



7TH

**EUROPEAN
BOARD
EXAMINATION**

IN

NEUROLOGY

BERLIN • JUNE 19 2015



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Professor of Neurology
and Medical Education

This presentations is.....

- To share my experiences
- To ask you some questions
- To get your critical comments



The Contents

The Candidates

The Balance

The Procedure

The Future



The Contents

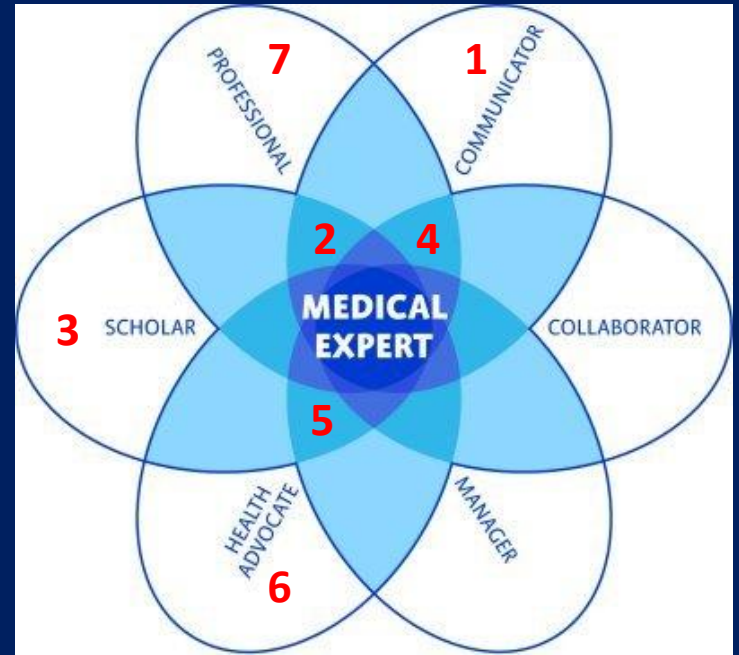
The Candidates

The Balance

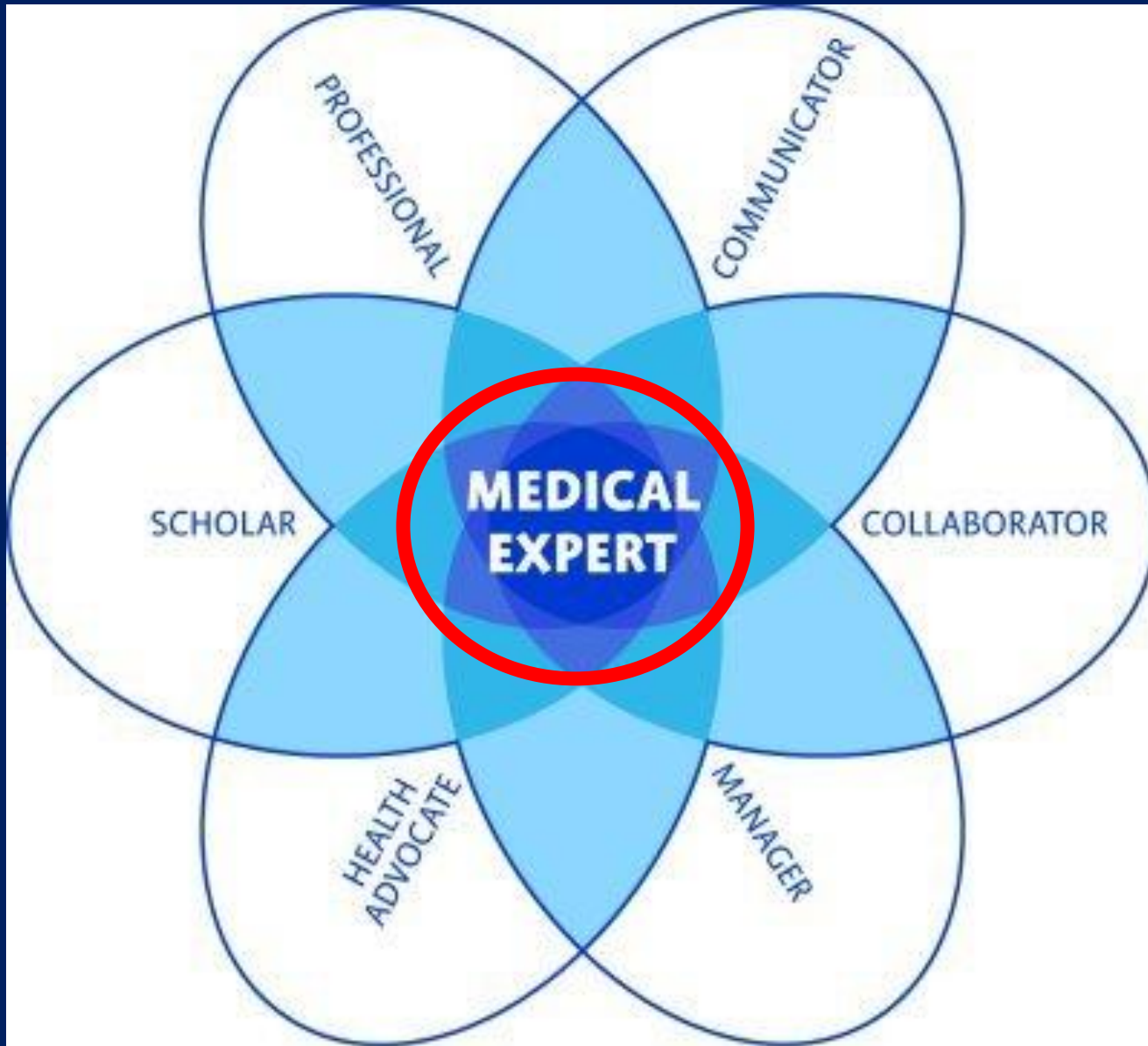
The Procedure

The Future

More than knowledge

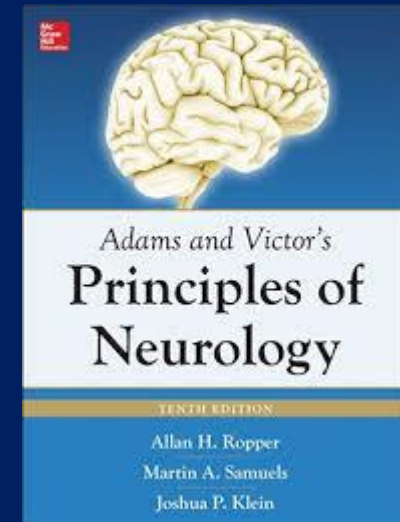
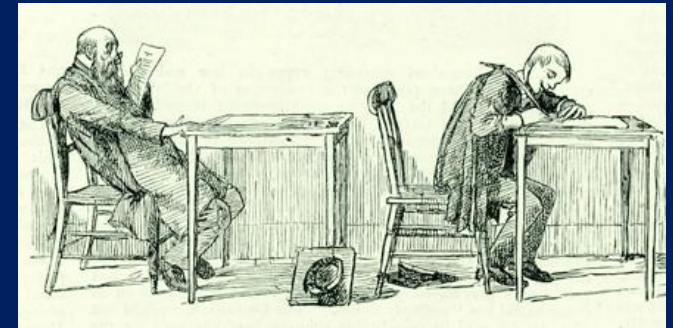


More than a snap shot



Knowledge (80%)

Core Curriculum !

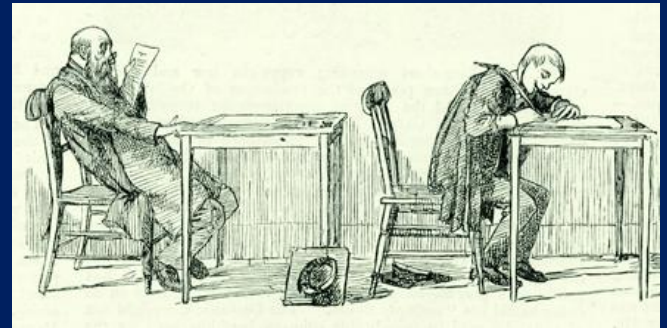


Electronic
Courses
(EAN)

European
Guidelines
(EAN)

