

UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES

SECTION AND BOARD OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE

Minutes of the delegates meeting of the UEMS Nuclear Medicine Section/European Board of Nuclear Medicine.

Saturday, October 09, 16.00 – 18.00, International congress Centre Vienna, Austria

UEMS/EBNM Executive committee and committee chairs & PWG representatives present:
M.Bajc, D.Costa, D.Huic, L.Maffioli, A.Prigent, C.Rossetti, JR. Buscombe, J.Huijbregts

Delegates present:

E.Piperkova BG, A.D.Tzonevska BG, R.Demetriadou CY, M.Kaminek CZ, P.Oturai DK, E.Kelk EE, L.Karhumäki FI, A.Ahonen FI, JP.Pelletier FR, J.Földes HU, I.Szilvasi HU, L.Mango IT, I.Kulakiene LT, W.Pilloy LU, R.Midha NO, M.Dziuk PL, M.Baptista PT, VC.Mazilu RO, D.Hrastnik SO, F.Pons ES, A.Soriano ES, G.Görres CH, JR. Buscombe UK

UEMS/EBNM Office:
H.Silber

1) Welcome and approval of Agenda

The meeting was opened by Drazen Huic, President of the Section and Board of Nuclear Medicine of the UEMS. There were 23 national delegates, 3 members of the UEMS/EBNM Executive Committee, 4 Committee Chairs and 1 PWG representative present. The agenda was approved by the delegates.

2) Any other items to be added

There were no other items proposed.

3) Minutes of the National delegates Assembly Barcelona 2009

The minutes of the meeting of 2009 were circulated. There were no corrections and they were approved by the delegates.

4) Activity report of the UEMS/EBNM Executive Committee – President Report

D. Huic reported that most of the information concerning the Executive Committee is in the paper work circulated before the meeting. Last year, UEMS/EBNM Executive Committee convened one meeting in Vienna together with chairs of all committees. He informed about UEMS/EBNM Website changes (statutes, committee member lists, executive committee list, UEMS/EBNM appearance in EANM newsletter). There are also some EANM/UEMS Office changes: Henrik Silber replaced Andreas Andiel.

Dr. Huic informed about Joint ESR/EANM Ad Hoc Committee Meeting which took place in March regarding curriculum for multimodality imaging. It was agreed from the both sides (nuclear medicine and radiology) that only first general part of the curriculum is acceptable. The other two parts are changeable and can be modified by national authorities in each country. After receiving last remarks, final curriculum has been approved during EANM Advisory council in Vienna April 17, and sent to all national societies of nuclear medicine for final approval. On the level of national societies no consensus has been achieved, and UEMS/EBNM has been asked by EANM to rearrange parts 2 and 3.

Regarding UEMS/EBNM auditors D. Huic informed that M. Milčinski came to the end of her term of duty as an internal auditor of UEMS/EBNM. After been asked by Executive Committee, she accepted to stay for next two years on the same position. The other auditor, Dr Siroos Mirzaei, became a member of CANMD committee and could not continue as an auditor. Prof.Dr. Margarida Rodrigues Radischat, from Vienna kindly accepted to be a second auditor.

D. Huic informed about “Young nuclear medicine physicians” (YNMP) initiative which started in UEMS/EBNM by PWG representative. After discussing this matter with EANM it was decided that most appropriate umbrella for our young colleges should be EANM. Every year during EANM congress one open forum will be organized for all interested in young doctors' issues. YNMP will remain active in UEMS/Section nuclear medicine through one representative in Education and Syllabus committee and the other one in Committee for accreditation of training centers. PWG representative will remain the member of UEMS section/board and will be invited to UEMS/EBNM annual meetings during EANM congress.

5) Secretary Report - Finances The finances are in good overall order. Marika Bajc shows the 2009 report on the income/expenses of the UEMS/EBNM. She points out that the overall the balance shows a slight minus of EURO 500.- for the entire year. The assets therewith reduced to EURO 22,300. Dr. Bajc told she will present the 2010 figures in February in Vienna and asks Henrik Silber to send her the final financial summary by the end of 2010.

6) UEMS meetings reports: Brussels, Prague

D. Huic reported about UEMS Meeting of Presidents and Secretaries of the UEMS Sections & Boards which took place in Brussels, March, 2010. He informed about formation of European Council for the Accreditation of Medical Specialist Qualification (ECAMSQ) which encourage the Licensing Authorities of the Member States to consider having the European Examination as a part (or even an integral part) of the national exam. UEMS-EACCME introduced e-learning materials in the process (pilot project with several UEMS sections), discussed patient's rights in cross-border healthcare. It was discussed the mess regarding UEMS credit hours applications which completely blocked the work of our CME Accreditation Committee for some time, because of only two persons in UEMS Brussels office, problems with web side and relatively small number of reviewers. Dr. Huic informed about the document called "Green paper" in which UEMS considered problems like increasing ageing population in Europe, need of constant training and education to adapt to new technologies, worrying consequences of mobility, i.e. brain drain, the shortage of healthcare workers, and appearance of new diseases and infections. European Commission recently adopted (August 6, 2010) a "Communication to the European Parliament and the Council on medical applications of ionizing radiation and security of supply of radioisotopes for nuclear medicine". Considering the issue of shortage of supply in radioisotopes, the Commission aimed to raise awareness of Institutions and stakeholders as well as to look into ways of addressing this issue. The UEMS through its Specialist Sections of Nuclear Medicine, Radiology and Radiotherapy welcomes these efforts undertaken by the Commission and looks forward to taking an active part in any further concrete initiative. Dr. Huic reported also about the meetings of the UEMS Board & Council, Prague, 7th to 9th October 2010. It was for the first time that UEMS Council and UEMS Sections and Boards had a joint meeting, but representatives of sections without voting rights.

