

Reports of Standing Committees

**EURACT Council meeting
May 9-13, 2007
Zagreb, Croatia**

Report of Basic Medical Education Committee

Report of Committee after Council Meeting:

Basic Medical Education group report Zagreb council meeting May 2007

The BME committee met in Zagreb with Okay, Francesco, Wolfgang, Job, Givi, Stefan and Yonah in attendance.

The first order of business was selection of the committee chairman. Yonah has completed two terms as chair and suggested rotation of the post. Francesco volunteered to serve as chairman and this was accepted by the group. This will be presented to Council for approval. We wish Francesco success with the important work of the committee.

The meeting was largely devoted to editing Okay's draft of our report on Early Clinical Exposure (ECE) in BME in Europe. We have new results to add to the paper and an extensive literature review. After clarifying the nature of the paper as a descriptive phenomenological study, we were able to further refine the draft. Group members answered Okay's questions and he can now finish the project. We hope to complete the task by the Sweden Council meeting and submit the paper for publication.

Following on the success of the workshop on ECE presented at the Florence WONCA meeting we are considering presenting another workshop on ECE at the Istanbul WONCA meeting. Paula has collected data from Finnish teachers of ECE and this can form part of the presentation. We would like to include that in a workshop where teachers involved in ECE from other European countries could share their experiences of teaching.

We discussed two new projects for the new term of the committee. The first is a quantitative study of ECE programs in Europe including the prevalence, process, and outcomes of programs. It will be possible to apply for WONCA funding for this project before the November 1, 2007 deadline.

The second new project considered was development of a book of case vignettes to teach core competencies of the European Educational Agenda to medical students. This will be developed by e-mail and discussed again at the Sweden meeting.

In closing we want to call on new council members to consider joining the BME committee and strengthening our ranks.

Yonah Yaphe (recorder)

Future plans for BME Committee:

Future plans and actions

None new Council member joined the Group and the Committee kindly and strongly ask for at least one Council Member to join the Committee for a shared and going work.

Wolfgang and Job will present in WONCA Singapore in the name of the BME Committee the first results on ECE.

We will consider a developed presentation on ECE as Committee at WONCA Conference, in Istanbul, October 2008.

Also, the Committee considered other future possible works. One would be a development for other case – vignettes so to develop practical teaching from EEA and for practical application and reflection on Core Competences in General Practice.

Other topic for a three years plans:

Find ways to promote the Definition and EEA in the development of BME curricula and find ways to promote BME curricula in every European countries, helping in this all the national representatives and national members.

Givis's idea was considered on carrying out another survey, particularly about family medicine teaching to undergraduate students in General (not only ECE). Within this survey we can find out (a) if Family Medicine is being taught in all European countries, (b) what is the format of the curriculum, (c) if or not the Definition and EEA were considered while drafting the above curricula, (d) which kind and level of obstacles and how to bypass them.

Francesco's proposal for a symposium or workshop involving BME Committee and also national members on development of academic departments in GP, during WONCA Conferences in Istanbul 2008 and in Bern 2009.

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Yonah: send to Francesco and all the workshop ECE in Florence.

Yonah and Job: see the names of Committee as abstract and presentation in Singapore.

Stefan + Yonah: timetable and work on data collection on ECE

Okay + Givi + Wolfgang: consider further longer draft for the paper, as discussed

Job: see for some more references

Givi: to prepare a questionnaire on EEA use and usefulness in the development of BME curricula in the European countries.

Francesco Carelli, new chair of BME Committee.

Report of Specific Training Committee

Presentation of Committee – given prior to Council Meeting:

EURACT Council meeting Spring 2007

Specialty Training Committee

This committee is focussed on any issues related to Postgraduate Training in General Practice in the member countries of EURACT.

Unfortunately there has not really been any substantial work to report on since the Council meeting in Prague 2006.

Smiljka Radic and Mario Sammut have been trying to talk with the senior members of the Vasco da Gama Movement about a survey they want to carry out. This relates to the different ways Specialty training is carried out in each country and it represents a special opportunity to work with trainees instead of working alone as a group of teachers. This work is still in progress.

Smiljka has also carried out a survey about the ways in which the EURACT Leonardo Teaching the Teachers' Course has developed in the countries which have sent delegates to the annual training courses. She will report on this at the Council meeting in Zagreb.

Roar and 4 Danish colleagues visited the UK in March to observe the Selection process for Specialty Training programmes. He may give a report on this visit to colleagues in Zagreb.