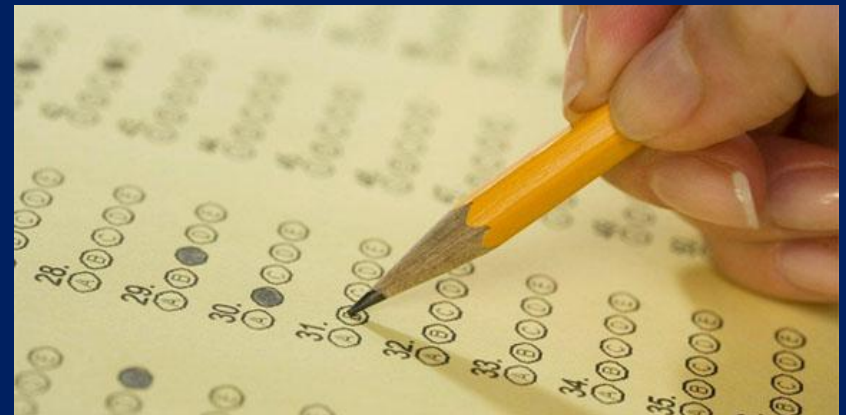
Textbook

Knowledge (80%)



80 Multiple Choice questions
(Basic and clinical sciences) 50% Open Book

50 Extended Matching Questions
(Clinical science) 100% Open Book



Open book questions



- The candidate may consult reference sources
- The questions are mostly real world based
- A higher level of complexity is required

Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten.

-B.F.Skinner

MCO

8. Which of the following statements, concerning neurological complications of uremia, is most valid?

- A. Motor phenomena usually occur late in the course of uremia
- B. The degree of encephalopathy generally correlates well with blood urea nitrogen levels
- C. Uremia may lead to neck stiffness
- D. Flapping tremor differentiates uremic from hepatic encephalopathy
- E. Signs of cerebral edema are notably present at imaging even if there are no clinical symptoms

8 3 5 0.194 -0.008 0.240 69.42 62.04 0.32 0.26 0.19 0.08 0.13 0.60 0.10 21

9. What characterizes steroid myopathy?

- A. Weakness is mainly distally localized
- B. The severity of symptoms is related to the duration of therapy
- C. The EMG shows fibrillations
- D. Biopsies disclose secondary inflammatory cells
- E. Serum CK is usually normal

9 5 5 0.710 0.637 0.182 64.89 60.00 0.00 0.19 0.03 0.05 0.71 0.60 0.10 9

EMQ

EMQ # 3:



A: Neuroborreliosis

B: Postherpetic neuralgia

C: Plexusneuritis

D: Mononeuropathy

E : Small Fibre neuropathy

F : Plexopathy

G : Radiculopathy

H : Central Pain Syndrome

What is the most appropriate diagnosis in these patients with neuropathic pain?

9. SCENARIO 1:

A 32 year old male suffers from pain in his left arm and shoulder. His pain started spontaneously as a sharp, burning pain in the left shoulder area, which then spread up to the lateral portion of the neck, radiating into the scapular area and thoracic spinal column, and within a few days also down the arm to the hand. The pain became progressively worse, to the level of 9/10 on the visual analog scale. There was no particular activity that worsened the pain. After a week, the pain subsided and then he noted weakness in his shoulder. During neurological examination two weeks after the beginning, there was a decreased sensation to light touch and cold along the posterior aspect of the arm with hyperesthesia to pinprick in the left posterior shoulder and arm area. There was visible atrophy of the pectoralis muscle and there was a paresis MRC 3/5 with abduction in the shoulder. EMG showed neurogenic changes with involvement of the infraspinatus and supraspinatus muscles.

9 3 8 0.78 0.756 0.296 0.03 0.00 0.79 0.00 0.00 0.11 0.07 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00

0.00 5

Question-Processing

Request to Neurologists (EAN)

