



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

*Association internationale sans but lucratif*

*International non-profit organisation*

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## UEMS SECTION OF RADIOLOGY

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### Meeting of national delegates, Hotel Barcelona Center, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013 ; 10.00 – 17.00

**Present:** Dr. Madureira, Prof Reekers, Prof del Cura, Prof Ricci, Dr Nyhsen, Dr Adriaensen-van Roij, Dr Valdés Solís, Dr Nikkola-Sihto, Dr Demuth, Dr Guillemot, Dr Kuhelj, Prof Aronen, Dr Pierot

**In attendance:** Dr J Adam (ESR POC chairperson),  
Prof B. Ertl-Wagner (ESR Education Committee chairperson)

#### **1. Welcome/Apologies and Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the 9th March 2013**

The UEMS radiology section president welcomed all present to the meeting, in particular Dr Adam and Prof Ertl-Wagner who joined the UEMS meeting as ESR POC and ESR education board chairmen respectively. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record with the following minor correction under agenda item 7: neuroradiology is to be replaced by interventional radiology.

#### **2. Treasurer's report**

Unfortunately Prof Verstraete (treasurer) was unable to attend the meeting. A provided presentation demonstrated good financial standing of the radiology section.

There appears to be a problem with national society contributions and a recent call for balancing outstanding fees was not deemed particularly successful. Several societies have not paid any contributions for years. It was stressed that only delegates in good standing are allowed to vote. All delegates were asked to kindly remind their society to pay.

A further challenge has arisen following the introduction of new Belgian fiscal rules, which now require all societies and institutions to now pay income tax and submit monthly detailed VAT declarations. Although the UEMS is an international non-profit organisation, it is not excluded from this. The UEMS central office – as a first response – suggested renaming the national fees in bank transfers as « donations ». Several delegates were of the strong opinion that this would not be legally possible in their country as donations are only allowed to registered charities and that other solutions (including payment of income tax if not legally

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avoidable) should be considered, which may require a rise in fees. Further information from the UEMS head office is awaited.

### **3 Secretary's report**

Improved relations of UEMS and ESR were again emphasised. Increased collaboration of UEMS and ESR was also previously agreed at the “**Leadership meeting**” in Vienna (11<sup>th</sup> March 2013), where mutual attendance of POC and UEMS meetings was confirmed.

Discussions included the recognition of the **European Board of Radiology (EBR)**, which was formed by the ESR after the American model. The ESR envisages the EBR to potentially accredit CME points. However, UEMS as a long-serving European (and entirely sponsor and industry-independent) Institution has differing statues:

A European Board can be formed within a section if a need is identified. Article X.2 of UEMS statutes specifies the following: “Each delegation to a Board shall consist in 2 members, one from the Section and one from the recognised academic or scientific Society of the country”. Hence, two representatives of each country are required. The rules are very clear and if this national representation is not given, this Board cannot be recognised by UEMS. As this structure is currently not implemented, UEMS is unable to recognise EBR.

**Accreditation of CME points by the independent UEMS-EACCME** reviewers is accepted standard. As the ESR is heavily sponsored by the industry and the EBR has been formed by the ESR, independence cannot be taken for granted. Collaboration of UEMS with ESR in the CME review is well possible and the UEMS Radiology section would be open for constructive discussions on this topic.

**The appointment of a new secretary in the UEMS office** was announced. Mr Jean-Baptiste Rouffet was already commended on greatly improving communication and co-ordination of efforts. It was recognised that further work is needed to gather a complete and up-to-date list of national delegates, contact national societies who have not nominated delegates and to motivate those delegates/national societies who currently do not engage in any communication and who do not attend meetings.

**UEMS working group on e-Health (19<sup>th</sup> April 2013)** about Momentum project on Telemedicine.

Contact with the UEMS sections of nuclear medicine and radiotherapy was discussed with the nuclear medicine section slightly more interested in future collaboration including ad hoc meetings and working groups. This received a positive response from present delegates as nuclear medicine in particular is important considering joint PET-CT training etc.

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### **UEMS board section meeting in Brussels (5<sup>th</sup> July 2013).**

It was the first meeting of the enlarged board with the three newly appointed vice Presidents of the section: Dr Miraude Adriansen, Pr Hannu Aronen (apologies), Pr Paolo Ricci.

The Working Group with ESR includes Dr Demuth, Dr Guillemot and Prof Ricci with Dr Adriaensen as proxy. Furthermore it was decided that professional issues would be dealt with by Dr Demuth and Dr Guillemot.