We welcome new Council members to bring fresh ideas and experience to this committee which will be electing a new Chair during the next Council meeting.

Roger Price

Committee Chair, UK Council representative

April 29th 2007

Report of Committee after Council Meeting:

Specialty committee report on meeting at Zagreb

Roger (chair)

Roar, Monica, Llukan, Dolores, *Owen*, Mario, *Jan*, *Natasa*, Bernard, Smiljka

Introductions as we were welcoming new members as in *italics* above.

Current work

Mario & Smiljka presented frustrating report of work with Vasco da Gama Movement, trying to help with their questionnaire survey. The current situation is that VdGM have offered to hold a meeting to discuss the way forward with representatives of Euract and EGPRN at Paris meeting.

ACTION: Mario and Smiljka will acknowledge their invitation, and indicate that the responsibility for further activity is now firmly with VdGM.

VT Funding survey: Monica, Bernhard & Mario have presented their work at Florence, have completed a draft report and survey results which will be completed for publication on our website and submitted for consideration as a publication.

ACTION: Monica, Bernhard & Mario to prepare work for publication.

Leonardo survey: Smiljka has already presented her work on this to Council and is getting more data during the meeting. This will be formally submitted as abstract for presentation at WONCA Paris meeting.

ACTION: Smiljka to submit and be supported by other members in Paris.

Hippocrates programme

Roar presented concern from a colleague, Per Kallestrup, with a suggestion for action on this exchange programme for trainee and young doctors in General Practice. We have some out of date information on our website and it was agreed to make a proposal to Council.

ACTION: Roar and Jan to work with Per Kallestrup. They will make recommendation to Council about how to develop this and possibly have a project supported by EU funding.

BRAINSTORM

Ideas for future work by this committee during the next 2-3 years included:

1. Examine what a European Licensing framework might look like.
2. Consider a database of assessment in European countries; this could include tools, criteria, language and cultural issues.
3. How is Public health and General practice covered in GP training in different countries?
4. Previous surveys may be out of date.
5. Needs assessment of Euract membership about Vocational training

It was agreed that we would look at 2, 3 & 4.

Jan will develop his ideas about 1 and update us at the next meeting. This may be something for full Council to consider.

ACTION: Jan & Mario will start to develop ideas on the database.

Llukan and Dolores will develop ideas on a survey about Public health & General practice.

Monica will review the previous surveys and make suggestions about repeat surveys.

We will ask the Member Services Committee to seek views from all country members with an interest in Vocational Training. We would like to know what they would like the VT Committee to look at on their behalf.

Roger Price 11th May 2007

Report of CME Committee

Presentation of Committee – given prior to Council Meeting:

REPORT CONCERNING CME/CPD GROUP/Paula Vainiomäki 25.4.2007

Continuing medical education/Continuous professional development forms the longest period in a doctor's career where formal structure of education usually is quite loose and where the doctor is mainly himself(herself) responsible for the whole process. This makes a huge difference when comparing CME/CPD –period with basic medical education or specialist training. More attention has been paid on CME/CPD issues during the recent years, also from the authorities point of view.

CME/CPD –group in EURACT council has concentrated mainly on the next issues:

- The group supports powerfully modern methods of adult learning. This means needs assessing, goal-orienting, active, collaborative, learner-centred, feedback searching, constructive methods with practical contents, raised from the daily work, instead of traditional teacher-centred, points picking education.
 - Very important has been planning and preparing basic documents concerning CME/CPD. One document was published in collaboration with EQuIP in 2001. In this document we tried to combine basic issues of traditional CME with quality issues to form modern CPD. This document is possible to print out from EURACT website www.euract.org/publications and the document is still very actual.
 - The group has organised workshops during WONCA conferences. During Amsterdam, Kos and Florence conference we have had a theme: Make your own personal learning plan. There is a decision to go on organising workshops on this theme. Participants have been mainly positively minded for our ideas.
 - The workshop material Make your own learning plan has been prepared to be posted on the website, but unfortunately the text is not ready yet. Publishing this would help GP teachers to organise workshops on this theme, and to distribute ideas of active learning by using it.
 - The group has raised interest in the ongoing accreditation processes in Europe and also in the work the European accreditation council.
 - The group has planned to update the landscape of CME/CPD in Europe (also available at EURACT website).
 - We have also had discussions what is the position of medical industry in CME/CPD.
- In Prague meeting we were worried about our future, when main part of the council has been more interested in the BME and VT. One fourth of council members should be members of CME/CPD committee. CME/CPD group has consisted of 6-10 council members during the last years and has been chaired for two last council periods by Dr. Paula Vainiomäki (Finland). During the meetings the group works actively, but the enthusiasm seems to disappear between the meetings. It has also to be kept in mind that the group needs a new chair quite soon, because the current chair will be closing her council representation within a year.