7) Activity report of the Committee Chairs

a. Fellowship Committee (J. Buscombe)

The Fellowship Committee met in Vienna in February and split into two groups. One group worked on the MCQs changing 40% of the MCQs either because they had appeared in 2 previous examinations or they proved to be poor discriminators. The second group worked on the oral examination ensuring that in a 30 minute examination 6-8 scans were reviewed including at least one PET-CT. The examination was held at the EANM HQ in Vienna on May 1st and 2nd with a preparation session given by Prod Pons. Though we had 21 applications for the MCQ but 13 arrived, many still having visa problems. 9 (70%) passed. They were joined by 2 others and all 11 candidates passed the oral examination.

John Buscombe (Member 2001-2010 and chair 2007-2010) came to the end of his term of the duty and Dr Trond Bogrud takes over as the new chair of this committee. Since the

other member of this committee, dr. Savvas Frangos also left the committee because of his duties in EANM, two new members are needed.

b. Education and Syllabus Committee (A. Prigent)

A. Prigent points out again that there is still no consensus on the joint multimodality curriculum (MMC) and presents the latest feedback and difficulties producing the paper. The audience asks if there is chance for an agreement of the paper and Dr. Prigent replies that it quite unpredictable after the last year's experience. D Costa remarks that the paper is not needed and pointed out that this is a political issue, enormously important for nuclear medicine community. A. Prigent informed that even for the part I of the MMC, the question of SPECT-CT remained disagreed between ESR/EANM Ad Hoc Committee and the UEMS-NM/EBNM ExCom, Education & Syllabus Committee chairman. Nevertheless, he sent parts II & III of the last version of MMC to the members of the Education & Syllabus committee. All the feedbacks from the members were negative and disagreed to work on such parts II & III. A. Prigent finished his presentation concluding that for nuclear medicine in Europe is more important to update our own curriculum, especially integrating multimodality imaging training. To reach such aim, members suggested not only some phone conferences but rather to organize a working session (one or two days) to discuss efficiently this updating. It has been agreed that UEMS/EBNM will support this procedure. A member of the "Young Doctor Group" of EANM will be associated in this working group (Ravier Pou Ucha, Spain).

c. Accreditation of CME Committee (T. Varetto)

In the absence of Dr. Varetto, the EBNM President, D. Huic informed about the CME Committee's aim, goals and activity. He explained that the CME Committee works under the umbrella of UEMS European Accreditation Council of CME (EACCME), aimed to accredit CME events in Nuclear Medicine in Europe. The importance to obtain accreditation by the EACCME relies on the fact that EACCME is the unique CME accreditation system recognized by most European Countries and by American Medical Association (AMA).

The accreditation process is now completely online at the web page of EACCME (www.eaccme.eu). Information and guidelines on how to apply and fees to pay are online at the EBNM CME Committee pages (uems.eanm.org). It is now possible to obtain accreditation both for live and e-learning events.

In 2010, 8 live events (*Satellite Course Diamond -Switzerland, 14th International Symposium on Radionuclides in Nephrourology- Czech Republic, 3rd Wuerzburg Summer School of Thyroid Cancer Management- Germany, International Symposium on Technetium and other Radiometals in Chemistry and Medicine-Italy, Basic and Advance Courses in PET/CT Imaging- Geneva, EANM'10 - Annual Congress of the European Association of Nuclear Medicine-Vienna*) and 2 e-learning CME activities (*provided by Excerpta Medica and concerning imaging and staging of neuroendocrine tumors*) obtained EBNM/EACCME accreditation.

Future challenge for CME committee is to improve the number of applications in Nuclear Medicine and UEMS delegates should aid to reach this goal, convincing providers in their own

countries to apply events in nuclear medicine and explaining them the importance of obtaining European CME credits for our Specialists.

d. Accreditation of 9 Nuclear Medicine Departments Committee (L.S. Maffioli)

L.S. Maffioli reported that all activities planned for the year 2010 have been realized:

- Update of documents on the website
- CME event at the 2010 EANM Congress with contributes from the IAEA. with title: The session title was: "European Commission Guidelines on Clinical Audit for medical radiological practices"

The aims of this event were to illustrate: 1) the state-of-the-art of the implementation of clinical audit programs within the UEMS; 2) the requirements of European Commission, based on the strengths and weaknesses of auditing systems in Europe; 3) the EU Guidelines (RP#159); 4) the QUANUM project by IAEA; 5) the UEMS/EBNM and EANM policies to implement Clinical Audit in Nuclear Medicine.

