

**Minutes from the 14th annual meeting of the UEMS, Section for Infectious Diseases,
18-19th September 2009, Bucharest, Romania**

Present:

Adriana Vince (AV)

Finn T. Black (FTB)

Thomas Benfield

Christian Perronne

Andrew J. Ullmann

George L. Daikos

Mario Modelli (MM)

Haakon Sjursen

Andrzej Horban

Jose Luis Boaventura

Dan Duiculescu

Franc Strle

Ingrid Nilsson-Ehle (IN)

Haluk Eraksoy

Mike McKendrick(MMcK)

Nick Beeching

Tinia Laaveri

Evelina Tacconelli

Croatia

Denmark

Denmark

France

Germany

Greece

Italy

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Romania

Slovenia

Sweden

Turkey

UK

UK

Finland FWG

Observer, ESCMID

1. **Welcome, apologies and approval of minutes and agenda.** President MMcK and our host Dan Diiculescu welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cristoph Wenisch (Austria) Daniel Christmann (France) Reiner Weber (Switzerland), George Petrikkos (Cyprus), Ludmila Viksna (Latvia) Arvydas Ambrozatis (Lithuania), Sajma Dautović (Bosnia) The minutes of the last meeting in Milano, Italy, August 2008. were approved.
The agenda for the current meeting was approved.

2. **Outcome of election of new President of Section (AV reported)**
As Mike McKendrick finished his term of office in September 2009, Nominating Committee has coordinated elections electronically.
There was one expression of interest for the position of the president, and new President Mario Mondelli (Italy) was elected unanimously.
Members of the Section thanked Mike McKendrick for his splendid work as a president.

3. **Report from February Brussels meeting of presidents of sections and boards with management council.** (Mike McKendrick reported)
 - Group 1 meeting (medical sections).
 - concern relating to inefficiency of EACCME
 - need for better communication – more representation on management council.
 - new chair of group 1 – Luke O'Donnell, secretary from Section of Gastroenterology.

 - New membership – new countries including Serbia joined as observers.

- UEMS strategy document – starting implementation.
 - Plan to improve logo and corporate identity of UEMS
 - Plans to improve website
 - Plans to improve EACCME
 - Plans to purchase new UEMS premises in Brussels which could be used for meetings of sections and boards.

- UEMS – CSMA
 - Largely surgical but also cardiology, pediatrics and neurology.
 - Discussion about extending offer of European assessments (examination) worldwide.
 - Proposal for final new Glasgow declaration.
 - Proposal for uniform format for chapter 6 (i.e. curriculum and structure of training).
 - Junior doctors not keen on further examinations/assessments.

[Discussion at strategy meeting suggests we should progress to explore possibilities of European knowledge based assessment probably by exploring linking in with the UK structure.]

- Accreditation of training centers
 - UEMS concerned about accreditation of hospitals – possibly suitable topic for a symposium at the February meeting in the future.

[Strategy meeting addressed possible peer review and accreditation of training centers for Infectious Diseases – proposal for questionnaire to delegates prior to deciding whether to invest time and effort to develop a system for this - noted that visitation would be very expensive and someone will have to pay for it.]

- Harmonization of guidelines
 - No one present had ever used the website for guidelines international which currently is part sponsored by UEMS. There is no quality control relating to these guidelines going on to the web.

- Collaboration between European societies and UEMS

The UEMS proposed sections should address value of an e-portfolio as a training log book for Europe as has been done by Cardiology.

[It was not felt that this was appropriate to pursue for Infectious Diseases.]

- Telemedicine
 - UEMS still has concern about telemedicine. It does not directly affect the ID physician unless used for supporting structures such as radiology and pathology.
 - reported that standards need to be clearly defined to ensure high quality and patient safety.

