



## **EUROPEAN UNION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS**

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European Union of General Practitioners – UEMO  
Europäische Vereinigung der Allgemeinärzte – UEMO  
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Euroopan Yleislääkärjärjestö – UEMO  
Europeiska Allmänläkarorganisationen – UEMO



**UEMO 2003/178**

### **WORKING GROUP ON CME/CPD. 2.10.2003, Cavtat, Croatia.**

Chaired by: Dr. Peter Mortensen (Denmark)  
Rapporteur: Dr. Henry Finnegan (Ireland)

Present: Drs. Katrin Fjelsted (Ice), Iona Heath (UK), Toni Xueul (Mal), Daniel Widmer (CH), Gordana Zivisce-Karan (Slov), Erkan Kapakli (Tur), Timo Kosonen (Fin), Eirik Bo Larsen (Nor), Mogens Christiansen (Dk), Age Henning Andersen (Nor), Hilde Roels (Bel), Josep Fumado (Sp), Manuela Santos (Por), Isabel Caixeiro (Por), Jeronimo F. Toruente (Spa). Mrs Agnes Rueker (Aus), Messrs Tom Kennedy (Dk), Piers Hugill (UK), Joseph Richardson (Ire).

Item 1.

Dr. Mortensen opened the meeting.

Item 2.

The agenda was accepted.

Item 3.

The results of the latest CME/CPD questionnaire were discussed. Dr. Mortensen made a verbal presentation of the results of the survey. 16 answers were received, Dr. Mortensen had not received the Irish or Portuguese answers although the Irish answer had been published as a UEMO document. There were some technical difficulties in electronic transmission of document which may have altered the accuracy of responses from some respondents.

12 countries had accreditation at national level.

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#### **UEMO – PRESIDENCY**

c/o Swedish Medical Association, P.O. Box 5610, Villagatan 5, SE-114 86 Stockholm  
Tel: +46 8 790 34 52, Fax 46 8 20 57 18, E-mail: [info@uemo.org](mailto:info@uemo.org)

12 countries had accreditation of single courses.

7 countries gave accreditation to course funded by pharmaceutical companies. After some discussion it appeared that the question on this issue had been interpreted differently by several respondents and thus the validity of the answer was questionable. It had been intended to ask about courses funded and devised by pharmaceutical companies rather than course which were merely funded by industry sponsorship.

6 countries had obligatory CME though here again there was some confusion as to the exact meaning of the question. Dr Roels explained that in Belgium CME was not legally obligatory but for financial and career reasons doctors were compelled to take CME. 5 countries had sanctions for failure to take CME. 9 countries have a system for re-certification and 6 do not. National Medical Associations in some countries are involved in re-certification. In general there had been no change in the area and most countries (surprisingly) were satisfied with their current situation. 5 out of 10 NMAs are involved in CME. Dr. Mortensen agreed to produce a written document on the questionnaire results and comparisons with the last one. The interval between questionnaires and more clarification on definitions will be considered before future questionnaires

Item 4.

A general discussion occurred on accreditation (UEMO 2003/164). The UK, Belgium, Denmark, and Slovenia all expressed reservations about the future accreditation of CME providers. All of these countries were moving toward a model of self-directed learning in which Personal Development Plans were now subject to accreditation rather than providers. They questioned the relevance of UEMO establishing standards on accreditation of providers if these providers were no longer going to be such a significant element in the delivery of CME. Some felt that accreditation of Personal Learning Plans was thought to be a more flexible and rigorous method of assuring the quality of CME. Dr. Mortensen felt that even if this shift in accreditation were to occur, it would still be in UEMO's interest to have a standard for the accreditation of providers of CME.

It was agreed to take submissions from Slovenia, Belgium, and the UK on their systems of accreditation of Personal Learning Plans in order to better weigh the pros and cons of setting a standard for:

1. accrediting providers,
2. accrediting PLPs,

The objective for UEMO is to be pro-active in this area and not simply to react to events as they occur.

Item 5.

Item 5 was tabled and not discussed.

Item 6.

Dr. Henry Finnegan succeeded Dr. Mortensen in the chair and Dr. Gordana Zivisce-Karan became Rapporteur. Dr. Finnegan thanked Dr. Mortensen for his dedication and hard work over the last number of years chairing the working group.

Item 7.

Items for the agenda of the next meeting include:

1. New directions in CME, personally directed learning v. traditionally provided CME.
2. Revalidation.

Dr. Henry Finnegan.