- Implementation of Clinical Auditing in Europe, by having 3 courses:
 - A) Two Courses on Clinical Audit and Quality Assurance were in Vienna at the EANM facility
 - B) A third Course has been organized at IAEA (Headquarters) on 7th-8th October 2010 for non-EU Countries (Eastern Europe, Central Asia).

- Promote the accreditation and the renewal of accreditation of Departments
- Collect fee for accreditation or re-accreditation (7 new- and 2 re-accreditations)

In addition committee performed the following activities:

Each European National Scientific Society was invited to send two physicians for the Course on Clinical Audit in Vienna in order work on implementation of Audit in their country according to the EU directives.

A customer satisfaction survey was performed and the opinion of the attendees ranged between "good" to "very good".

CANMD continued the distribution of the ISO software. Software was mainly downloaded for improvement, to apply for ISO and for accreditation. During these last months several Centers downloaded the software. The software has been shown in detail at the IAEA Conference.

CANMD delivered 7 Diplomas to new accredited centers (Austria, Cyprus, Italy (2), Poland, Portugal, and Switzerland) and 2 Diplomas for re-accreditation (Sweden, Germany).

As the last but not the least point, CANMD is giving evidence of the activities of Committee itself and it is spreading information about clinical audit as an important tool for the nuclear physicians.

These activities were achieved with the publication of **two papers** on the EJNMMI:

- A. Lorenzo S. Maffioli, Philippe A. L. Van Boxem, Andrew J. W. Hilson, Marika Bajc , On behalf of the CANMD), The activities of the Committee for Accreditation of Nuclear Medicine Departments. EJNMMI, 2010, Volume 37, Number 11, Pages 2211-2217.
- B. Siroos Mirzaei, Lorenzo Maffioli and Andrew Hilson, Clinical audit in nuclear medicine. EJNMMI, Online First™, 24 September 2010.

These are the first UEMS/EBNM Committee results reported in scientific Journals.

e. Accreditation of Training Centres Committee (C. Rossetti)

At present, there are 66 accredited centers in total. Some are in process of reaccreditations. Financial balance presents income from fee payments of 10.090 Euros, and expenses of 547, 62 Euros.

There is need to improve the quality and number of certified centers. Therefore the committee is planning to improve qualification of training centers and it is proposed to begin a program of visiting centers. A pilot visit was done London Centre (RFH) in December 2009. Open problems are financial support, organization, etc. There is also a need to interact with training associations to improve implementation of the training programs. In particular, it is important to obtain feedback from ex Trainees as this provides useful information. To promote applications of EBNM accreditation of training centers in Europe during November 2009, an e-mail has been sent to 1.800 nuclear medicine departments. Moreover, educational/professional Institutions need to be given proper notice of the recommendations by National Delegates.

Dr. Rossetti once more points out the importance of site visits in the context of “real accreditations”. Unfortunately the budget is too tight to finance these visits. Regarding the accreditations CR reports of a proposal from the committee. It was discussed to create a second certificate – “platinum certificate”. This “platinum certificate” is supposed to be the flagship of certificates issued and the costs involved shall ensure an on-site visit. At the same time the currently existing certificate shall not lose its importance but a clear separation of “regular” and “platinum” has to be found.

The audience asks where the difference is and CR replies that the regular certificate will be issued the same way as before – by evaluation of the data submitted, whilst the platinum certificate will be issued only upon on-site approval of the criteria requested. This shall ensure the highest level of quality control we can offer.

The audience mentions, that this even higher leveled certificate could be positive for non European institutions, as they are seeking for accreditation as well. It is pointed out that the price for non European accreditation of course has to be higher, simply because of the higher costs for the on-site visit.

8) Nuclear medicine in Sweden

This item has been called of.

9) PWG representative report

J.Huijbregts is happy to announce that the PWG has finally found a place under the umbrella of EANM. They will have several tasks regarding the organization of sessions during the annual congress and shall act as “missing link” between the EANM community and the young generation in NM. At the same time J. Pou Ucha and she will remain as members of the ANMTC and Education & Syllabus committees of UEMS/EBNM.

10) Exoneration of the Board

The Board was unanimously exonerated.

11) Elections: Member of the Executive Committee

Lorenzo Maffioli from Italy was unanimously elected as a forth member of the Executive Committee.

12) Varia

D. Costa informed audience about two pre-congress symposia regarding the therapy of thyroid cancer and PET/CT. Both meetings have been made in the form of joint workshop with our colleagues from radiology. He pointed out that it is pity UEMS/EBNM is not involved in those activities. M. Bajc replied there are a lot of interesting meetings/workshops and it is not possible for UEMS/EBNM to participate in all of them. Besides, UEMS/EBNM was closely involved by CEM committee in validating CME activities during EANM 2010 congress.

13. Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held in Birmingham, October 2011.

Enclosures:

1. 2009 auditors report