



**PREPARATORY COURSES
FOR EUROPEAN EXAMS**

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**IS THERE A NEED FOR
PREPARATORY COURSES
FOR EUROPEAN EXAMS ???**

**IS IT ETHICAL TO ORGANISE
PREPARATORY COURSES
FOR EUROPEAN EXAMS ???**

THE NEED

Benchmarking against European standards and requirements not adequate

Trainees are used to their own system of assessment but feel entirely out of time and place for a European exam

A significant proportion of applicants never had the experience of some of our examination formats

All the published guidelines in the world cannot replace real life communication

If we don't do it, who is going to do it?



IS IT ETHICAL

Can the examiner prepare the examinee?

Of course **NOT !!!**

That is why:

- the spin is not to teach you how to pass the exam but to familiarise yourself with the the format and content so that success or failure depends on real competency
- faculty cannot be examiners
- no simulation questions can be used in the exam

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

Time:

- at least 4 months before the exam

Venue:

- hospital or university

Faculty:

- have been but cannot be examiners for 2-3 exams following the course
- local faculty from Universities, Colleges, Scientific Societies

Holders of Honorary Diplomas



STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

Cost:

-affordable by all/ Registration fee 1/3 to 1/4 of the exam fees

Number of participants:

- 30/ 40 to make it educationally meaningful
- faculty to participants ratio/ small group of committed educators

Social programme:

-avoid

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

Content:

- not everything you want to know and you were afraid to ask
- focus on topics that vary across Europe

Format:

- suggestive reading
- relatively short introductory lectures
- identify and discuss variations of approaches and practice
- exam simulation

MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS

- Always fully booked
- No complaints for failure to due to “surprise parties” for the content or format
- Excellent feedback
- A certain proportion of participants decide not to take the exam
- Attended by people who are not planning to take the exam

Preparatory Courses Transplantation Surgery

Budapest, Semmelweis University, May 2009

Santander, University of Cantabria, June 2010

Limassol, Cyprus, June 2011

Tel-Aviv, May 2012

Venice, May 2013

Athens, June 2014



PROPOSAL

Working group

Survey the current status regarding organisation of preparatory courses across European Boards

Produce CESMA guidelines and plan for the future



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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