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ЕВРОПЕЙСКА АСОЦИАЦИЯ НА СТАРШИТЕ БОЛНИЧНИ ЛЕКАРИ**

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## **Background Document for the AEMH-statement on Accreditation of Hospitals in Europe**

Patient safety and treatment qualities are major issues in Europe as in the rest of the World. Migration of patients as well as doctors has increased over the last decade, and is expected to increase further in the future. As a result of this increased migration there is a need to focus on the quality of diagnostic procedures and treatment in a cross border perspective. There is a need for general European recommendations concerning documentation of quality and patient safety.

Accreditation is one of the tools that can be used but in a standardised form all over Europe in order to guarantee quality of treatment and ensure patient safety.

The process should include:

### **1- Hospital accreditation based on quality and safety**

### **2- Hospital development and centres of excellence**

### **3- Hospital organizational standards**

#### **1- Hospital accreditation based on quality and safety must consider:**

- Risk management
- Involvement of doctors in Hospital management
- Working conditions of Hospital doctors
- Evaluation of pre-and post graduate education.

#### **2- Hospital development and centres of excellence:**

In a world where diagnostic and treatment procedures are under continuous development there is a need for a development policy for hospitals and for individual doctors. There is a constant imperative to incorporate new treatment modalities in hospitals across European countries. This leads to a need for hospitals as well as for individual doctors to document competencies in new treatment modalities to ensure optimal treatment and safety of the procedures used.

#### **3- Hospital organizational standards:**

Working processes in the hospitals must be documented. This includes documentation of essential procedures used in diagnostic and treatment modalities as well as the information given to patients. In most accreditation models already put to use, these elements have been incorporated.

Every hospital must be able to document the effect of treatment as well as the safety of procedures used. There is a need to develop generally accepted markers for this, markers that can be used all over Europe by any hospital.