Role of UEMS & CESMA
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

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Vice President UEMS CESMA
President UEMS Board of Endocrinology
• Directed from UEMS Board

• Exam group nominated to set this up
  • Maeve Durkan, Richard Quinton, Graham Roberts

• Approached CESMA in 2015 with view to access to process

• 1st exam sat June 6, 2018
UEMS CESMA & Examinations Portfolio

• Council for European Medical Specialty Assessments

• Advisory board created by UEMS in 2007

• Role is to provide recommendations on European Specialty Exams*

• Advises all specialty sections

• Encourages all Boards to look at ‘Assessment’ *
Setting up a High Quality Exam

• Question writing
  • Structured format
  • Consistency
  • Agreed terminology

• Standard setting
  • Approved methods (Angoff, Cohen)

• Security
Setting Up a High Quality Exam

- Cost implications

- Question contribution
  - Especially refining a high quality question
  - Work with EACCME for CME
- Full integration of European partners

- Ensuring Pan European
  - More than lip-service
The Complexity of Language

English only in ‘Pan European’ Assessment
‘Lost in Translation’
Security
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

- Started in 2015. Delivery June 6, 2018
- UEMS Exam Board: Maeve Durkan, Richard Quinton, Graham Roberts
- 2 year pilot program
- Huge amount of negotiation
- Q writing Group (Q writing course), Standard Setting Group

Exams are an expensive process
UEMS : Specialty Exams : ENDOCRINOLOGY

• Pan European Exam *

• Pan European Collaboration
  • UEMS, ESE, RCP Federation,

• Exam is in ENGLISH

• MCQ exam, delivered electronically by PEARSON VUE
Challenges of Collaboration with UK Partners
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

- Perception English vs European project
- Perception Anglophile domination
- NICE Guidelines
- English language only
- Brexit
Advantages of Collaboration with UK Partners
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

- Well established
- World leaders in methodology
- Impenetrable security
- GDPR Compliant
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

• MCQ paper

• 200 Questions

• Single best answer. Best of 5 format

• Computer based test

• Cost £750* Subsidy applications through ESE
European Board Exam in Endocrinology Blue print
200 Questions

- DM 28 , DM emergencies 12, DM complications 28
- Hypothalamus & Pituitary 20
- Thyroid 36
- Adrenal 20
- Gonads 20
- Parathyroid / Calcium 16
- Other (appetite, weight, genetic, misc.) 20
55 year old woman with 4 cm papillary thyroid cancer, treated with surgery & RAI. Has undetectable TG but high levels anti TG antibody.

What's the most appropriate investigation in follow up?

A. Anti TPO antibodies
B. CT neck
C. PET scan neck
D. Ultrasound of neck
E. Whole body uptake scan

Answer is followed by explanation.
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

- 77 candidates applied for the exam
- All European (including UK) and Associate countries applicants
- Pearson Vue delivered in European Countries
- One exam sitting/year
European Board Exam in Endocrinology

- Optional Exam
- Not obligatory
- Anyone eligible* Currently not linked to training
- Role of Harmonisation in European Context for accreditation
- Currently a test of knowledge only
- May help to self select the competing candidate however
UEMS & Exam Collaborations

- 3 UEMS Exams with collaborative Societies * & RCP Federation
- Condition of engagement: CESMA appraisal
- This will entail collaboration: Q writing, Standard setting groups etc
- Condition of UEMS exams is that CESMA appraises the exam process
CESMA : Setting up an Exam

• Different Exams have different needs
• Different exams are in different stages of evolution
• Different exams have different costs
• Potential Conflict of Interest*

• Endocrinology : MCQ best of 5

• Neuro Radiology : MCQ ( written ) & Oral

• OBGYN : Part 1, Part 2 ( OSCE)
CESMA: Defining EXAM vs Accredited Exam

Current Role & Expected Future Role

Providing ‘ground rules’ on eligibility to sit exams & eligibility for FEB
Comparable Templates: US Exams
Predominantly MCQ Computer Bases

• USMLE United States Medical Licensing Exams

• American Board Exams: Internal Medicine

• Specialty Board Exams: Endocrinology
CESMA Guidance on FEB

• Specialty Boards to decide
  • Exam document
  • Who is eligible to sit
  • Minimum training requirement
  • FEB ?