Forthcoming meetings will take place as follows:

**UEMS-EACCME meeting** 6th July 2013 in Brussels, **Division Interventional Radiology meeting**, 14th September 2013 in Barcelona and the **Division Neuroradiology meetings**, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2013 in Madrid & 1st October 2013 in Frankfurt.

### **4 UEMS-EACCME activities**

The number of applications remains unchanged with 96 applications for Radiology in the last 9 months. Due to the persistently high workload, the decision was made to try to increase the number of EACCME reviewers. This was successful with now 6 Reviewers actively involved, with different fields of interest, and different practice status (University, academic and non-academic hospital based, as well as outpatient clinical activity). 4 reviewers participated in the Reviewer's meeting in Brussels (6<sup>th</sup> July 2013).

A newly updated detailed checklist includes the compliance of organisers with regards to sponsorship and influence of industry. There should be no conflict of interest. The target audience is defined as fully qualified radiologists since points awarded are continuous medical education (CME) points rather than training lectures.

Dr Adam pointed out the newly agreed "Industry code of conduct", which will in future hopefully help avoid undue commercialism of courses and conferences.

The difficulty of quality assurance following the approval for CME points was also discussed and possible means of feed-back will be considered (for example feed-back directly from attendees on site during congresses).

### **5 Strategy of the UEMS Section of Radiology**

Strategies include improved collaboration with ESR on a mutual beneficial basis.

A Leadership meeting took place during ECR 2013: A common working group of the UEMS Radiology Section board and the ESR executive was suggested (see above).

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### **6 Division of Interventional Radiology: Report (Pr Jim Reekers)**

On-going process of establishing MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) between UEMS Radiology Section & UEMS IR Division.

MoU with CIRSE.

Prof Reekers mentioned the ethical problem of “Life events” still performed at interventional conferences where for example stents are inserted with a live audience watching. Not infrequently complications arise during these procedures.

All delegates present agreed that this practice raises significant ethical concerns and preferably conferences should stop this happening all together. At least written informed consent of patients is needed. Pressure on patients and performing radiologists is immense. It was felt that there is no real justification of life events with modern recording and presentation technology. It was concluded that the IR division together with the radiology section will formulate a specific amendment to the LEE (life educational event) document:

- Written informed consent from every patient participating in a LEE should be obtained.
- The informed consent should declare that the patient is aware of the fact that he will be part of a live teaching event. Informed consent should be available to **EACCME**.
- During the life demonstration, any advertisement of devices or products used is strictly forbidden.

### **7 Division Neuroradiology Report (Pr Laurent Pierot)**

**Topics:** accreditation of the training programs, examinations and acquired qualifications of established interventional neuroradiologists (INRs) to date and the standards for practice of fMRI. The differing qualifications of established interventional neuroradiologists were examined as the Division of Neuroradiology has been contacted to identify physicians already practicing INR with many vacancies having been identified at some national levels (e.g. France). Set goal is to define set standards for the recognition of knowledge, skills and competence in INR. After the definition of specific criteria, evaluation of individual files by a review board would be possible with the scope of approval of training in INR.

### **8 ESR Revised Curriculum (Pr Birgit Ertl-Wagner)**

The president praised Prof Birgit Ertl-Wagner for her great effort in successfully overseeing the newest revision of the European Radiology Training Curriculum. Now that the curriculum is also presented in the new universal UEMS format, it was unanimously approved by delegates present to be passed on to the UEMS council for approval.

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(The Revised European Radiology Training Curriculum was subsequently officially approved by UEMS council on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013.)

**9 Update on ESR-POC activities (Dr Jane Adam)**

POC will be named QSSA: Quality, Safety and Standards Activities.

The president thanked Dr Jane Adam again for attending the meeting and invitation to the upcoming POC meetings was again confirmed by Dr Adam. Dr Adam gave an overview of the POC sub-committees and wide-ranging work currently undertaken and envisaged for the future.

**10 ETAP report ( Pr Hannu.Aronen)** The ETAP (online) meeting took place on the 8th May 2013. Item discussions included “how to become a center of excellence for radiology training”.

The item raised in the European Training Assessment Program, is to be seen in the historic context of common initiative of UEMS section Radiology and ESR Professional Organisation Committee and in the spirit of best quality in Training, and as such in the objectives of UEMS.

**11 EU Free Trade Negotiations**

The EU Free Trade Negotiations were briefly discussed and the president agreed to raise this issue under “any other business” in the following UEMS council meeting, to be held in Paris in October.

**12Any other business**

**The next UEMS radiology section meeting will take place during the ECR 2014, exact time and place TBC.**

**Dr Remy Demuth, President**

**Dr Eric Guillemot, secretary general**

**Dr Christiane Nyhsen, delegate**