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UEMO 2003/004

AUSTRIAN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON SPECIFIC TRAINING (UEMO 2002/162)

UEMO – PRESIDENCY

*c/o Swedish Medical Association, P.O. Box 5610, Villagatan 5, SE-114 86 Stockholm
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Structure and implementation of Specific Training in General practice/Family Medicine in UEMO countries

Dear head of delegation!

In order to pursue our task, adopted in Florence, October 2002, we need to have a detailed overview on specific training in GP/FM in all our member countries.

PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS, FILLING IN THE EXACT DATA FOR YOUR COUNTRY!

I.

Structure of specific training in GP/FM

Education and training	Duration (in months)	Training institutions H = hospital ,TP = Teaching practice, U = university
A. Clinical training		
Internal medicine	12 months minimum	H
Infect. Diseases		
Surgery	4 months minimum	H
Pediatrics	4 months minimum	H
GYN	4 months minimum	H / TP (5 months minimum)
Psychiatry	2 months minimum (or Neurology)	H / TP (3 months minimum)
Neurology	2 months minimum (or Psychiatrie)	H / TP (3 months minimum)
Dermatology	2 months minimum	H / TP (3 months minimum)
Orthopedics		
Ophthalmology		
ENT	2 months minimum	H
Oncology		
/other		
B. Family medicine	6 month minimum	H

Training of GPs in Austria has to be undergone in hospitals which have to be officially approved training sites. And there are also approved teaching out-patient clinics and teaching practices where physicians are entitled to perform their practical training.

The indicated training durations refer to the training in hospital settings. In the specialties of gynaecology/obstetrics, dermatology and venereal diseases, as well as in neurology, resp. psychiatry, doctors in training are free to acquire practical experience in teaching practices or teaching out-patient clinics (provided that they exist in the concerned specialty). In this case however, training is prolonged by 1 month.

2.

STRUCTURE of B. / family medicine training

Please insert your subjects, module, etc., that consist the FM part of specific training!

Austrian Medical Training Regulations §6

No	Title/module/subject...
1.	Specific training in the subject of general medical practice , taking place in approved teaching practices of self-employed general practitioners , has to convey knowledge and skills to the following extent:
2.	Independent performance of GP/FM duties
3.	Counselling in the capacity of a general medical practitioner, home visits, including phone counselling
4.	Diagnosing and provision of medical at the level of general medical practice
5.	Knowledge of frequent medical problems and diseases presented in general medical practice
	Management of the following diseases in a GP setting:
	Diseases of the respiratory tract, the cardiovascular system, the digestive tract, the locomotor system, the urinary genital tract, the nervous system, the skin; disorders of psychic, psychosocial and psychosomatic origin, infectious diseases, oncological and blood disorders

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6.	<p>Duties in the social context: Detection and management of work- and environment-related diseases, judgement of the health condition, resp. the state of disease, family planning, vaccinations, prenatal/maternity care, counselling and provision of information about health and healthy lifestyles, primary and secondary prevention, rehabilitation, terminal care</p>
7.	<p>Organisation und establishment of a GP practice, in particular quality assurance</p>
8.	<p>coordination of multidisciplinary care and cooperation between different health care providers, in particular guidance on social institutions, institutions for and means of rehabilitation, cooperation with specialists and health care providers.</p>
9.	<p>Knowledge of the laws relevant to the exercise of the medical profession (health care and welfare system)</p>
10.	
11.	<p>Specific training in the subject of general medical practice, taking place in approved primary care centres (teaching clinics, hospital out-patient departments), has to convey knowledge and skills to the following extent:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. diagnosing and providing medical care in general medical setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preliminary diagnosis - medical history - diagnosis - triage and referral role based on patient contact, detection of dangerous course of disease, limits of competencies, well directed referrals, organisation of cooperation with other medical doctors, balancing the need for hospitalisation, medical home care, knowledge of laws and regulations relevant to the exercise of the medical

	profession - principles on prescription - therapy principles - emergency medical care - surgical measures - long-term care - multimorbidity - integrative role with regard to legal and social measures (f.e. organisation of home care) - coordination role: management and supervision of all diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
12.	2. Duties at social level Detection and management of work- and environment-related diseases, judgement of the health condition, resp. the state of disease, family planning, vaccinations, prenatal/maternity care, counselling and provision of information about health and healthy lifestyles, primary and secondary prevention, rehabilitation, terminal care
13.	3. coordination of multidisciplinary care and cooperation between different health care providers, in particular guidance on social institutions, institutions for and means of rehabilitation, cooperation with specialists and health care providers.
14.	4. Knowledge of the laws relevant to the exercise of the medical profession (health care and welfare system)
15.	
16.	
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22.	
23.	
24.	
25.	