WE WARMLY WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

JOIN US, WE NEED YOU!

Report of Committee after Council Meeting:

MINUTES CME – CPD STANDING COMMITTEE

Zagreb – Thursday, 10th May 2007

Present: Paula Vainiomäki (Finland) Chair, Mladenka Vrcic-Kegelvic (Croatia), Ruth Kalda (Estonia), Peter Vajer (Hungary), Philios Phylaktou (Cyprus), Razvan Miftode (Romania), Elena Frolova (Russia), Bernhard Rindlisbacher (Switzerland), Sandra Kregere (Latvia) part time, Jaroslava Lankova (Czech Republic), George Spatharakis (Greece) reporter, some text and slides added by chair.

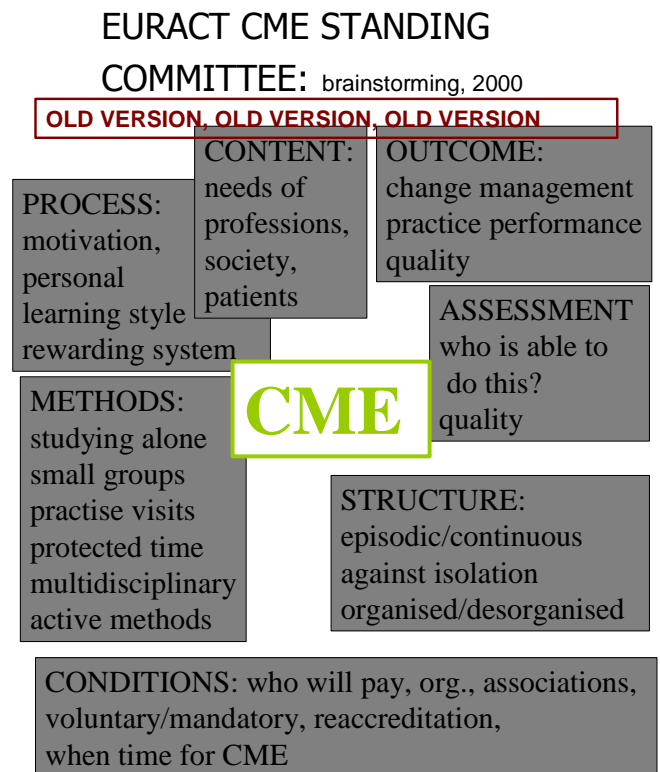
Chair expressed her welcoming to all participants. It was an exceptional joy to have seven new members in the committee, among them six new council members.

Introduction: The chair asked members to introduce themselves and reasons of their participation in CME-CPD committee: What is stand /position to CME/CPD, why are you here?

- Ruth Kalda: CME-courses are important – Life-long-learning is needed – CME or CPD or both and what is the difference?
- Peter Vajer: organises CME-programmes Hungary-wide – How to make a step forward – new ideas are needed.
- Philios Phylaktou: President in Cyprus college – CME design for family doctors is needed – How CME/CPD is organised in Europe? – new programs are needed.
- Razvan Miftode: Trainers and programs are in need of new ideas – how to transform to CPD?
- Elena Frolova: What does CPD mean? – Who is responsible – how to motivate to CPD?
- Bernhard Rindlisbacher: moving from VT group, starts CME-CPD as a new issue in his job. How to move to CPD?
- Jaroslava Lankova: interested in CME, also responsible in organizing CME activities, and renewing is needed – E-Learning a new important issue, maybe a subgroup for this within the committee.
- George Spatharakis: CME is not always very well organized, something new would be needed.
- Mladenka Vrcic-Kegelvic: Re-licensing procedures should be organised without being just points picking. – Teachers' Association is too traditional in Croatia.
Pharmaceutical companies may have too important position.
- Paula Vainiomäki: has been organising CME in Finland and countries around Baltic Sea.
Change of CME to a modern CPD is really needed.

Chair presented the previous work of the Committee

A map of CME was made in the group using brainstorming techniques already in 2000. As we see, neither reference to e-learning nor to CPD was there seven years ago. So this is an old view of the group concerning CME.



