



D 0321

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

**Meeting in Rapallo, Italy
March 28, 2003 – 14:00 – 18:00**

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

President's Report:

President Sergio del Giacco welcomed the delegates, and extended a special welcome to Professor Ruta Dubakiene from Lithuania, Professor Mitja Kosnik from Slovenia and to Prof. Löwhagen, the new representative from Sweden. He reported that one of the topics at the last meeting of the Sections and Boards in Brussels was the problem of recognition by some European countries of CME credit points earned at international European congresses. He also reported that there is also the tendency of European governments to reduce the number of specialities.

Report of the Secretary General of the Section:

Barthold Hornung reported that since the Alghero meeting in November 2002, we have been focusing most of our attention on the logbook. I wish to extend my thanks and appreciation to the working group and, of course, to Hans-J. Malling for their tremendous efforts in this endeavor. I hope that I have kept up with sending the corrections and the proposals to all of you. I have been experiencing some problems with the computer, but I hope to have them corrected by the next mailing. Nevertheless, it is crucial that I have your updated email addresses. Please notify me if you make changes, and don't forget to proofread your data, especially your email address, on the attendance list.

This situation regarding the new member countries joining the European community was rather vague for a while. Now, however, it has been decided that they should be invited to the Paris meeting, and for this meeting, they have been invited to participate as observers. The Secretary General of the Board, José Rosado Pinto will inform the delegates of the new member countries about the structure and tasks of UEMS and other European institutions dealing with allergology and clinical immunology.

The most important task of this meeting is the approval of the logbook and core curriculum and the preparation of both for presentation at the Paris meeting in June 2003. Thanks to the help of Dr. Leibbrandt, former Secretary General of UEMS, years and years of painful discussions about common trunks and specialities were resolved. The diversity of training and practicing allergology and clinical immunology in Europe makes it impossible for the

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immediate implementation of a fully-trained European specialist in our field. Therefore, instead of arguing about the strict rules of training and the length of the training in the specialities of internal medicine, dermatology, ENT, etc., we decided to recognize specialists in Europe who fulfill the logbook and core curriculum.

We all are aware that maintaining the validity of a logbook and core curriculum is a constant challenge. Regular updates will be necessary in response to new scientific developments. We also know that this logbook must implement a very broad range of topics. And, although we realize that no single doctor will be able to treat all allergic and immunologic diseases with all available possibilities of diagnostics and therapies in his practice or clinic, the logbook, nevertheless, will become a tremendous tool as we strive for quality and collaboration between specialists and general practitioners in an effort to improve the situation for our patients all over Europe.

Report of the Secretary General of the Board

José Rosado Pinto reported that the political aim of reducing the specialities for financial reasons is wrong. Studies in Portugal have shown clearly that the treatment of allergies by GP's is less effective and more expensive than the treatment of allergies by specialists.

Core Curriculum and Logbook presented by Hans-J Malling:

In his introduction, Malling pointed out some very important background information which summarized the sometimes controversial discussions in our meetings over the few years.

In respect to the extreme differences in training and practicing allergology and clinical immunology in the different European countries, the logbook and core curriculum are very broad and include the entire range of diseases in this field. At this time, no European country can train this "super-specialist". Nevertheless, the framework for the future has been prepared. We have provided a structure that encompasses all of the variations so that each individual European country can adapt it to at their own pace according to their own situation. The aim is to improve the quality of patient care. The logbook provides the framework and the core curriculum establishes the level of competence. Because there are a large number of allergic patients, simple cases could be treated by GP's, more complicated cases by dermatologists, ENT specialists, pneumologists, etc. The very complicated cases, however, need a specialist of the highest level of competence.

CME/CPD:

Alfonso Negri reported on the growing activities of EACCME in the field of allergology and clinical immunology all over Europe.

UEMS Website:

Jacques Gayraud showed the installation of the UEMS Website for Allergology and Clinical Immunology.

UEMS/CEFCAP/EACCI Joint Meeting in Paris:

Jacques Gayraud invited delegates from all European countries to a joint meeting in Paris on Sunday, June 8, at 17:30. Using the methods of CEFCAP meetings, the situation of training and CME will be discussed. He presented the questionnaire which will be the topic for the basis of discussion at this meeting.

Miscellaneous:

Barthold Hornung reported on the growing interest in a joint committee on immunomediated diseases. A preparation meeting will be held on Saturday, April 12, in Potsdam which he will attend, replacing Sergio del Giacco. Barthold asked the delegates, in accordance with President Sergio del Giacco, to reconsider their vote against this committee. He will report on the results of the Potsdam meeting at our next meeting in Paris at which time another vote will be taken.

Next Meeting:

The exact time and room for our next meeting will be sent to you soon. The main topic will be the adaptation of Chapter 6, Training in Allergology and Clinical Immunology to the new situation created by the logbook and the core curriculum.

Respectfully submitted,

Barthold Hornung