



U.E.M.S. Section and Board for Allergology and Clinical Immunology

Meeting in Alghero, Sardinia, Italy

November 9, 2002

9:00 AM – 6:30 PM

MINUTES

President

Prof. Sergio del Giacco, Italy

Vice Presidents

Prof. Kalliopi Kontou Fili, Greece

Prof. Gabrielle Pauli, France

Prof. Hans-J. Malling, Denmark

Secretary General for the Section

Mr. Barthold Hornung, Germany

Secretary General for the Board

Dr. Jose Rosado Pinto, Portugal

Treasurer

Prof. Hans Merk, Germany

Adjunct Treasurer

Dr. Robert de Beule, Belgium

Past President

Prof. Antero G. Palma Carlos, Portugal

1. President's Report:

Sergio del Giacco welcomed the representatives of the section and board. He reported on the meeting of UEMS in Stockholm on October 18 and 19, 2002, at which he participated as a representative of the internal medicine-linked sections. A new president and general secretary as well as four vice presidents were elected. The discussion in Stockholm covered the problems that the sections have with the governments in EU countries. In regard to our section, we have very little power to influence political decisions concerning allergology and clinical immunology. Our ideas must go through UEMS, the Standing Committee, and the Council on Ministers before reaching national health ministers who finally make their decisions within or sometime against the European rules. Perhaps there is a possibility for cooperation with EAACI office in Brussels to keep contact with EU authorities. The minutes of this UEMS Stockholm meeting are included as an attachment.

2. Secretary General's and Treasurer's Report:

Barthold Hornung asked for comments on the minutes of the Naples meeting in June 2000. The minutes were approved unanimously. He then proposed that the Board should be enlarged by including representatives of countries waiting to join the EU. Addresses of the Societies for Allergology and Clinical Immunology in those countries should be acquired by our Secretary of the Board, José Rosado Pinto.

Hans Merk reported only that travel costs to the UEMS meeting in Brussels were reimbursed for our President and Secretary General.

3. Situation of our Speciality in Europe:

Hans-J. Malling reported that the Danish government decided to eliminate the speciality of Allergology and Clinical Immunology. The argument that 25 percent of the population suffering from allergies needed a speciality was turned around. The government argued that so many people could only be treated by General Practitioners because specialists are "too expensive". Therefore, Denmark will no longer train allergologists and only already existing allergologists are allowed to continue in their private

Barthold Hornung

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practices. A letter sent by Sergio del Giacco in the name of our Section to the and Swedish authorities is attached to these minutes. Sweden will be in the same situation because they want to eliminate Allergology, Pediatric Allergology and Clinical Immunology, as Nalle Lindstrom reported. Jan de Monchy reported that in Holland Allergology and Clinical Immunology will be reduced to a subspecialty of Internal Medicine. To emphasize the severity of these developments, Hans Merk reported about a European study on the quality of treatment in the treatment of allergic patients. This study took place in a three-country region around Aachen, Maastrich and Liège (Belgium, Germany and The Netherlands). Only 35% of asthmatics had adequate treatment in countries with general practitioners compared to 80% adequate treatment given by allergists.

All attending members agreed that allergy, as a systemic disease, should not be linked to only one organ-bound speciality because allergy is a multi-disciplinary disease.

4. European Logbook for Allergology and Clinical Immunology:

Hans Malling presented the core curriculum for Allergology and Clinical Immunology which was prepared by himself, Jacques Gayraud, and Photini Papageorgiou. He stressed the difference between the theoretical and practical core curricula and the logbook which will be maintained by each trainee and his/her tutor or teacher. He suggested that different levels of training could be helpful in corresponding with the various levels of our speciality throughout all the European countries. The importance of our Section and Board, both professionally and politically, will be reflected by the core curriculum. We are ready to act as consultants to help in the harmonization of the training programs throughout Europe. After a long and fruitful discussion, Hans Malling was asked to remake a draft of the final version which is also attached to these minutes.

5 Common Website for UEMS, CEFACAP, and EAACI:

Jacques Gayraud reported that the objective of this website is to offer the practicing allergists a tool to help them in their personal development plan for CME. This internet server is based on the new concept of continuous personal development (CPD). After setting up your working plan, you can have access to the help of scientific or pedagogical experts. A follow-up evaluation can contribute to CME accreditation. Since this program is not yet installed, Jacques asked for suggestions and help.

6. Continuing Medical Education:

Alphonso Negri reported on the very successful CME accreditation programs and European accreditation of post-graduate training in Allergology and Clinical Immunology.

7. Next Meeting

In March 2003, Our Section and Board will meet in Rappallo, near Genoa, Italy. We will vote on the final draft of the logbook at that time so that it can be presented at the June EAACI meeting in Paris.

8. Miscellaneous:

In order to avoid misunderstanding, the Chapter 6 Training in Allergology, update 2001 was approved. Article 2, 2.5 and 2.6 have been updated to read as follows:

2.5 In European Countries Allergology and Clinical Immunology should be a full specialty based on the above proposed programme. Where Allergology (and/or Allergology and Clinical Immunology) is already practiced as a specialized field of medicine and officially recognized (although not as a full

- specialty) the training programmes should be recognized by the UEMS provided they fulfil the common requirements defined by the European Log-book for training of specialists in Allergology and Clinical Immunology, set up by the UEMS Allergology and Clinical Immunology Section and Board*
- 2.6** *The Allergology and Clinical Immunology training log-book, strictly based on the above proposed training programme, can be implemented in accordance with national rules, provided they are not in contrast with the requirements of UEMS Section and Board. The different stages of training and the activities of the trainees must be recorded in the log-book.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Barthold Hornung
Secretary General

Attachments:

- 1) President's letter to the Swedish Government
- 2) UEMS Stockholm Meeting Minutes
- 3) Attendance List