



The Newsletter of European Medical Specialists

UEMS News 2007 / 06

20th December 2007

Mark your diary!

As already announced, the UEMS will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in April 2008. The programme of the event has already been defined as follows:

17th- S&B Pres & Sec Meeting

18th- Conference & Gala

19th- Council Meeting

Invitations and relevant information will be sent out shortly. Watch your mailbox!

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UEMS–EACCME – Launch of a new electronic application form for European CME Accreditation

The UEMS-EACCME will soon launch a new website destined to host and facilitate the registration procedure for European CME accreditation.

Through this single portal, CME providers from all over the world will be able to apply for EACCME accreditation electronically and hence have the opportunity to track their applications through each step of the process and advertise their event to the medical and scientific community through the UEMS-EACCME database.

This new web-based system will start operating as from 15th January 2008 on the following URL: www.eaccme.eu.



For this purpose and in view of the Christmas Break to come, paper applications for CME accreditation will be **stopped as from Friday 21st December 2007** and this in order to facilitate the transition between paper and electronic applications management.

Interested applicants will be able to submit their requests for events scheduled to take place after 1st April 2008 as from **15th January 2008** through the new electronic application form.

The Executive and the Secretariat of UEMS wish you their best Seasons' Greetings and a Happy New Year 2008!

EC initiative on a Framework for Health Services

Adoption of draft legal initiative on cross-border healthcare provision postponed!

The College of Commissioners was due to adopt its legal initiative aiming to draw a new framework for cross-border healthcare within the EU on Thursday 19th December 2007. This decision was postponed to mid-January due to what was officially described as “administrative time constraints”.

This draft directive was destined to make clear to patients whether and under what circumstances they would be able to choose providers abroad. The proposal was also said to clarify the levels of responsibility for the quality and safety of care in cross-border settings. According to the Commission services, this initiative would bring European added value through facilitated cooperation be-

tween Member States, such as in border regions or for centres of reference for specialised care and treatment.

EU Stakeholders, among which the UEMS through its Executive, already obtained a leaked copy of a first version of this draft proposal in October this year (See *UEMS News 2007/03*). Concerns were already voiced that the latter versions were considerably watered down further to the inter-service consultation within the Commission in a context of pressure from trade unions and criticism from left-wing MEPs.

The Commission's spokesperson confirmed to the UEMS Brussels Office that the dossier of patient mobility had been taken out of the meeting's agenda in order to leave sufficient time for

a fruitful discussion between Commissioners. This issue will have to be decided upon at a next meeting to be held in January (probably second half of the month).

The Executive of UEMS would like to take this opportunity to draw everyone's attention to this major issue and recall the relevance of UEMS position papers on the quality of medical care.

Relevant UEMS documents relating to this issue can be found on the UEMS website.

UEMS 2007/03 — The UEMS Contribution to the EC consultation

UEMS 2006/18 — The Budapest Declaration on Ensuring the Quality of Medical Care

UEMS 2003/49 — Promoting the Quality of Medical Care

The adoption of the draft health services directive by the European Commission College was postponed to January

EC Study on distribution channels for medical devices

The European Commission recently launched a Study entitled “Combating counterfeit medical devices and safe medical devices in the distribution chains” to which stakeholders are invited to participate.

Organisations wishing to take part in this survey are invited to visit the following website: <http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=Meddev>.

This questionnaire will be online until 14th January 2008.

Further information on this issue and the Study in question can be found on the following website: http://europa.eu.int/com/enterprise/medical_devices/index_en.htm.



TeleHealth 2007 – EU Conference on Telemedicine Brussels, 11.12.2007

On 11th December, the European Commission organised a Conference on Telemedicine “TeleHealth 2007”. European Stakeholders, among which the UEMS, were requested by the Commission to take part in the debate and present their views on the issue. Prof. Peter Pattynama, President of the UEMS Section of Radiology, gave an overview of the main concerns currently shared at the level of his specialty as regards Tele-radiology and its potential consequences in the near future for the daily medical practice of European Doctors.

