

*From Dr Sebastian Roka, Secretary of the UEMS Section of Surgery*

Dear Prof. Papalois!

Dear Executive Committee of the UEMS!

Surgery of the upper gastrointestinal tract is a highly specialized, interdisciplinary and severely exposed medical specialty that warrants attention.

The current EBSQ examination "Upper GI Surgery" reflects an accurate verification of the ability of candidates and acknowledges evidence of their knowledge. It therefore represents an important step towards a specialization in the respective field for both sections.

The current executive committee of the Section of Surgery is aware of the enormous amount of work that went into the EBSQ "Upper GI" from the relevant divisions of the Section of Surgery and the Section of Thoracic Surgery.

We understand that a module-based type of examination clearly reflects the view from both - the general surgical and the thoracic surgical point of view.

This model has already been successfully applied in the transplant division allowing different specialists to access this accreditation. In the future, bariatric surgery, etc., could also be incorporated.

The executive committee of the Section of Surgery heavily supports the idea of forming a multidisciplinary joint committee (MJC) between the Section of Surgery and the Section of Thoracic Surgery in this respective field.

Sebastian Roka

on behalf of the EC of the Section of Surgery

*From Prof. Dirk Van Raemdonck, President of the UEMS Section of Thoracic Surgery*

Dear Mr President, dear Vassilios,

I am hereby confirming what Toni Lerut is stating below.

Our Section of Thoracic Surgery has previously approved a collaboration with the Section of Surgery on Upper GI Surgery. The creation of a MJC is just a formalization of our previous cooperation.

We thank you for putting this item on the agenda of the October UEMS Council meeting. We are hopeful that the creation of a MJC on Upper GI Surgery will get approved by the council.

Best regards

Prof Dr Dirk Van Raemdonck

President UEMS Section of Thoracic Surgery