

## **Annex 5**

### **Task Force Reports**

**EURACT Council meeting  
October 11-15, 2006  
Praha, Czech Republic**

## Assessment Task Force

**Present** Roger, Justin, Monica, Roar, Fergus, Janko, Bernhard, Egle, George, Margus

**Absent** Givi

**Justin** will produce a plan for Internal planning by the group members. This is a summary of the work for Council report.

An update from Justin on the progress made with each module and what had been achieved showed we need to accelerate our efforts. We agreed to use the meeting to work on some of the modules and do further work in pairs as much as possible.

Those not directly involved in producing draft modules agreed to act as “readers” for the drafts to ensure we are producing work which could be easily used after the Course has been delivered by the delegates attending. This included **Margus** and **Fergus** who are leaving Council after this meeting.

**Thank you** to them for their continuing support.

We used the session to look at the excellent module on MCQs drafted by **Janko** and used the same template to expand the work done on Consultation Skills by **Monica**. It was seen that similar work with the other modules should be successful.

It was also agreed again that there will be a formal evaluation of the course.

**Justin** agreed to coordinate the final work so that there the modules all appeared in the same format. It is the responsibility of the rest of the group to produce the original work!

Since the meeting in Council, **Fergus** and **Janko** have already started to develop the OSCE module; **Smijlka** has asked to join the group and will help with the Draft reading and contact **Monica** to help finish the Consultation skills module.

We intend arriving early at the next Council meeting to spend an extra session on the final development work. This will be put to Council for confirmation of accommodation.

Roger Price 27th October 2006

## Task Force on Educational Research

**Present:** Adam, Mladenka, Okay, Paula, Iuliana (report), Job (chair).  
Wolfgang, Francesco and Yonah joined the taskforce after the coffee break.

**Absent:** Smiljica, Dolores.

Also absent: Mario, Margus, Janko, Roar – *they joined the other 2 task force groups?*

### **Topics to discuss:**

1. Presenting results of educational research during the Council meetings
2. Francesco's comments
3. Presentation of Euract in other conferences– Mladenka
4. CME/CPD publication ? - Mladenka
5. Plans for research – Adam
6. Early Clinical Exposure publication ? – Yonah and Wolfgang
7. EGPRN joint taskforce
8. Follow up EGPRN-EURACT meeting: future plans

### **1. Presenting results of educational research during the Council meetings**

The aim of such a session is to inform the Council members about the educational research performed by presentation of published or in press papers of council members.

The Council has been informed about this initiative and a time slot has been reserved on Saturday morning. There are only two council members who want to present at this time.

Conclusion:

- Job will present the idea again to the Council
- Since it is an experiment we should have a time slot in the next EURACT meeting again.

### **2. Francesco's comments**

Francesco has commented that there is little use in presenting already published and therefore old material in council meetings. He prefers to discuss new ideas, plans and activities in progress. The Educational Research Taskforce believes that its own meeting should be the place to present ideas, plans and future activities. The session of the whole council is not the suitable forum for that kind of discussions. The presentation of published or in press papers serves a more general goal since not all members are involved in educational research.

### **3. Presentation of EURACT in other conferences – Mladenka**

Last meeting, Mladenka agree to look at the different formats available in medical journals and AMEE conferences.

She looked at several journals ( "Medical Education", "Medical Teacher" and "Academic Medicine") and also at the AMEE abstract book of the Conferences since 2006. She pointed out:

- About the type of research published: there are mainly descriptive formats (e.g. curriculum) and evaluation studies done by questionnaires. There are only few trials and usually the control group is missing.
- The target group of the research is: teachers, staff of the departments and patients.

Her conclusions are:

- there is a lack of educational research
- it is easy to publish

- EURACT could and should publish or present as individuals or as a group in journals or at AMEE conferences.
- we could pursue membership of AMEE

Mladenka will prepare a more concrete plan and send this to all taskforce members.

#### **4. CME/CPD publication? - Mladenka**

Last meeting we discussed that the CME/CPD group is gathering information and it might be worth looking at a publication about that.

