

CME-CPD the situation in Greece

What Greek doctors ask for



ΩΦΕΛΕΕΙΝ Η ΜΗ ΒΛΑΠΤΕΙΝ

BENEFIT OR DO NOT HARM

HIPPOCRATES -5th CENTURY B.C.

PANHELLENIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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The situation in Greece today:

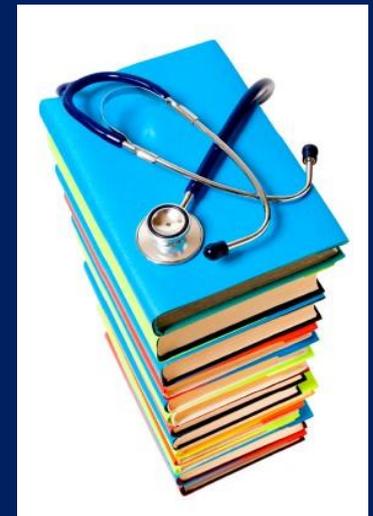
Which are the officially recognised medical specialties ?

Which are the officially recognised medical subspecialties ?

Who is in charge of medical education ?

Who delivers the titles and diplomas ?

Who is awarding CME-CPD credits ?





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In Greece the number of specialised doctors is by far larger than the number of non specialised doctors) and specialised general practitioners together . The number doctors without specialty tends to be reduced as time goes by. i.e. There are approximately 46.000 specialist and 15.000 doctors without specialty in Greece.

According to data, it is estimated that about 18.000 of Greek doctors have migrated during the last 8 years to other EU countries mainly UK, Germany and Sweden, but also in a minor proportion, to the Netherlands, France, Belgium and US, Canada, the Emirates and elsewhere.

This situation has remodeled the needs for medical doctors of the country and has deeply influenced the needs of Greek medical doctors for CME – CPD.

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What Greek doctors ask for



The medical education in Greece

The medical education and the medical diploma are provided by the 7 Medical Schools that are subject to the Ministry of Education.

No Private Medical Schools are permitted by the Greek law.

After receiving his diploma, a Greek doctor has the obligation to register with in a local medical association. All local medical associations are members of the PhMA (Panhellenic Medical Association).

The authorisation to work as a medical practitioner (medical license) is issued once this last condition is fulfilled, by the Health Section of the Administrative Region, where the doctor works.

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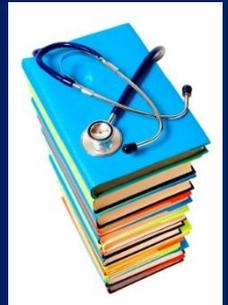
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The Postgraduate Training in Greece

The training of specialised doctors is entirely under the authority of the Ministry of Health and it can be completed only in Public Hospitals, either belonging to a university, or to the National Health System.

No training time is recognised for practicing in Private Hospitals. The official title of the specialty is granted after a final examination by a Jury composed by University and NHS professors or Directors. But this title is issued by the Health Section of Administrative Regions.





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Who issues the specialty titles

According to a recent Greek Law, the specialties' titles will be issued by the Panhellenic Medical Association, but there are no implementing provisions so far.

In provision for this, the PhMA developed new services and established the Institute of Scientific Research of the PhMA.





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The Officially recognised specialties in Greece:

40 main medical specialties are now officially recognised in Greece but this number will increase soon as new specialties eg Pediatric Neurology are to be added.

For the present time these are:

- 1-Vascular Surgery, 2-Hematology, 3-Radiology, 4-Oncologic Radiotherapy
- 5-Allergology, 6-Anesthesiology, 7-Gastroenterology, 8-General Medicine
- 9-Dermatology and Venerology, 10-Public Health and Social Medicine,
- 11-Internal Medicine, 12-Endocrinology-Diabetes-Metabolism.
- 13-Medical Biopathology-Laboratory Medicine, 14-Medical Genetics,
- 15-Occupational and Environmental Medicine, 16-Forensic Medicine,
- 17-Cardiology, 18-Cytology, 19-Obstetrics and Gynecology, 20-Neurology,
- 21-Neurosurgery, 22-Nephrology, 23-Orthopedics and Traumatology, 24-Urology
- 25-Ophthalmology, 26-Pathological Anatomy, 27-Medical Oncology, 28-Pediatrics
- 29-Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery, 30-Pneumology,
- 31-Nuclear Medicine, 32-Rheumatology, 33-Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery,
- 34-Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, 35-Surgery, 36-Thoracic Surgery,
- 37-Pediatric Surgery, 38-Psychiatry, 39-Child and Adolescent Psychiatry,
- 40-Oto-Rhino-Laryngology.



