

# UEMS Exams & COVID

Where we are, where we might go?

Patrick Magennis

# Data collection

- All UEMS Bodies were contacted with a structured questionnaire
  - E-mail then follow-up reminder
    - 20 May 2020
    - Follow-up Jan 2021
- Responses assembled into table by UEMS Office staff
- Presentation built from this table.



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

*Association internationale sans but lucratif*

*International non-profit organisation*

RUE DE L'INDUSTRIE, 24

BE- 1040 BRUSSELS

[www.uems.eu](http://www.uems.eu)

T +32 2 649 51 64

[info@uems.eu](mailto:info@uems.eu)

*Brussels, 20 May 2020*

## **Forthcoming Examinations for Autumn 2020 and the Year 2021**

Dear Colleagues,

Could you please let us know about your plans for UEMS specialist assessments/examinations in the next 12 months? In particular we would be grateful if you could share your plans to address the issues with COVID.

Please provide your reply using the template below. We aim to share best practice solutions across the UEMS family.

Many thanks very much for your time,

Paolo Ricci  
Chair Group III

Patrick Magennis  
Chair Group II

Rijk Gans  
Chair Group I

# Replies

- 38 replies from 36 UEMS Bodies of whom 32 have exams
  - Group 1                4
  - Group 2                22
  - Group 3                6
- Board exam wholly within UEMS
  - Yes                      10
  - European Soc        17
  - Other                    5

# Corporate partners

- Pearson Vue 4
- Orzone 2
- Agency in Warsaw 1
- iCognitus 1
- Ledholo 1

# Format of Exams

• MCQ & Clinicals both Live	17
• MCQ online Clinical Live	7
• Both online	4
• Both hybrid	1

# Impact of COVID

- Change of Exam

- Postponed 19
- Change to online only 11
- Hybrid 1

- Insurance

- No UEMS bodies or their partners had insurance

# Impact of moving on-line/hybrid

- Advantages

- Exams more economical
  - Time of candidates and faculty
  - Cost of candidates and exam board
- Increase in candidates for some exams

- Disadvantages

- Fear of the unknown
- Risk of technical problems
- Loss of cohesion of faculty
- Risk of exam compromise



# Next Steps

- Share the financial details/contacts of corporate partners
- Information portfolio held in UEMS office
  - Online MCQs
    - Proctoring (supervision) of MCQs
  - Support for hybrid exam processes
- Understanding contracts/billing arrangements will help others
  - Large contracts require review by UEMS Executive
  - Disputes are more easily managed if contract review beforehand