We decided that Mladenka would write a short outline with the research question on the data. Mladenka has not done this. Paula thinks that is a very good idea and she will work with Mladenka at this task.

#### **5. Plans for research – Adam**

In Poland, as a result of Leonardo training the trainers course there are more than 200 graduates. Organizers would like to evaluate the improvement of the trainers' teaching methods. They realized a questionnaire with 24 questions covering 8 areas of interest and they will ask the trainees to fill in. We discussed several possibilities and advised Adam on the research approach. Adam will write and distribute a more detailed plan. Members will respond by e-mail and we will put the item back on the agenda of our next Taskforce meeting.

#### **6. Early clinical exposure – Yonah**

During our last meeting we decided that Wolfgang would contact Yonah to find out if the data on ECE can lead to a presentation- publication.

Yonah presented the available data of the survey done in the EURACT Council by BME Committee. The goal of the survey was to describe the reality in European countries and it is the first paper exploring ECE.

During further discussion the next issues were underlined:

- there might be some misunderstandings of terms
- the methodology was not very strict designed as from one country several medical schools answered and from others there is only one answer, an overview of the national representative
- the situation is changing rapidly in countries

The conclusions were that

- it is a very interesting topic
- the research group will assist the BME group
- the definition of ECE should be clear defined by the BME group.

## 7. EGPRN joint taskforce

The discussions were:

- if the research group should join EGPRN in elaborating teaching materials about research methods.
- research methodology is not a specific task for general practice, should we cover everything is left aside by other specialities or should we stick to some elements appropriate for VT?

The proposal was to identify persons willing to write papers on the topic. The decision was postponed for the next meeting.

## 8. Follow up EGPRN-EURACT meeting; future plans

The first joint EGPRN-EURACT meeting was successful although only a few EURACT members did attend. That was the result of the planning whereby the EURACT council meeting and the EGPRN-EURACT joint meeting were in following weeks. If we were to organise a joint meeting again it will be necessary to organise a council meeting of EURACT and EGPRN at the same time and location. The research group members have a positive attitude to a joint meeting but felt that it would be a huge task for the host of such event. Furthermore it was noted that the EURACT Council meeting schedule is very busy and there will be less time for common activities.

The proposal was to keep the idea in mind and to see if it is possible to organise such joint meeting later than 2008. Job will report these thoughts to the EB.

Job FM Metsemakers

## The Performance Agenda Task (EUPA) Force Group

Present: Wolfgang, Mario, Filipe, Smiljka, Ruta, Francesco, Yonah, George, Jan, Stefan (chair)

Following ideas of **Wolfgang** and **Yonah**, a new task force will try to develop new ideas from the EURACT Educational Agenda.

Following the line of EURACT's European Definition of General Practice/Family Medicine and EURACT's Educational Agenda, a third document could focus on measurable/observable/controlable performance in general practice, as a basic list of measurable competence elements every GP should master.

- Main focus will be on VT, but also aiming at lifelong learning
- Coming to: list; specifications; elements of learning process; learning outcomes; measurement tools
- Using the terminology outlined and defined in EEA
- Officially relating to core competencies as defined in EEA

- Including ways of application in different countries (with state paid structured VT as well as unstructured VT, paid for by hospitals/PGs) and curricula; specifying learning elements in other specialties/hospitals

The task force will use pre-existing work on competencies and specifications such as:

- Danish list of 119 competencies
- Belgian adapted list with comments and additions to the Danish list
- Greek logbook
- Swedish, Irish, English and Croatian lists of competencies and procedures
- and others: portfolios, log books, syllabus, checklists (*please inform EUPA if there is relevant material in your country – preferrably in English*)

Recommendations of the task force:

- We need interested Council members to join our task force
- We will do the preparation work for an open discussion at the Spring 2007 meeting about our ideas
- We will compile a position paper for the Autumn 2007 meeting to enable EURACT Council to take over as a Council task if agreed

Protocol: Stefan with the help of Filipe and George