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The legally recognised subspecialties in Greece

6 subspecialties require additional training after the completion of the main specialty.

These Are:

- 1-Emergency Medicine (2 years)
- 2-Interventional Radiology (2 years)
- 3-Clinical Microbiology (2 years)
- 4-Intensive Care Medicine (2 years)
- 5-Intensive Neonatal Care (2 years)
- 6-Diabetes care (2 years)

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What Greek doctors ask for



The CME-CPD regulation In Greece

The Panhellenic Medical Association is by law the regulatory authority for the postgraduate medical education, together with the Greek Ministry of Health and the scientific societies.

It is also the official authority for reviewing scientific events – Live Educational Events and E-Learning Material and for granting national CME-CPD credits, according to the UEMS-EACCME criteria, as defined in UEMS 2016.20 and UEMS 2016.21



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The CME-CPD regulation In Greece

Compulsory CME/CPD for doctors has been legislated since 2005 in the Greek Code of Medical Ethics and a minimum of 80 hours of CME/CPD in every 5 year period had been proposed. However, specific rules have not been defined. Therefore, participation in CME/CPD is not monitored by the State.

So far, it is undertaken on a voluntary basis by an increasing number of medical practitioners.

Because of the informal nature of the process, flexibility is provided by the existing legislation, allowing medical associations, regional health authorities, hospitals and medical scientific societies to organise their own training programs for doctors.

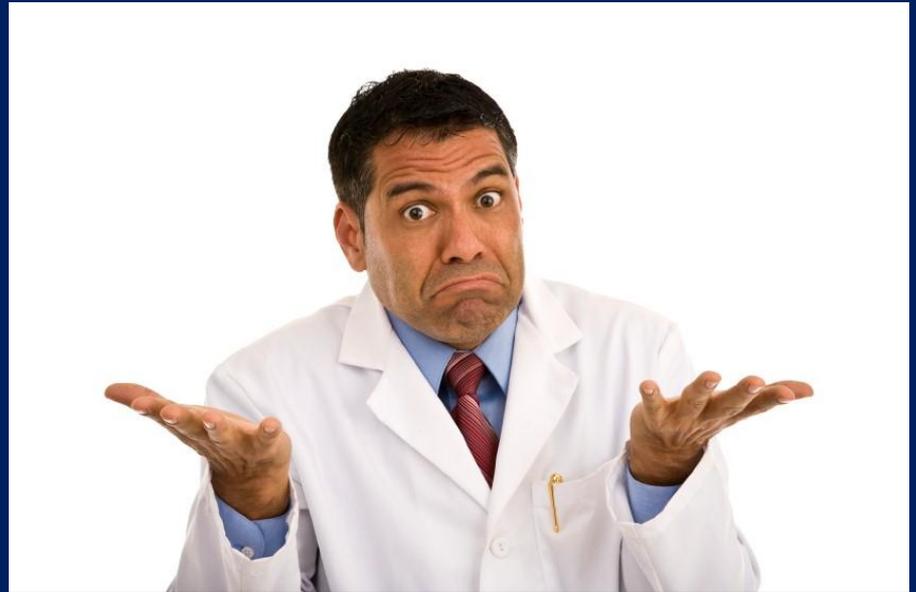
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Are CME-CPD credits important for Greek doctors ?

Although CME-CPD credits do not play a crucial role for doctors when being recruited in public Hospitals or in University, there is an increasing tendency of young doctors to attend scientific events and receive CME-CPD credits that can be useful for their mobility, in Greece and abroad.





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What Greek doctors ask for:

- Simplification of the conversion of national CME/CPD credits to international credits procedures
- Reduction of the procedure cost .

What other problems Greek doctors have to Face:

- The relatively high cost of participation in scientific events.

It should be noted that all medical scientific societies have special low pricing for trainees. But specialised doctors deal with increasing difficulties to participate in CME/CPD awarding events, if non sponsored.

The fact is that the doctors' salaries in the public sector have been reduced by about 30% and for a junior hospital doctor the fees for attending an international congress represent often about the half of his/her salary.

For doctors in the private sector the situation is even worse, as they have to pay about 72 to 80% of their income for tax and health and pension contributions (not including professional insurance)

CME-CPD the situation in Greece What Greek doctors ask for: Hope for a better Future



Sunrise at Acropolis of Athens.

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