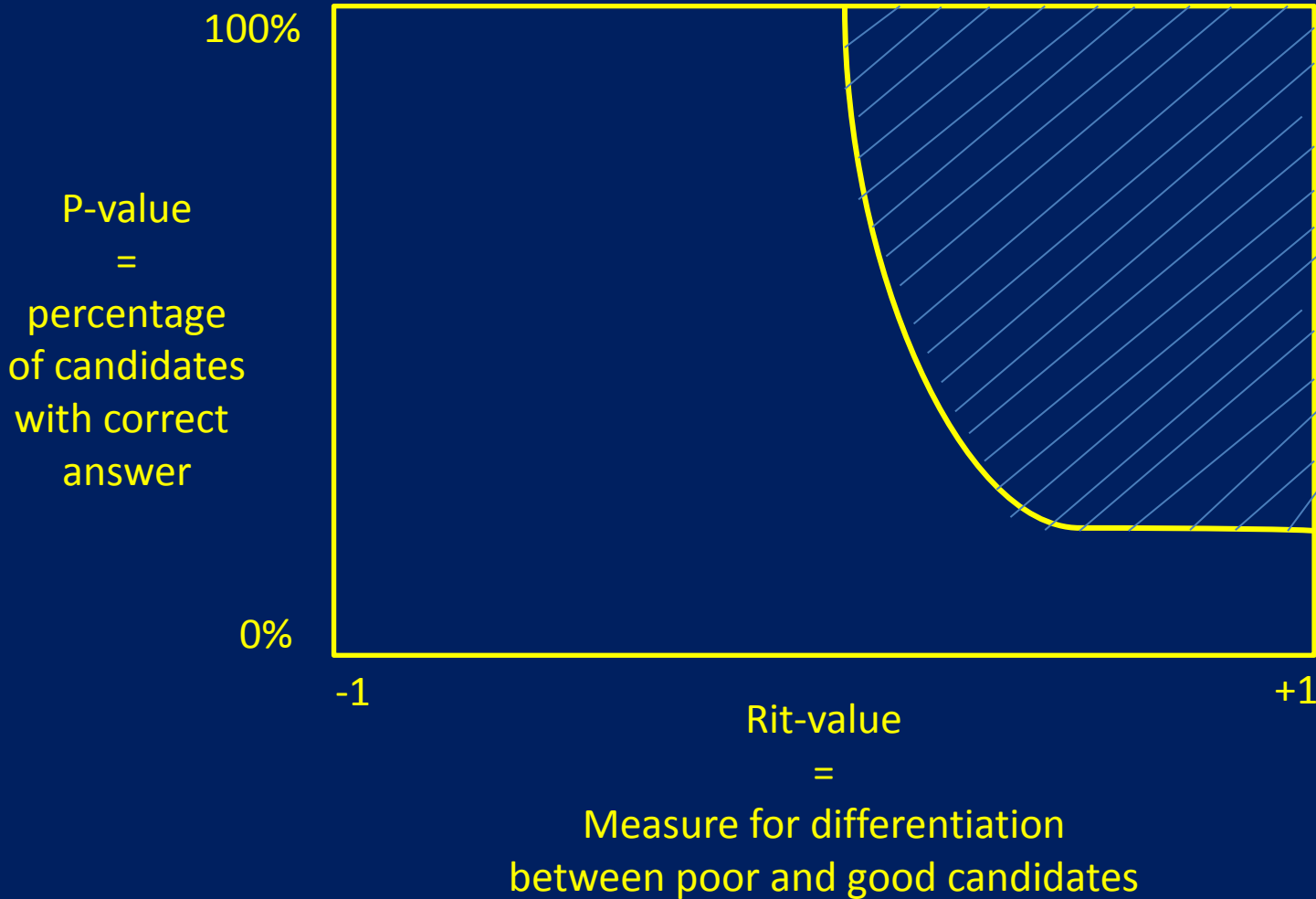
Executive Examination Board (EBN) n = 4

Technical and language corrections (UMCG)

