

Reports of Standing Committees

**EURACT Council meeting
September 22 – 25, 2004
Århus, Denmark**

Report of CME Committee

CME COMMITTEE MEETING 24 September 2004 Present: Jan Heyrman, Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic, Iuliana Popa, Bernardine Wanrooij, Ruta Riba, Paula Vainiomäki (chair and reporter).

(Text originating from Madeira report in italics)

According to a decision of Madeira council meeting, the chair for the committee was to be elected by committee members (in the first committee session of a council period). Paula Vainiomäki was proposed. She accepted the task and was elected to chair. The chair, assisted by Jan Heyrman, shortly explained main points of the committee work for the new member Ruta Riba.

According to the Madeira report, sent to CME group members 24th May 2004 and available in the Madeira meeting report send by Adam Windak to all, the following issues had been decided. *CME/CPD means any and all the ways by which physicians learn and change their practice. The overall aim of CME/CPD –group is to provide optimal care for patients. More defined objective lines could be 1) providing practical tools, instruments, methods and ways to individual teachers to help GPs to learn and change their practices to provide optimal care and 2) to have influence on strategy makers in order to make accreditation to promote active methods of learning.*

The group was now supposed to discuss more in a practical way, to check how the tasks for individual members of the group had been fulfilled and plan further measurements to achieve the tasks. In Madeira it had been agreed the first line of activities in the following way: *1) Tools for teachers: Tools, methods and instruments for teachers should be identified and assessed by the group. The distribution of suitable methods among GP teachers should be guaranteed. Focus should be on practical and easy methods.* After a long discussion it came out that the group is willing to publish an easy, simple and elementary book for the use of practicing GPs, including GP teachers, to start to develop their own professional development plan. It was suggested that academic level GP teachers need information of this issue as well, because CPD is a new issue. The content of the booklet was defined in principle and a timetable was scheduled. First Jan will send to all members the file he has done concerning CPD. Paula will write down the content as it was discussed in the meeting. After this Jan will place as much of the text he has already ready under the titles given in this meeting. After this the members are willing to write their own parts as discussed:

Introduction – Mladenka, Learning – Juliana, Learning opportunities – Mladenka, Learning plan – Paula, Portfolio – Paula, Prioritisation – left open, Glossary. Before next meeting we should be ready.

The second line of activities for the first objective was the following one as agreed in Madeira: *2. Promoting the implementation of tools (to give the message and have CPD on the agenda): local workshops, statement from the group concerning suitable methods, local groups to give the message to local authorities. Articles and translations of the basic documents in local languages. Follow-up locally.* The group used main time for theoretical discussions, and implementation will be discussed later, but giving the message was supposed to happen using website.

Concerning connection and influence on strategy makers, the second line of main objectives, it came out that all measurements set last time were not done. *2) Strategy makers: 1) Landscape of CME organisations as AMEE, UEMS, EACCME, ASPHER, WFME, etc. 2) Mladenka and Eva will clarify these before September (Paula promised to take the UEMS-EAACME part), 3) Mladenka prepares a draft plan with the idea that EURACT would establish an advisory body for CME/CPD standards at the European level (before next meeting), 4) Specific project plan, application in December. 5) Establishing a larger body with local representatives and experts.* Jan has participated in another project collecting information of accreditation bodies. Much information was available. Paula has printed out information concerning EACCME and UEMS, and sent the available web-addresses to the members. Bernardine had visited the web-sites. UEMO has to be contacted as an important stakeholder. It seemed to be too late to prepare an application before December as was planned.

Paula Vainiomäki

Report of Specific Training Committee

Minutes from Aarhus, 24th of September 2004.

Present: Margus Lember, Monica Lindh, Fergus O'Kelly, Llukan Rrumbullaku, Bernhard Rindlisbacher, Roar Maagaard (chair).

Absent: Dolores Fores, Bernard Gay, Olga Kuznetsova, Janos Szabo.

Organisation of committee. As decided in Madeira a formal election of chair for the committee should take place. This election was done – and Roar was elected (for the Council period 2004-06). The new representative from Switzerland, Bernhard Rindlisbacher joined our committee – a warm welcome to Bernhard!

We decided to concentrate on the 5 items we already decided in the Madeira meeting:

1. Trainee Assessment.

Margus' paper from the Madeira meeting had been a very useful starting paper about assessment- including a note on the Council-survey conducted at the Vilnius meeting.

This survey was presented at the meeting the Danish Colleagues – and the meeting with the Danes were fully dedicated to assessment. We all felt we had learnt a lot from the presentations and the workshops in relation to assessment.

In the committee we therefore concentrated on the assessment recommendations in the "Educational agenda" derived from the New Definitions.

We felt there was need for some changes in some of the recommended assessment methods – and we felt it would be useful with a general introductory chapter regarding different methods in (teaching/learning) and assessment (somewhat like the overview Knut Aspegren gave at the assessment meeting in Aarhus).

Our suggestions will be forwarded to Jan Heyrman – responsible for the Educational agenda.

Responsible for re-reading the Educational Agenda and think of changes: all!

Responsible for collecting our suggestions in this area and feed-backing to Jan: Monica.

2. Selection of trainees/recruitment of trainees.

In April/May a questionnaire was to all council members. 23 answers were received.

