situation in post graduate training in Occupational Medicine in Europe

3. **Curricula** of post graduate training are different
   
   a. No EU-wide strategy
   
   b. Nation-wide standard
   
   c. Standard on university level
   
   d. Full time / part time training

4. **Realisation** of post graduate training
   
   a. Academic training (university lectures, theoretical)
   
   b. Training in the field (on company level, non academical but practical)
   
   c. Mixture of both elements
Current situation in post graduate training in Occupational Medicine in Europe

5. **Recognition** of post graduate training
   a. Governmental / National bodies
   b. Semi-governmental institutions: Colleges of Occupational Medicine
   c. Oral / written exam
   d. Permanent accreditation, no specialist re-certification necessary
   e. Re-certification after passing re-exam (for instance every 5 years)
   f. Minimum requirements for CME (for instance 250 CME in 5 years)
Current situation in post graduate training in Occupational Medicine in Europe

6. Consequences

a. Harmonisation of specialist training is necessary. UEMS advocates for specialist training based on a blend of duration and competencies

b. EC/UEMS proposal: aptitude test of professional knowledge, skills and competence of an applicant

c. Specialist training shall comprise theoretical, practical and ethical aspects at university or medical teaching hospital or at a medical care establishment approved for this purpose by competent bodies

d. In future specialist training shall be no less than five years duration including personal participation of a trainee specialised doctor
Current situation in post graduate training in Occupational Medicine in Europe

7. “European Professional Card“ to state that necessary conditions are met

EASOM activities

Survey to overview the current situation in Occ. Med. in EU (just started)

Problems:

Not in all Member States is a key person available to answer questions from a Nationwide perspective but sometimes only from a personal point of view

Some Member states don‘t answer at all

First results hopefully to be presented at next Summer School taking place from August 29th – 31st, 2013 at Timisoara, Romania
The „ancient“ doctor spoke Latin.

The „newadays“ doctor speaks English.

The „good“ doctor understands the patient‘s problem.
Thanks for your attention!
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