Full Examination Board (EBN) n = 12

Elimination and Passing Limit

Elimination



Setting the Passing Limit

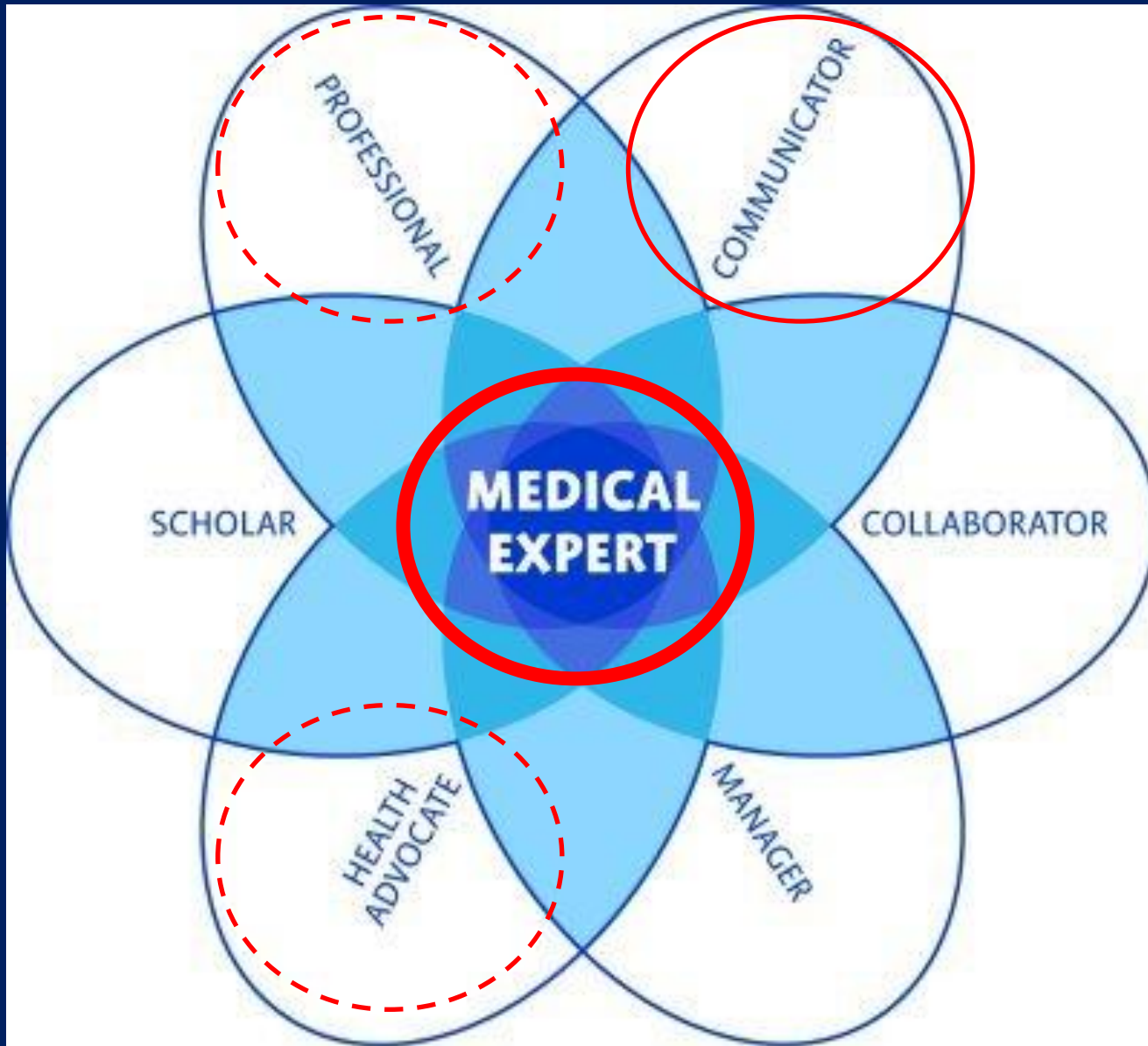
- Angoff Method -> Borderline Candidate
(Examiners before)
- Cohen Method -> Best Candidate
(Computer afterward)

	Without elimination	No elimination
# Questions	100	
Mean p-value	.64	Passing limit by committee 40 (40%) -> no failures
KR20	.89	
Signal/Noise	8.8	<i>Calculated passing limit 54 (54%)</i>
# Failing stds	0	<i>-> 9 failures</i>

Without elimination

# Questions	60	(60)
Mean p-value	.67	(50)
KR20	.69	(>.75)
Signal Noise	2.3	
# Failing stds	16 (27%)	

	Without elimination		With elimination	
# Questions	60		56	(60)
Mean p-value	.67	.64	.71	(50)
KR20	.69	.89	.70	(>.75)
Signal Noise	2.3	8.8	2.3	
# Failing stds	16 (27%)		10 (16%)	



You have
unfairly profiled
me because of my
traditional headdress
that protects me from
the desert sands

You're in
London,
you stupid
git.



ORAL Professional / Health Advocate

- Write an Essay of about 800 Words on an ethical or public health topic within the field of neurology.
- Provide 1-3 references.
- Send this in before May 15th.
- Prepare an oral presentation of about 4 minutes (powerpoint allowed).
- You will be assessed on this by two examiners in an oral setting.

ORAL Professional / Health Advocate

- Lists with suggestions have been produced

ORAL Professional / Health Advocate

Suggestions on Ethics

How to deal with.....