We decided to try to have answers from the missing ones.

We already now see very great variations in selection methods: from nearly no-one to more elaborate systems – and in some places non-GP-specialist are even doing the selection.

Further plan:

Margus is going to make a literature review about the subject (first paper found: Wolfgang) .

Fergus and Llukan are going to ask for answers from missing countries – and afterwards they produce an overview.

We are planning to run a workshop with this topic in WONCA Europe Conference in Kos Island, Sept. 2005 (showing diversities/demonstrating some examples/making recommendations?)

Responsible for writing abstract before 15th February 2005: Roar.

Our vision is to be able to obtain consensus regarding recommendations regarding this selection of trainees.

3. Structure and length of VT-programmes across Europe.

Jan Heyrman showed us the well-known Excelfile on the internet – but still not quite ready – it will soon be available at www.euract.org.

It had been a big item at the Junior Doctors' Workshop in Amsterdam in June: how can it be that there exists that big differences in the length and the structure of the different VT-programmes in Europe – the endpoint of training should be the same (i.e. the New Definitions)???

We feel it should be possible for us to come with some recommendations regarding length and structure of the VT-programmes – our ambition is still to be able to do this!

Responsible for keeping this discussion alive in the VT-group till next meeting: Roar.

4. Financing/supporting VT-programmes.

Dolores had been responsible for making a survey-draft and a discussion paper – but as Dolores unfortunately was not present we discussed how to carry on.

It was felt as a very serious problem in many countries: in some countries nearly no supporting funds; in some countries pharmaceutical companies take part; in some countries the trainee has to by his practice-part before being trained.

So we still put these questions: Who is financing VT? How is the supporting structure around VT? Obstacles and possibilities. We wish to discover and describe the differences somewhat more in this field.

It might be a topic for the Council meeting in Sweden/Finland in 2006.

Responsible for next steps: Dolores, Bernard and Monica – Bernard and Monica very willing to contribute!

5. Trainee forum?

We as teachers have our forum in EURACT. Is there also a need for a European forum for trainees in GP?

Very much inspiration was obtained from the Junior Doctors' Project in combination with the Wonca Europe Conference in Amsterdam, June 2004. There are now EURACT initiatives underway in relation to the Junior Doctors – so we didn't feel we should take an initiative – but we feel ourselves as the natural sparring-partners for Junior Doctors in Vocational Training.

Responsible for messages to the group if a process is starting before next meeting in April 2005: **Roar.**

(Roar Maagaard).

Report of Member Service Committee

Present : Athanasios Simeonidis, Justin Allen, Janko Kersnik, Luis Filipe Gomez, Adam Windak;

Chair: Egle Zebiene

1. Egle Zebiene was confirmed as a chair of a Committee.
2. EURACT-Leonardo training the trainers course was confirmed to take place in Turkey, May 22-25, 2005 (approved by Council), and in Portugal, April-May 2006 (exact dates to be confirmed later). As decided earlier, EURACT will provide 6000 EUR for each course for covering organizational expenses. Travel expenses have to be paid by participants themselves.
3. Countries that are invited to participate in the course 2005 in Turkey: Turkey, Greece, Albania, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Czech Republic, Cyprus. As the number of participating countries is bigger than before, Okay Basak should confirm that accommodation expenses and meals can be covered by finances available. Number of participants: 32+ 5 faculty members. After confirmation of expenses E.Z. to write letters to country representatives about selection and participation rules for the course. Countries and procedure was confirmed by Council.

4. For the EURACT-Leonardo course 2006 following countries will be invited: Portugal Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Malta. Also some participants who want to participate in the course from other countries, may take part in the course, if their institution pays for it. Participation fee will be calculated later. Possibility to organize EURACT-Leonardo course in 2007 in Bled (Krainska Gora) will be considered during the next meeting.
5. Sponsorship. It was decided by the Committee and confirmed by EURACT Council that sponsorship for the Bled course for 5 participants will be continued in 2005, covering participation fee and accommodation. Also idea for promoting International Teacher's Conference 2005 was supported by Council. As this is a new activity, and in 2004 the Conference was not attended very actively, decision was taken to provide sponsorship for 5 members, covering for them participation fee of 100 EUR. Sponsorship for the year 2006 to be re-considered during the Autumn 2005 meeting of EURACT Council. Participants who earlier were sponsored for Bled or CNGE courses may apply for Teachers' conference.
6. Updates of EURACT website should be made after Aarhus meeting 2004, information about sponsorship updated.
7. JA and AW are responsible for writing the article about EURACT-Leonardo course in order to promote this activity.
8. Workshop based on materials of "Rolling course" to be held during the WONCA Europe Conference in Kos. One module from course programme was decided to run during the workshop. EZ to contact course faculty to decide which module will be demonstrated. Workshop will be developed during the EB meeting in January 2005, after that abstract will be sent to Conference organizers.
9. Future actions:
 - AW and JA to write the article
 - E.Z to update the website information
 - OB to inform EZ about the financial situation of the Leonardo-EURACT 2005 course.
 - E.Z to contact countries participants of the course 2005, provide information about the selection and requirements of the course.
 - Course faculty to decide about the workshop in Kos.
 - EZ to write the abstract for Kos conference

Egle Zebiene