- Definition of the medical act
 - final definition has been put forward.
 - Definition has no authority and language not user friendly viz. “deontological values”

- Healthcare information for all 2015

This initiative has been supported by UEMS and was discussed at the section meeting. There was agreement that it was a good initiative and individuals were

given the website to visit and possibly join as they felt appropriate. –
www.HIFA2015.org

4. Words from the new president (Mario Mondelli)

5. Members/observers status/developments (AV reported)

Contacts have been made with Malta (Tonio Piscopo) and Montenegro (Brankica Dupanović), however representatives could not come to the meeting. Hannes Pichler (Austria) has retired so Christoph Wenisch and Florian Thalhammer are representing Austria, Karin Lindahl is the second candidate from Sweden. Some countries still have not appointed a second delegate, so they are urged to do so again. New efforts to contact Serbian ID Society should be made. Some of the representatives from smaller countries (Bosnia, Lithuania, Estonia) could not attend the meeting because of the lack of financial support. There is no response from some countries like Ireland and Finland.

6. Reports from countries

- France
 - seeking written support for national recognition of their specialty (currently sub-section of general internal medicine)
- Italy
 - increased duration of training to 5 years (including 60 credits or a year of general internal medicine).
 - Training centers have to have at least 3 trainees
 - Reduction and unification of training centers from 35 to 17.
 - Significant reduction of training centers in tropical medicine (down to 3).
- Romania
 - added bioterrorism and travel medicine and emerging Infectious Diseases to curriculum
 - now has new logbook.
- Denmark,
 - first year of completion of their new training programme.
- Sweden
 - no change.
 - Revised log book and curriculum so easier to record competencies. P
- Portugal
 - added 6 months of intensive care training
 - trying to increase microbiology from 3 to 6 months.
 - Trying to add infection control.
- Slovenia
 - Has new training programme.
 - only 1 training centre with 5 new trainees this year so peer review difficult.
- Turkey
 - 5 year training in Infectious Diseases/Microbiology.
 - Some centers reduced duration from 5 to 4 years.
- Greece
 - no changes
 - still no funding for Infectious Diseases trainees.
 - Developed video link for 3 hourly monthly training meeting between the 5 training centres (presentation of cases and review of literature).

- Norway
 - no significant changes
 - reduction in training period.
- UK
 - joint ID/micro or ID/virology training now 40% of trainees.
 - New common trunk for infection training (after 2 years common trunk for GIM)
 - Amalgamation of British Infection Society with Association of Medical Microbiology
 - New curriculum format approved and agreed.
 - Revalidation every 5 years of existing consultants to start shortly based around annual appraisal rather than examination.
- Croatia
 - new curriculum submitted to Ministry of Health based on UEMS curriculum.
 - Maintains specialization in pediatrics and adults.
 - Three training centers with 17 trainees
 - difficulty in recruitment of trainees as little private practice in ID.

7. Report from EBID (Haakon Sjursen reported)

- Review of audit data for each country
- Review of the updated version of Chapter 6, Charter on Training of Medical specialists in the EU, Infectious diseases (for details, see Chapter 6 on the web site). The updated version was presented during the last meeting in Milan 2008 and some additional changes has been done. There was some discussion about some of the points in Part 2, Curriculum. The heading of point 5, Diseases of travel was changed to: Diseases of travel and migrant health. Review of audit data for each country

8. Report from ESCMID ID professional affairs officer, Evelina Taconelli

New officer for ID Evelina Taconelli (Italy) replaced Robert Read. She presented the possibilities of ESCMID to support UEMS ID in different ways. She described the new observer status with sponsorship of individuals for a month by ESCMID with no limit on numbers defined. Also showed in her presentation guidelines which are developed or being developed which will be freely available to all when completed. She also proposed that the President of the Section be co-opted as member of the PA subcommittee.

9. Junior Doctor PWG. Tinja Laaveri, a trainee from Finland replaced Pierre Loulgerge as junior doctors representative. She explained that the official policy from PWG is against new assessments but she was not against new assessments from personal perspective

10. Report from EBAID (Ingrid Nilssen-Ehle and Finn Black reported)

- Reported inefficiencies of EACCME
- 61 meetings submitted for approval - 5 turned down in last 12 months.
- Co-ordinator - Finn Black to continue for further year.

