



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS  
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE  
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN  
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ  
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI  
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING  
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES  
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES  
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN  
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVNIKOV  
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV  
EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIH LIJEČNIKA  
ЕВРОПЕЙСКА АСОЦИАЦИЯ НА СТАРШИТЕ БОЛНИЧНИ ЛЕКАРИ**

<b>Document :</b>	<b>AEMH 08-046</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Report Working Group “Healthcare across Borders and the Consequences on Risk Management and Patient Safety”</b>
<b>Author :</b>	<b>Dr Hrvoje Sobat</b>
<b>Purpose :</b>	<b>Information</b>
<b>Distribution :</b>	<b>AEMH Member Delegations</b>
<b>Date :</b>	<b>3 may 2008</b>

## **Healthcare across Borders and the consequences on Risk Management and Patient Safety**

Members:

1. Prof. Hartmut Nolte – Germany
2. Dr Pier Maria Morresi – Italy
3. Dr Claude Wetzel - FEMS
4. Dr Jose Estevez – Portugal
5. Dr Marie Wedin – Sweden
6. Dr Arne Refsum - Norway
7. Dr Hrvoje Šobat – Croatia
8. Dr Radovan Vrhovac – Croatia
9. Ms. Maja Lacković – Croatia

To define goals & vision of the WG and to offer solutions and recommendations!

PREAMBLE:

Physician migrations do not have to primarily pose a danger to patient safety as long as they do not undermine the health system of a particular country. Migrations have positive and negative aspects. Migrating doctors could contribute to international cooperation, exchange of experience and CME/CPD. The mechanisms of a free labor market could influence the competent authorities to offer improved working conditions to doctors.

Main problems:

### **Doctors crossing borders:**

1. language problems, misunderstandings, translation (among doctors and between doctors, patients and nurses)
2. recognition of diplomas and acquired competencies
3. ethical questions of active recruitment approach (brain drain & stealing brains)
4. different models of liability insurance for immigrant doctors & daily
5. physicians active in other professions while waiting for diploma recognition & working licenses
6. financial consequences

### **Nurses crossing borders**

1. high schools for nurses and technologists to replace missing doctors in some less complex procedures?
2. Language and all other problems like in doctors

### **Patients crossing borders**

1. retired citizens living abroad for several months each year
2. tourists
3. rules for complications when treated abroad
4. medical documentation crossing borders