- telling the truth in a situation you doubt that this might harm the patient
- demanding patients asking for investigations you feel unnecessary
- a car driver with epilepsy, forbidding you to make known his diagnosis
- a medical error, that did not lead to a serious problem to the patient
- gifts of industry or gifts of patients
- non-compliant patients who you would like to leave your praxis
- a colleague who is misbehaving in his field of expertise
- with an attractive patient trying to get more than a professional relation
- a Jehova's Witness in coma, whose wife refuses you to transfuse blood
- an end-stage ALS-patient asking for continuous artificial ventilation
- a patient with locked-in syndrome who previously said that she always wanted to be treated and now apparently changes her mind
- a patient with a disabling multiple sclerosis asking for euthanasia
- a patient who wants to have a drug under research in a trial you are participating in , but who does not want to be randomized.

ORAL Professional / Health Advocate

Suggestions on Public Health

- What's the difference between private and public health care in your country. Should it be changed?
- How is the insurance system in your country influencing possibilities in medical care for single patients? Should it be changed?
- How is the vaccination program with respect to neurological disorders in your country? Should it be changed?
- How is public health organized in your country, e.g. infant care, school medical care, care for the elderly? Should it be changed?
- How are medical professionals paid for their work in your country, are there differences that should be harmonized or not?
- What is the influence of changes in work-climate (e.g. industrialization, computerization) in patients from your practice?
- Which rules exist in your country with respect to public hygiene and management of contagious diseases?
- Does malnutrition play a role in the development of neurological diseases in your country? How could this problem be dealt with?