The “TeleHealth 2007” Conference aimed to identify barriers to broad telemedicine development and concrete ac-

tions for decision-makers in Europe, industries, healthcare professionals’ and patients’ organisations as well as other stakeholders. The purpose was also to influence the way in which national problems will be addressed at the national and European level.

Invited experts focused on:

- . **Regulatory issues**, such as accreditation, labelling or certification;
- . **Legal issues**, including data protection, liability;
- . **Financial issues**, notably reimbursement;
- . **Interoperability**

Requested to give its views on the issue, the UEMS was represented at this Conference by the President of its Section of Radiology, **Prof. Peter Pattynama** who gave an overview of the concerns and comments voiced at the level of his specialty

in Europe. He notably pointed to the lack of legal certainty, notably with regard to the responsibility and accountability of providers or access to personal medical data, as well as to the possible consequences of interpreting in isolation.

This Conference, together with the next EC initiatives, such as another workshop on telemedicine to be held in March 2008, is destined to feed a EU-wide think tank with all stakeholders involved in the field and deliver a Communication on telemedicine and innovative technologies for chronic disease management by October 2008.

Please contact the Secretariat of UEMS should you need any further information or wish to receive Prof. Pattynama’s presentation.

*The UEMS
was invited
to feed into
the
reflection
process
aiming to
draw the
framework
for tele-
medicine in
the EU*

eHealth-related events planned for 2008

Workshop on Telemedicine

Cannes (FR), 5 March 2008

www.ehtel.org

eHealth Conference 2008 ”eHealth without borders”

Portoroz (SI), 6-8 May 2008

No official website available yet

Health-IT

Paris (FR), 27-30 May 2008

www.health-it.fr

Med-e-Tel 2008

Luxembourg (LU), 16-18 April 2008

www.medetel.lu

ISQua

Healthcare Quality & Safety

Copenhagen (DK), 19-22 October 2008

www.isqua.org

World of Health IT 2008

Copenhagen (DK), 4-6 November 2008

www.worldofhealthit.org

We would like to inform you that some of these events were recognised as eligible for CME accreditation by the EACCME.

Please kindly contact the organiser should you need any further practical information.





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The Secretariat of the UEMS will be closed from 22nd December 2007 till 4th January 2008.



Update – Meeting of the Council for European Specialist Medical Examinations

Brussels, 17.11.2007

As reported in the previous issue of the Newsletter (UEMS News 2007/05), the Council of European Specialty Medical Examinations (CESME) convened on 17th November 2007 and will meet up again on 16th February 2008 in Brussels. Further to requests for further precisions from our readership, we come back on this issue to provide the list of UEMS Specialist Sections involved in the meetings of CESME since February 2007.

- . Allergology
- . Anaesthesiology
- . Cardiology
- . Dermatology and Venereology
- . Internal Medicine
- . Neurology
- . Neurosurgery
- . Nuclear Medicine
- . Ophthalmology
- . Oro-Maxillo Facial Surgery
- . Orthopaedics and Traumatology
- . Paediatrics
- . Paediatric Surgery
- . Pathology
- . Paediatric Cardiology
- . Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- . Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery
- . Pneumology
- . Radiology
- . Surgery
- . Urology
- . Vascular Surgery

Do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat of UEMS for any further information.

Please note that the "Glasgow Declaration" is still under discussion and hasn't been agreed by UEMS Council yet. It can therefore not be released at this stage of the consultation process.

Reminder...

and good resolutions for 2008!

The end of the year gives the opportunity to remind everyone of the pending feedbacks that were requested to our constituent bodies, and this notably in view of the UEMS Anniversary.

We would be grateful to you all for conveying your contributions to the UEMS Brussels Office as soon as possible.

All

- . **Annual Reports** for the Anniversary Year-book
- . Comments on the **UEMS Strategy Paper**
- . **Updated Chapters 6** on specialist training requirements

National Member Associations

- . A **presentation of your organisation** in English (to be issued on the UEMS website)
- . The list of the **medical specialties** recognised in your country together with the **number of doctors** for each discipline
- . The list of your **national delegates** appointed to represent your organisation within the different UEMS Specialist Sections

THANK YOU!