Collaboration with EQuIP lead to a booklet, published on www.euract.org/publications. The main content of the document is on next slides.



***Continuing Professional Development
in Primary Health Care***

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***Quality Development integrated
with
Continuing Medical Education***

Basic principles

- Patient and community priorities concerning health care should be central.
- Continuing professional development should be based on the learners daily work practices.
- Goals should be set by the GP and/or the practice.
- Integration of CME and QD is a continuing process.

Creating a new model for CPD

- CPD should be planned and individually tailored.
- A needs assessment should be undertaken.
- Educational sessions should involve information on the philosophy and techniques of Quality Development.
- Active adult learning methods should be employed.
- Data should be collected to analyse performance.
- Start with simple and effective procedures.
- Integrate methods that use evidence based guidelines.
- Include practice enabling and reinforcing strategies.
- Organise discussion on barriers to change.
- Organise evaluation of the outcome of CME programmes.

Implementing the new model of CPD

- Financial incentives must be available
- Integrate both CME and QD in accreditation procedures
- CME and QD organisers must work together.
- In QD procedures the need for CME should be defined and linked to the existing CME network
- The organisation of peer review groups should be promoted.
- QD skills and the management of lifelong learning should be included in both undergraduate and GP specialist training programmes.
- National research centres should work together in an international network evaluating the methods and results of modern CPD.

The group developed a workshop to implement these issues. The workshop has been piloted in many conferences this far since 2004. Main ideas are:

- Simulate assessing your work and performance with readymade data using three methods a) Consultation diary, b) Position mapping of competence using self-reflection, c) Significant event analysis with fishbone diagram.
- Find your real learning needs
- Make a concrete plan

- Review your plan with peers
- Follow up the plan and record results

The manuscript for this workshop has been written in a quite difficult and complicated way, so it needs simplifying before posting on EURACT website.

Lanscapes concerning CME have been discussed. The chair had no information, if something had happened with the draft after Prague meeting.

Accreditation issues also have been discussed in the committee. One of the many problems has been how to convince authorities have a broad spectrum of activities as a basis of accreditation and recertification instead of picking points only.

The future actions of the group were discussed using cumulative (escalating) group techniques.

Issues were: What should we do? What are EURACT members needs and expectations.

- Independent work for 5 min.
- Work in pairs of committee members for 10 min to find consensus with the pair
- Work in 2 groups for 20 minutes to find consensus
- Concrete proposal (short term)
- High level strategic proposals
- Finally the whole group together to discuss these two suggestions for future work.

The group worked actively and found a lot of old, but also fresh new ideas. It was emphasised that all GP-trainers should be our target group, and finally all GPs when making CPD programmes.

TASKS for members:

1. Paula corrects workshop-manuscript Make your personal learning plan before 10th June 2007 (when she travels to Nordic conference of GPs to run the workshop with two Finnish EURACT members)
2. Paula sends corrected text to every committee member with the Icelandic experiences after 17th June 2007
3. Mandatory response of the members CME-CPD –Committee as soon as possible. Commitment is needed. Paula forms an e-mail list.
4. Organising a workshop in WONCA Paris should be done, and abstract was already during council meeting given to Bernard Gay.
5. All “old” material should be sent to everybody by Paula and/or downloaded from the EURACT website
6. Bernhard and George will study accreditation regulations and communicate to others

Long term plans and ideas

- The workshop should be made more comprehensive and more information including, so that finally this workshop would form a new Leonardo course.
- Regulations of re-licensing and recertification should be changed not be picking points only, but family doctors should learn the techniques first e.g. identification of learning needs and factors changing performance, e-learning methodologies.
- Position of pharmaceutical companies in CME/CPD should be clarified
- Motivation of all doctors towards CPD is important.

- Clarification and definition of terms

Proposal for council to nominate a chair

Paula told she will leave the council during this council period, when someone from Finland will be ready to take the task of being a council member. Paula promised to be the chair at least until Swedish meeting, and it was decided to propose to council.

Report of Member Services Committee

Presentation of Committee – given prior to Council Meeting:

EURACT Members Service Committee

Chairperson – Filipe Gomes (Portugal)

Members – Adam Windak (Poland), Justin Allen (UK),
Egle Žebiene (Lithuania), Janko Kersnik (Slovenia).

The Members Service Committee (MSC) is, as you can see, the less attended of all. Hélas, there was only 4 members at the Praha Meeting!

We, of course, understand it; the other Committees, on such interesting matters as EBM, VT or CPD, are much more attractive! Nevertheless, our work is of utmost importance: a lot of crucial matters for the development of EURACT come through MSC!

