

Annex 4

Reports of Standing Committees

**EURACT Council meeting
October 10–12, 2001
Barcelona, Spain**

Report of Basic Medical Education Committee

The committee met with the following council members in attendance: Yonah (recorder) Harry, Igor, Anders, Muharem

The meeting began with a presentation of the core competencies document by Harry and Igor as a dress rehearsal for the formal presentation to the core content meeting. Members commented on the content from a BME perspective (e.g. adding direct observation and feedback on student performance as an appropriate teaching technique for core clinical skills) and presentation style. We hope the exercise was useful. We were impressed by the presentation the following day and the interest in the paper at the plenum.

We continued with a brainstorming exercise to generate new ideas for the work of the committee. The following ideas were presented:

1. How can we collect information on international perspectives in BME? What are the unique features of the contribution of FM/GP to BME in different countries?
2. How are logbooks used in BME? Several universities have experiences with logbooks or diaries for students for recording experiences with patients, procedures performed and other educational activities. We might collect logbooks and present a proposal for a “generic” logbook.
3. What is the contribution of FM/GP to the early years of medical education? Many universities now have early clinical exposure courses in which GP’s play a major role. The courses have received high student ratings. What can we learn from this?
4. How can we exploit BME as a forum for recruitment of future GP’s? Clerkships can help students make a career decision. Can we make this more explicit?
5. What is the status of problem based learning in different countries? The PBL movement generated a great deal of initial excitement. It has undergone adaptation in different settings. What can we learn from this?
6. How can we develop stable teaching practices for BME? Some countries have a high turnover of GP’s and a problem recruiting new teachers. How can model teaching clinics help solve this problem?
7. What are the characteristics of a good BME teacher and a good teaching practice for students? EURACT may help define this in a document.
8. How can Internet be used in BME? Chat rooms may provide a forum for students to discuss cases with tutors.
9. What is the role of research projects by students in BME? Some longer clerkships provide time for student projects. Is this feasible? Does it meet the objectives of the rotation?

This document will be circulated to committee members and individual members will be encouraged to take responsibility for developing one idea as a committee project. Other Council members are invited to comment or participate if they are interested.

Thanks for a stimulating discussion!

Report of CME Committee

Present: Jan, Bernardine, Mladenka, Sakis, Ivana, Juliana, Paula, Eva

1. Collaboration with EQuIP to prepare a policy document.

The document prepared by EURACT and EQuIP was discussed. CME group was not satisfied with the present version. It seems to be very difficult to combine views of two groups of general practitioners, when the topic is sensitive. From EURACT's point of view the formal CME is not the modern way of CME. The basic idea in the document should be to combine the CME and QI to form CPD. QI is, anyhow, even broader than the CPD. Headings in the document are not fitting any more, they have to be modified again. Jan made a new version during the CME meeting.

Conclusion: Paula will discuss with Luc Seuntjens from EQuIP, a meeting together with both groups maybe is needed. (Later on, it was discussed, that during Maastricht meeting Luc is able to join the CME group of EURACT).

2. Possible workshop during London Conference

Together with EQuIP a workshop is planned, CPD compared to formal CME and QI. How would it be possible to implement the new ideas? Paula and Luc will prepare a workshop proposal.

3. Further action in the CME group

Maybe we are forming a Standing Committee of CPD, dealing with new issues. During next meeting, more time is needed.

Paula Vainiomäki

Report of Specific Training Committee

The group worked finalizing the document on the "Selection of trainers and teaching practices for Specific Training in General Practice". The document was presented to the council and approved by the council. The next steps will be language check (by Fergus O'Kelly) and then printed as a separate booklet in Tartu (Margus Lember). The document should be ready for distribution by the next council meeting in Maastricht.

Margus Lember