Example: model of ST in Slovenia:

No	Title of module
5.	Family in health and in illness
6.	Organisation of practice work
7.	Communication with patients I
8.	Quality assurance
9.	Diagnostic procedures in FM
10.	Prescribing
11.	Preventive activities
12.	Chronic patient
13.	Addictions
14.	Physical medicine & rehabilitation
15.	<i>Health care of children and youngsters</i>
16.	Health care of workers
17.	Health care of elderly
18.	Terminal patient
19.	Pre-hospital emergency level
20.	Home visits
21.	Home for elderly
22.	Ethical problems

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23.	Cooperation with specialist doctors
24.	Evidence based medicine
25.	Burn out doctors
26.	Communication with patients II
27.	Research in GP/FM
28.	Public health
29.	Medical error

3. Audit

Who is auditing the specific training?

- peers (nominated teachers in GP/FM)
- clinicians
- **others : ... Training Evaluation Commission**

.....

In June 2001, the Plenary Assembly of the Austrian Medical Chamber adopted a guideline for the implementation of visitations of training institutions (teaching hospitals, etc). The Training Evaluation Commission in the respective province is competent for quality assurance: it decides which training institution shall be visited.

Within the Training Evaluation Commission, there is a Visitation Committee (consisting of at least 4 members) performing the visitation.

The Training Evaluation Commission of the Province Medical Chamber in the respective province determines which training institution shall be subject to visitation. Visitations take place on the following grounds: application for an additional training institution, random testing or grievance. The Training Evaluation Commissions of the Province Medical Chambers are not restricted as to the number of visitations performed yearly.

Visitations should be accomplished within one day. The decisions made by the Visitation Committee are taken by a simple majority.

The Visitation Committee informs the Training Evaluation Commission of the Province Medical Chamber of the final visitation outcome and distributes the final report to the members of the Training Evaluation Commission.

In the case of a negative recommendation including suggestions for improvement made by the Visitation Committee, the Training Evaluation Commission has to request the training institution, resp. the legal entity of the Province Medical Chamber concerned to remedy the deficiencies stated within 6 months (revisitation).

4. Assessment

Assessment of trainees:

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- only the final exam
- **at the end of each subject**
- both

Training certificates certify content and duration of completed stages of postgraduate training (“Ratserzeugnisse”)

By signing, the training supervisors and owners of teaching practices have to confirm that the trainee, under their supervision, has regularly acquired skills and experiences and has been actually conveyed the training contents to the required extent. In the training certificates (“Ratserzeugnisse”), subject, duration, content and extent of training are specified, as well as the information, whether the training has been completed with success or not. This statement refers to the evaluation of both, medical knowledge and practical skills of the trainee.

Who is performing the final assessment:

- **3 GPs and 3 substitutes (at least one member has to be hospital GP and at least one member has to be a self employed GP)**
- Clinicians
- Both

Methods used in final assessment:

- **MCQ written test**
- OSCE stations
- oral exam
- trainee's report
- visit to trainee's practice
- other: ... **Short Answer Question test**

5. Financing of ST

- the owner of the hospital (in most cases the respective government of the province/ state concerned)
-

6. Duration

Please correct, if needed!

Duration (in months) and structure of specific GP/FM training in Europe

Country	Training in hospital	Training in GP	Total duration
<i>Austria</i>	30	6	36
<i>Portugal</i>	20	16	36
<i>Greece</i>	38	10	48
<i>Denmark</i>	42	18	60 (72)*
<i>Germany</i>	54	6	60
<i>Finland</i>			60
<i>Belgium</i>	12	24+18	54

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<i>UK</i>	24	12	36
<i>Island</i>	34	24	58
<i>Norway</i>	20	40	60
<i>Sweden</i>	42 at most	18 at least	60
<i>Slovakia</i>	25	11	36
<i>Switzerland</i>	42	18	60
<i>Malta</i>	12	36	48
<i>Luxemburg</i>	14	22	36
<i>Italy</i>	18	6	24 (36)*
<i>Netherlands</i>	12	24	36
<i>Spain</i>	28	8	36
Croatia	24 (12 theory)	12	36
<i>Ireland</i>	24	24	48
<i>Hungary</i>	20	40	60
<i>Slovenia</i>	24	24	48

* *in near future*

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7. Are the aims of Copenhagen Statement achieved?

Remark: The following answers reflect a intermediary report as this issues for the time being are under discussion in Austria.

- **specific training for GP starts at the same point as other specialist trainings do**
yes **no**
- **specific training lasting at least 3 years**
yes **no**
- **effective specific training is centred in general practice; the duration of education, spent on GP premises, is one half of total**
yes **no**
- **training outside GP should is organised in curricula, elaborated in collaboration with other specialities, but supervised by general practice trainers**
yes **no**
- **common European core content for specific training in GP/FM is incorporated in the training**
yes **no**
- **the training includes both formative assessment throughout the course and summative assessment at the conclusion**
yes **no**

Thank you for your kind collaboration!