

AEMH Statement on training in medical quality management

(adopted unanimously at the 52nd AEMH Plenary Meeting, Verona, September 10, 1999)

Promotion of high quality medical performance should remain in the hands of the medical profession, that should be trained in quality improvement techniques and philosophy starting in medical schools and continuing through speciality training.

Due to different reasons, it is a risk that physicians leave the tasks of interdisciplinary quality management in hospitals to other actors in the health care sector.

If quality management is initiated by economists, administrators, health insurances or public authorities, it will be particularly unfavourable for the patients.

Every head of a hospital department or physician with final responsibility for the patients has the duty to take care of quality management himself, or at least to appoint an experienced physician who will be in charge of it.

Quality management in the health care sector is yet so complex that the medical profession requires specialised training courses, arranged by medical institutions and associations. The specialised competence should be certified.

The AEMH urges the national organisations of senior hospital doctors to offer their members specialised training in medical quality management.