



AEMH Conference 2005

*Continuing Professional Development of
Doctors
The Core Curriculum of CPD*

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EACCME (European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education) and the role of UEMS in CME/CPD

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UEMS

Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes
European Union of Medical Specialists

- Founded in 1958, a year after the Treaty of Rome
- Oldest of the European Medical Organisations
- Represents currently around 1,4 million specialist doctors
- 26 full members, 5 associated members

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- Non-governmental organisation
- UEMS registered under Belgian law
- Secretariat (staff 4) in Brussels

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UEMS Specialist Sections and their European Boards

- 39 currently representing majority of specialities
- Backbone of UEMS
- 2 members/country
- Around 2000 specialists actively involved in the work throughout Europe

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UEMS bodies

- *Council*, 2 representatives/member country, twice a year
- *Executive Committee* (President, Secretary General, Treasurer, Liaison Officer) meets 8-10 times yearly, partly as enlarged executive committee including four Vice-Presidents

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UEMS Charters

- Training of medical specialists 1993
- CME 1994
- Criteria for international accreditation of CME 1999
- Quality assurance in medical specialist practice 1996
- Visitation of training centres 1997
- CPD, Basel Declaration 2001
- Promoting good medical care 2004

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UEMS Basel Declaration 2001

- The UEMS defines CPD as the educative means of updating, developing and enhancing how doctors apply the knowledge, skills and attitudes required in their working lives. The goal of CPD is to improve all aspects of a medical practitioner's performance in his/her work.

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Funding for CME / CPD

- The structures responsible for the delivery of funding of CPD will vary depending on national arrangements and the balance between the private, insurance-based and employed sectors.
- CPD benefits all major interest groups, it is therefore appropriate for CPD to be a define part of the remuneration baggage for doctors. Ultimately it is the patient, as consumer, who pays for CPD.

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Funding for CME / CPD *Basel Declaration 2001:*

- Funding from third parties, such as the pharmaceutical industry, must comply with openness and transparency and should only be permitted in accordance with national and international guidelines.

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CME in Europe

- In most countries the internal structure of CME has been in evaluation
- UEMS policy first defined in the UEMS Charter on CME 1994
- A need for a system for the exchange of CME credits at European level for countries where credit points are used
- The Management Council of the UEMS decided to develop such a system in March 1998

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EACCME (European Accreditation Council for CME)

- A clearing house for CME credits for the purpose of facilitating CME for specialists
- The Management Council of the UEMS decided to start operation of the EACCME in January 2000.

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EACCME

- The practical instrument to improve the quality of CME in Europe will be the facilitation of transfer of credit obtained by individual specialists in CME activities that meet common quality requirement
 - between European countries
 - between different specialties
 - in the case of migration of a specialist within Europe
 - between the European and North American credit systems

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Purposes of the EACCME

- Harmonization and improvement of the quality of continuing education in Europe
- Provision of non-biased education to European colleagues according to mutually agreed quality requirements
- Guarding of the authority of national CME regulatory bodies in the European countries
- Linking the national CME regulatory bodies in a system of mutual recognition of accreditation of CME activities
- Providing a system in which CME credits obtained abroad in EACCME accredited activities are recognized by the national CME regulatory bodies
- Providing links with similar systems outside Europe.

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EACCME Criteria for CME

- Review of the objectives of the activity
- Program review
- Provider disclosure of conflict of interest
- A description of the policies relating to commercial interest
- Quality assurance including non-biased, attendance, feed-back and self-assessment.

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UEMS has signed agreements on mutual recognition of CME events with several EU countries (Greece, Spain, Cyprus, Ireland)

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EACCME

Gives European accreditation for international CME events based on national accreditation by relevant CME authority and/or consultation with UEMS sections and boards or European speciality based accreditation bodies (e.g. EBAC for cardiology)

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EACCME

- Advisory Council meeting yearly (next November 26, 2005)
(part of the meeting update of national situations in different European countries, authored by Dr. Len Harvey)
- Operated at the UEMS office with a wide network
- Over 400 CME events accredited in 2004

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EACCME and American Medical Association

- AMA council on medical education in June 2002 authorized a pilot project for the recognition of CME credits authorized by EACCME
- The project encourages physicians from the US and Europe to collaborate and participate in international congresses and conferences.
- The agreement has been extended to 2006

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EACCME Accredited Activities (Example)

May 2005/ Date	Venue	Title	Language	European CME credits
8 – 13	Pamhagen (A)	BrainDays 2005 – International Pain Congress	German	27
11 – 13	Norderstedt (D)	Computer Aided Surgery	English	15
12 – 13	Pisa (I)	Workshop on Implant and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy	English	6
12 – 14	Vilnius (LI)	Echocardiography in Clinical Decision Making	English	14
13 – 14	London (UK)	Case study forum: Individualising treatment decisions in epilepsy syndromes	English	9
13 – 15	Opatija (CR)	30th Seminar of the European School of Nuclear Medicine (ESNM)	English	15

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UEMS View on CME / CPD

- UEMS strongly opposes mandatory CME/CPD
- No proof of usefulness of mandatory systems
- EACCME meant to help colleagues from countries with CME credit systems to benefit from educational events outside of their own country
- A lesson from the Americans:
Jump directly over CME to CPD

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"Every day spent at work is a lost CME/CPD opportunity."

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Further information on UEMS publications and about UEMS and EACCME in general is available on the UEMS Website at:

www.uems.net

Thank you!

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