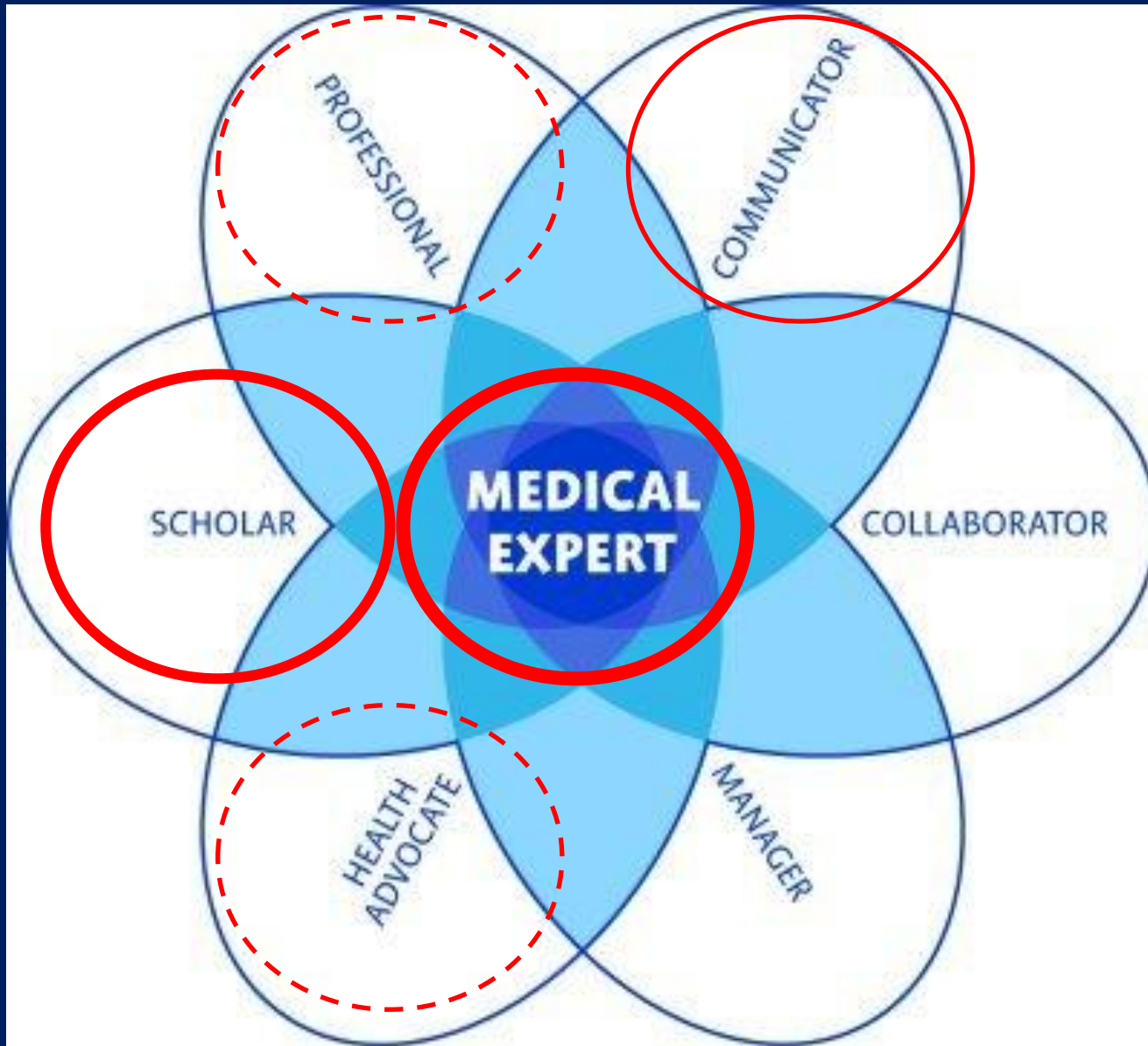
ORAL Professional / Health Advocate

- Lists with suggestions have been produced
- Some examples have been given on the website
- A scoring form has been constructed

Scoring form for Public Health / Ethics Presentation

	Item	Maximal Score	<u>Actual score*</u>
2	The topic is relevant for clinical practice	1	
3	There is a sound introduction	2	
4	The elaboration of the problem is adequate	2	
5	The own vision of the candidate is clear	1	
6	The presentation is clear and to the point	2	
7	The answers to the questions are adequate	2	
8	<u>Handling ignorance is adequate</u>	1	
9	<u>Time management is adequate</u>	1	
	Total	12	

*There will be a conversion of the score to a mark between 0 and 10



ORAL Scholar



- Write a Clinical Appraisal of a Topic (CAT) following a procedure as defined by us
- Send this in before May 15th.
- You will be assessed on this by two examiners in an oral setting.

Critical Appraisal of a Topic



1. Ask a clear, concise and focused question.
2. Conduct an efficient and effective search
for the highest quality research evidence available.
3. Critically appraise the located evidence.
4. Consider the applicability/generalizability of the evidence
5. Write the structured one page summary

	Item	Maximal Score	<u>Actual score*</u>
1	There is a clear, concise and focused question	1	
2	The question is original and relevant for clinical practice	2	
3	The search strategy is adequate	1	
4	The research outcome is adequate	1	
5	The table with results is correct	2	
6	The comments described are adequate	3	
7	The final conclusion is sound	1	
8	The references are really the current key-references for this problem	1	
9	The answers to the questions are adequate	2	
10	Handling <u>ignorance</u> is adequate	1	
	Total	16	

*There will be a conversion of the score to a mark between 0 and 10



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Istanbul 2014



Country	Number
Austria	1
Belgium	3
Cyprus	1
Greece	1
Portugal	3
Slovenia	2
Spain	4
Turkey	21
UK	1
USA	1
	38
Australia	1
Egypt	1
India	2
Iran	1
Iraq	6
Qatar	1
Saudi Arabia	9
Tunesia	1
UAE	4
Yemen	1
	27

To set the standards for a European
Exam, we need more Europeans!



How to get to more candidates?

- √ • Lowering fees
- √ • Offering a modern, reliable and attractive board-exam
- (√) • Optimizing information on the contents
- √ • Reducing the single moment achievement
 - Open Book
 - Homework
- ! • Accreditation
- (√) • Advertisement
- ! • Getting young neurologists involved
- √ • Conferring a titel
 -
 -

Fellow of the European Board of Neurologists

FEBN

Is it realistic to confer this titel?



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Payment received by (in EUR)	Early bird fees before April 1st, 2015 (reduced rate)	Regular fees from April 1st, 2015 on (normal rate)
European applicants	400,-	500,-
Non-European applicants	550,-	700,-
Lower-middle-income economies	200,-	300,-

Additional Administration Costs

	2014 Estimated	2014 Real	2015 Estimated
Examination	23.910	19.553	15.079
Website	600	800	800
VMA	27.500	26.886	22.000
Total Exp	52.010	47.239	37.879
Income		39.109	
Balance		-8.130	



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PROCEDURE 2015

- Subscription of candidates via Website
- No request of certificates
- Minimal response from WMA
- Early bird fees
- Eventual additional fees in case of problems

PROCEDURE 2015

Berlin 19th of June

08:30 – 11.00	MCQ	Preparing the orals
11.30 – 14.00	EMQ	
15.00-18.00	Orals	Data Processing
19.30	Certification	



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Future Developments

- More competency-based
- More countries involved
- More intense collaboration with EAN
- Accreditation by EACCME
- Collaboration with RCP?
- Portfolio?



www.uems-neuroboard.org