



**REPORT ON THE UEMS-CESMA
MEETING IN SOPHIA ANTIPOLIS ON
31ST MAY AND 1ST JUNE 2019**

ARTHUR FELICE

POINT OF INFORMATION

CESMA IS A THEMATIC FEDERATION AND AN ADVISORY BODY OF THE UEMS CREATED IN 2007 WITH AN AIM TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATION AND ADVICE ON THE ORGANISATION OF EUROPEAN EXAMINATIONS FOR MEDICAL SPECIALISTS AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPEAN TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (ETRs).



VENUE OF MEETING

EUROPEAN HEART HOUSE , SOPHIA ANTIPOLIS, FRANCE



MEETING DISTRIBUTED OVER 2 DAYS

- 31st May 2109 – Whole day Workshop on **Extended Matching Questions (EMQs)** compared with Best answer out of five (Type A positive) MCQs
- 1st June 2019 – **UEMS-CESMA Business Meeting**

STEPS FOR WRITING EXTENDED MATCHING QUESTIONS

1. IDENTIFY THE “THEME” [DISEASE, DRUG, METABOLITE, ORGANISM].
2. WRITE THE “LEAD-IN” (I.E. FOR EACH PATIENT DESCRIBED SELECT THE MOST LIKELY DIAGNOSIS).
3. PREPARE THE LIST OF “OPTIONS”. THESE SHOULD BE SINGLE WORDS OR SHORT PHRASES, AND SHOULD BE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER (UNLESS THERE ARE LOGICAL REASONS FOR NOT DOING THIS), AND THEY SHOULD ALL BE OF THE SAME SORT, I.E. DISEASE, DRUG, AS IN (1) ABOVE. ONE LIST MAY BE USED FOR SEVERAL QUESTION STEMS.
4. WRITE THE “ITEMS”. THEY SHOULD BE BROADLY SIMILAR IN STRUCTURE.
5. REVIEW WHAT YOU HAVE WRITTEN AND CHECK THAT THERE IS A SINGLE “BEST” ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION. THEN GET ONE OR MORE COLLEAGUES TO REVIEW THE ITEMS.

EXAMPLE OF EMQ

THEME: PAINFUL SCROTUM IN A CHILD

• LEAD-IN:

A 14 YEAR OLD BOY PRESENTS AT THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WITH A 2-HOUR HISTORY OF AGONIZING PAIN IN THE LEFT GROIN AND LOWER ABDOMEN ACCOMPANIED BY NAUSEA AND VOMITING. THERE ARE NO URINARY SYMPTOMS. ON EXAMINATION THE BOY WAS OBVIOUSLY IN PAIN BUT HIS GENERAL CONDITION WAS GOOD. LOCAL INSPECTION SHOWED: THE LEFT TESTICLE WAS DRAWN HIGH AND THE CORRESPONDING CORD FELT THICKENED. THE OVERLYING SKIN WAS MILDLY OEDEMATOUS AND ERYTHEMATOUS. ELEVATION OF THE LEFT TESTICLE PROVOKED MARKED TENDERNESS AND THERE WAS NO COUGH IMPULSE AT THE SITE OF THE EXTERNAL INGUINAL RINGS. IN THIS CENTRE ADVANCED IMAGING MODALITIES ARE AVAILABLE WITHIN MINUTES.

• OPTIONS:

- A. COLOUR DOPPLER ULTRASONOGRAPHY
- B. CT SCAN
- C. DE-ROTATION AND BILATERAL FIXATION OF TESTICLES
- D. DE-ROTATION AND UNILATERAL FIXATION OF THE AFFECTED TESTICLE
- E. EXPLORATION OF THE SCROTUM
- F. HENOCH-SCHOENLEIN PURPURA
- G. LEFT SIDED EPIDIDYMO-ORCHITIS
- H. MANIPULATION OF THE TESTICLE ONLY
- I. MEDICAL TREATMENT WITH STEROIDS AND ANTIBIOTICS
- J. MRI
- K. SCINTISCAN (GAMMA CAMERA)
- L. STRANGULATED FEMORAL HERNIA
- M. STRANGULATED INGUINAL HERNIA
- N. TORSION OF THE LEFT SPERMATIC CORD

• ITEMS:

1. WORKING DIAGNOSIS
2. IMAGING POSSIBLE WITHIN MINUTES. NEXT STEP.
3. IMAGING AVAILABLE WITHIN TWO HOURS. NEXT STEP
4. OPERATIVE PROCEDURE
5. SKIN RASH, JOINT PAIN AND ABDOMINAL PAIN

• ANSWERS:

1. **N**
2. **A**
3. **E**
4. **C**
5. **F**

WHAT TRANSPIRED

Presumed advantages

- May have more potential for testing Clinical reasoning and Decision making skills than Best answer MCQs (debatable)
- Rules for good EMQs the same as for other types of MCQs

Disadvantages

- Much more laborious to write and requiring considerably more time
- Require more interventions by Examination Committee

Results

- Only two Specialties adopt EMQs as part of their Summative Assessment.
- Hardly anybody else 'converted'
- The great majority prefer Best answer out of 5 MCQs for Written part of Exam


Business Meeting on the 01 /06 /2019

Topics included:

- Various types of Formative and Summative Assessments: Strengths and weaknesses – Mark Westwood
- Setting a pass-mark – Rob Wright
- Feedback from last meeting and the questionnaire – Albert Mifsud
- Consistency in terminology: Fellowship, Diploma, Certificate
- Eligibility Criteria
- Curricula to quote European guidelines
- Problems with commercial providers: UEMS Council directive
- Tenure terms as Chair of Examinations



Formative and Summative Assessments

- Comprehensive review indicating strengths and limitations
 - No indicators: Left at the discretion of the individual Examination Boards within the sphere of the European Training Requirements (ETRs)
 - Still a long way to go for harmonisation / standardisation
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The importance of Standard Setting (setting the Pass-mark)

- Review of the various methods
- Most commonly used methods within the UEMS:
 - A. Angoff
 - B. Modifications of Cohen
 - C. Arbitrary pre-set pass-mark not encouraged

A SNAPSHOT OF SPECIALIST ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE UEMS: RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

- Response from 27 specialties (57% response rate)
- Considerable variation
- Majority pattern discernible

Fellowship, Diploma, Certificate

- Consistency of terminology required
- Reference to the UEMS-CESMA Glossary (Prof. Tenore) advocated

Eligibility Criteria

- Essential
- Criteria should be clear and unequivocal
- Should be considered as an integral (1st Phase) of the assessment
- The introduction of Entrustable Professional Activity (ETP) as a unit of competence, constitutes a step forward

EPA_s

- An EPA is ‘a critical part of professional work that can be identified as a unit to be ***entrusted*** to a trainee once sufficient competence has been reached’.
- The trainee is not only capable of tackling the particular procedures or units independently, but he can be **trusted** to do this by his tutors.

Commercial electronic platform providers

Problems with a particular electronic platform prompted the UEMS council to issue the following directive:

“Before contracting with an external provider, the following rules must be strictly observed:

- A need for long term services should be described and sent to the UEMS office along with a list of suggested providers (if such are known to the UEMS body that needs the services). -
- An official tender will be produced by the UEMS office to allow selection of provider. -
- Once offers received the UEMS body will indicate the preferred provider and basic requirements for a proposed contract. -
- The UEMS Office will prepare the contract, assure review by the UEMS lawyer and will submit it to the UEMS Executive for approval. -
- Once approved the contract will be signed by the UEMS President and/or the Secretary General to be legally valid.
- Signatures (President and/or Secretary and/or Treasurer of the UEMS body that will use the services) will be added to assure that the UEMS body will be in charge of execution of the contract. -
- In particular the proposed contracts must include specifications of duties of contracting parties and of financial arrangements.
- More detailed information on these aspects is being prepared by our lawyer and will be circulated in a next communication.

From: Bertrand Daval

sent: mardi 12 février 2019 12:23

Chairs of examination: Tenure of Office

- The CESMA executive strongly advocates that the tenure should not exceed a maximum of two periods of four years each.
- Is this 'guideline/directive' within the CESMA remit?

The image features a light gray background with a subtle radial gradient. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are several realistic water droplets of various sizes, rendered with soft shadows and highlights to give them a three-dimensional appearance. The text "Any questions?" is centered in the middle of the page in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Any questions?

The image features a light gray background with a subtle, circular, textured pattern in the center. The corners are decorated with several realistic water droplets of varying sizes, some overlapping. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

THANK YOU