We discuss and decide to bring to the Council matters like:

- The organization of Rolling Courses, like the “Trainer’s and Teachers Course” and the new “Assessment Course”;
- Supporting other courses (Bled, Dubrovnik);
- Relations with Vasco da Gama Mouvement;
- Input to WONCA Conferences (Europe Region or/and World);
- Services to members (questionnaires, diplomas, etc.);
- Other membership issues (« referee », decisions on admittance);
- And many more!

In fact, being a member of MSC is a core activity for EURACT Council Members.

AND WE NEED YOU!

So, join MSC! We’ll be waiting for you in Zagreb!



Filipe Gomes, March 2007

Report of Committee after Council Meeting:

Present: Egle Žebiene, Janko Kersnik, Adam Windak.
Chairman: Filipe Gomes

Information's.

Adam informed the committee about the Krakow Meeting for Central-Europe Countries. It is an invitational Conference, Adam is the President and asks to present to the Council the possibility of doing with EURACT collaboration. Egle will present a K-note conference, Janko will be present for Equip. The scope will be clinical (Gastro and Cardio) and educational.

Leonardo-EURACT course 2007, May 22- 25 May, Magglingen, Switzerland.
Everything is arranged, the course will take place as scheduled.

Other Rolling Courses.

Iceland is organizing the 2008 edition of the course. Possibilities to do it in Cyprus and Greece the next years.

Since last meeting there were 2 Portuguese national editions of the course, both very successful. One of them had the presence of 4 Brazilian colleagues, which are going to reproduce the course in Brazil!

Assessment Course.

The Assessment Task Force finished developing the course, which is ready and will have its first edition in Zakopane, Poland, the 14th – 18th November 2007.

The course will possibly have its 2008 and 2009 editions in Georgia and Portugal, respectively.

It is important to start vigorous promotion of the course through the website, leaflets and at the Singapore Conference. Council members to promote it in their Countries to all EURACT members, Colleges, Universities and Associations.

Brazilian colleagues showed interest in either coming to one of the European editions or having the Course in Brazil. MS to study these possibilities.

Other Courses.

MS will ask the Council to continue sponsorship for the Bled Course in 2007 (4 places) and announce it in the website. The 16th Bled Course will be held in Bled, Slovenia, September 18-22, 2007. Theme will be "Learning and teaching about patient empowerment in General/Family Practice".

Newsletter.

An electronic newsletter was proposed to be sent to all EURACT members, 3 or 4 times a year, possibly following major EURACT events, like the meetings. It will be a short and simple document, with electronic links to others. MS to prepare common format (what, where, when) to be presented in Sweden. Native English speakers will be asked to revise it.

Questionnaire to Members.

A Questionnaire is being prepared for all EURACT members, about their needs and expectations towards EURACT and their opinions on EURACT documents and publications, use of the website,

courses, EURACT presence in Wonca Conferences, etc. They will be asked to provide topics for courses and ideas for other future Euract activities.

The questionnaire is to be sent through the newsletter. To present in Sweden.

WONCA World Conference 2007 – Singapore.

There will be a significant presence of EURACT through a Symposium, an workshop and a presentation. EURACT will share the WONCA booth – Barbara will be there.

WONCA Conference Paris 2007.

EURACT will continue collaboration with Vasco da Gama Movement, but still no demand for facilitators. Several workshops (4) to be presented by EURACT. Smiljka to present a free standing paper on Rolling Courses.

General Meeting to be prepared.

Services to members.

Members Service Committee will try to make EURACT booth in Conferences more attractive – ideas for ongoing media presentations, stand posters, leaflets.

Filipe to study economical viability to create items of interest for members.

Membership issues.

No special document is needed for members of countries with no representative; applications coming from those countries will be sent directly to secretariat, the Council will decide and try to find a “referee”, if needed.

All other applications are to be sent through National Representative.

Website.

To be placed in Slovenia and technically ran by Barbara. MS to check it regularly.

Roger will go on being the editor.

Others.

Filipe appointed as Chairman.

ACTION POINTS:

Rolling Course, Assessment Course – promote.

EURACT booth – prepare it.

Website – check it.

TASKS:

Prepare EURACT booth materials for next Conferences (financial issues).

Format newsletter.

Write questionnaire for members.

Prepare Bled sponsorship 2007.

Keep contacts with Brazil.

Luís Filipe Gomes, May 15th 2007