Meeting of the UEMS CME/CPD Working Group

Hotel Danube, Rybne´namestie 1, Bratislava, Slovakia

Thursday 11th October 2007

Present: Slovakia, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Finland, United Kingdom, Denmark

Chairman: Dr E. Borman. Rapporteur Dr Lars Bjoern.

1. Report:
The report of the meeting held on the 9th March 2007, was presented and accepted by the members.

2. Implementation of UEMS policy papers:
As the result of our previous meeting, a questionnaire was presented, considered and adopted after minor alterations. The updated version will be circulated, as a pilot study, among the delegates during this meeting in Council, to gain further comments before the next version is prepared.

It is proposed that the final survey will be presented to all the Sections and Boards and all National Medical Associations, to reveal the impact of the work that has been prepared in the CME/CPD Working Group.

3. Draft Glossary:
The working group has planned to prepare an up to date glossary concerning CME/CPD in Europe – however Dr Hannu Halila informed us, that the Rome Group (made up of delegates from Europe, Canada and the United States with major interest and knowledge in the field will submit their final draft of an international CME/CPD glossary) at the end of this year. The Working Group agreed to await the Rome Group paper before doing any further work on this subject.

4. Standards of Accreditation of e-learning:
The Working Group agreed in principle that the accreditation of e-learning activities should occur in a similar manner to other CPD/CME activities. This should be in respect to the definition of scope, standards and certification.

Considering the definition of scope of activities, the Working Group agreed that the principles for on-line learning, test/self-test, online fora, CD-ROM, DVDs and computer-based simulators all were important.
The standards to be applied should require the e-learning material to be a) accurate, b) have up to date contents, c) be independently produced and free from bias, d) be peer reviewed with recognition of completion, and e) have a feedback system for both the learner and the system.

This would provide for a final accreditation and e-based certification.

5. Data collection on CME/CPD data collection:
The Working Group is keen to have maintained the data being collected by Dr Len Harvey in his questionnaire concerning CME/CPD being mandatory and or part of a recertification process throughout Europe.

6. Future Chairmanship and Rapporteur:
Working Group members, and Council delegates, are encouraged to consider the matter, for a final decision in April 2008.

7. Items for future work by the Working Group:
Besides the topic of e-learning, the Group discussed as a component of the UEMS strategy, research in CME/CPD activities in Europe. Finland presented a paper on the CME/CPD activities of Finnish specialists, which demonstrated a high activity, especially by Surgeons.

8. Other business:
None

9. Next meeting:
17th April 2008 in Brussels at the 50th anniversary.

Dr. Lars Bjoern, rapporteur.