- Finances
 - agreed coordinator should be financially supported (no other officer is supported financially).
 - Section agreed a figure of €1,000 annually retainer with €50 for each meeting assessed - paid in arrears.
 - Financial agreement for 12 months in first instance - to be reviewed at next Section meeting
 - The coordinator to provide an annual report for the Section
 - Thomas Benfield (Denmark) agreed to act as a new member on EBAID in place of Robert Read (ESCMID member).

11. Strategy for sections and boards for the next 5 years (Mike McKendrick, Mario Mondelli and Haakon Sjursen)

Section meeting was preceded by a 7 hour meeting of the executive to discuss the strategy for UEMS Section over the next 5 years. The suggestions were discussed with the members of the section and the following conclusions have been reached regarding memberships and training curriculum:

Membership

- agreed important to recruit and retain members and ensure activity of the UEMS is of value and relevant to them
- need to get more delegates involved.
- agreed to support recruitment by supporting costs of travel and hotel accommodation to attend first meeting for new members (usually from less well off countries).
- agreed there should be a 2 hour meeting for new members before the Section meeting to inform of structure and activities of UEMS
- agreed website should have a clear statement of activity – ‘mission statement’ – which is easy to find and clear to read.
- Agreed succession planning important – less of a problem with increased membership
- suggestion of brief news sheet 3-4 times per year to members may increase the profile of the Section.

Training curriculum.

- agreed that the format should remain as it stands - more detailed format available from established programmes if this is helpful for individual countries – can be highlighted by email link. [eg UK curriculum for Infectious Diseases <http://www.jrcptb.org.uk/specialties/ST3-SpR/Documents/2007%20Infectious%20Diseases%20Specialty%20Training%20Curriculum.pdf>]
- agreed that ‘migrant health’ should be added to the training under ‘4’ with travel medicine (supported by Section meeting)

Examination

- agreed that appropriate for Section to explore involvement in examination for the future.
- recognised that this would be a knowledge based assessment and would be only one piece of information leading to certification of completion of specialist training.
- need for enthusiasts in education.
- agreed that President of EBID will write to Nick Beeching (Chair SCE Board UK) re. exploring link with UK assessment - possibility of representation from broader Europe on the question setting group if this development progresses

- agreed that the ID section should join UEMS – CSMA and help define what other methods of examinations and assessment occur in other sections
- agreed to consider other possible links re examination eg through European society but need to ensure infrastructure and quality control

12. Financial report. Adriana Vince summarized the financial situation. She reported that the current balance (as of 31.8.2009) was + 16,568.31 €. An overview of all incoming and outgoing payments was shown and approved by delegates. The sum of 7400 € due to EBAID for the accreditation work over the 2008 has been received from UEMS/EACCME].

The current situation of Membership payments was presented.

The section has resources to cover infrastructure of the annual meeting.

It was agreed to offer support for members attending their first Section meeting as they come from countries with limited resources up to maximum sum of 5,000 euros next year (individual support will depend on the numbers attending).

The trainee member should also be offered some support to attend the annual ID Section meeting.

13. Forthcoming elections

EBID president, vice-president and member at large are due to demit in 12 months

It was agreed that elections for President of EBID should be organized by email as soon as possible, so the election should already be prepared for the next Section meeting in 2010.

14. Report of website affairs.

Andy Ullman demonstrated the nearly completed new ID website - currently available on id.org/index.php. actual addresses of the representatives should be updated and put on the website.

15. Date and venue of next meeting:

Next meeting will be held Liverpool 3rd & 4th September 2010. Nick Beeching showed a little presentation of Liverpool most famous sites and explained some organization details.

Germany is hosting meeting in 2011.

Mario Mondelli and Mike McKendrick thanked the participants for coming and Dan Duiculescu and his colleagues for supreme organization of the meeting and their hospitality.

Mike McKendrick, Mario Mondelli
Haakon Sjurson
Adriana Vince