

PRM Board – UEMS

Lectures

CO85-001-e

Harmonization of training and assessment of medical specialists in physical and rehabilitation medicine across Europe—The contribution of the UEMS Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

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Background.—The main goals of the European Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (EBPRM), founded in 1991 as the third speciality board of the Union of European Medical Specialists (UEMS), are to harmonize pre-graduate, post-graduate and continuous medical education in physical and rehabilitation medicine (PRM) all over Europe. The harmonization of curricula of the medical specialities and the assessment of medical specialists has become one of the priorities of the UEMS and its working groups to which the EBPRM contributes.

Action.—The EBPRM will continue to promote a specific minimal undergraduate curriculum on PRM including issues like disability, participation and handicap to be taught all over Europe as a basis for general medical practice. The EBPRM will also expand the existing EBPRM postgraduate curriculum into a detailed catalogue of learning objectives. This catalogue will serve as a tool to boost harmonization of the national curricula across Europe as well as to structure the content of the MCQ examination. It would be a big step forward towards harmonization of European PRM specialist training if an important number of countries would use the certifying MCQ examination of the Board as a part of the national assessments for PRM specialists.

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Educational resources offered by the European Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (EBPRM)



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Background.—Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) is a very demanding medical speciality. To ensure high standard of research and care in PRM all across Europe, it is crucial to attract gifted trainees and offer them high quality education. At undergraduate level, many medical schools in Europe omit to offer teaching on disabled persons and on basic PRM knowledge. Thus PRM is hardly known to medical students. For postgraduate trainees access to evidence-based knowledge as well as teaching of research methodology specific to PRM, rehabilitation methodology, disability management and team building also need to be strengthened to increase the visibility of PRM.

Action.—To address these issues the EBPRM proposes presently a specific undergraduate curriculum in PRM including the issues of disability, participation and handicap as a basis for general medical practice and postgraduate rehabilitation training. For PRM trainees many educational documents are now available on the EBPRM website. A growing number of educational sessions for PRM trainees take place during international and national PRM Congresses which can be accessed at low cost. Educational papers published regularly in European rehabilitation journals and European PRM Schools are offered free or at very low cost to trainees.

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Certification for European medical specialists, trainers and training centres run by the UEMS Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

