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EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
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ASOCIATIA EUROPEANA A MEDICILOR DIN SPITALE**

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Activity Report AEMH Vice President 2014

AEMH involvement in CPD

In the revised and adopted EU directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Regulation, 2013/55/EU, there are clauses regarding continuing professional development (CPD) for healthcare personnel with the intention of improving patient safety. This political action within EU might be seen as an important step to achieve better and safer healthcare, especially since it is multi professional in its focus including doctors, dentists, nurses, midwives and pharmacists. But an EU regulation, which attempts to monitor and control CPD might have the opposite effect of decreased learning outcome for the different professional groups, and, more importantly, negligible effect on the quality of health care. This is because when CPD is specified by political imperative, rather than being informed by professional practice, there is a risk that focus will be more on compliance with regulation and paperwork rather than on the more professionally driven process of determining where each clinician and clinical team need to develop their own practise to serve their own patients better.

On February 28, 2014 the UEMS invited to a Conference on CME-CPD. The European commission was represented by Andrzej Rys who informed about a tender issued by the Commission regarding a Study concerning the review and mapping of CPD and lifelong learning for health professionals in EU. Professor Nigel DS Bax from Sheffield asked if the commission will suggest CPD as mandatory for health personal. The answer was that the commission wanted to await the result of the tender.

From the United States Alejandro Aparicio, Director of the Division of Continuing Physicians' Professional Development, American Medical Association (AMA) and Dr Murray Kopelow, President and Chief Executive Officer, accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), presented the North-American perspective on CME-CPD which is a very expensive system with year by year growing heavy bureaucracy. Professor Nigel D S Bax finally questioned the collection of CPD credit points on an individual level. He argued that it is better to focus on outcome of care instead of creating heavy bureaucracy with the CME credit point system.

CPME was chosen by the European commission to lead the tender regarding CPD and steer a consortium composed of; Council of European Dentists, European Federation of Nurses, European Public Health Association (EPHA) and Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union. On the 27th of February I went to Brussels to meet Sascha Marschang from EPHA which is a nonprofit organization where AEMH is one of the members. He was happy that EPHA was chosen as one of the stakeholders for the tender regarding CPD and thought this might be because the organization has very little conflict of interest and can be regarded as neutral. Their work had started with a survey regarding what is published on CPD in the different EU countries. According to Marschang AEMH is considered as one of the potential stakeholders.

Later on the same day I met Paul de Raeve from the European Federation of Nurses. Regarding the new directive he was very happy with the defined length of training for nurses as well as the professional card. Regarding CPD the official view is that this will be a part of the Bologna Process. They also have an official document on the topic from 2012. We also agree upon that all costs for CPD must be the responsibility of the employer and not the employee.

Finally on the 27th I met Birgit Berger and Sarada Das from the Standing Committee of European Doctors. Once again I was informed on the interest of having AEMH participating in the workshop on the 20th of June. We further discussed the possibility to arrange a consensus meeting regarding regulation of CPD as this seems not to be the focus for the ongoing tender by the European Commission but might be the outcome. Brigit Berger thought that this was a good idea and suggested that it should be presented at the next presidents committee meeting. An official proposal has to be presented from the AEMH office.

Already on February 7 the AEMH in the document AEMH 14-008 proposed to EMOs a conference on CPD due to the new PQ directive; *The AEMH suggests to the member organisations represented in the Presidents Committee to arrange a coming meeting similar to the Luxembourg meeting December 14, 2006, with goal to create a consensus statement on EU regulation of CPD according to the revised Directive 2005/36/EC accepted by all EMOs and the European Commission.*

The proposal was accepted by all participating parties at the EMO meeting in Paris October 12. A task force was created consisting of; Katrin Fjeldsted, Claude Schummer and Thomas Zilling. Date of the conference is depending on the Luxembourg minister of health but is planned in December 2015. A draft consensus statement is written and is so far accepted by the AEMH, FEMS and UEMS boards.

CPD, particularly its regulation, is a major issue for the AEMH. It is important for us to follow what happens on the European level to inform and support our member organizations on the national level.

AEMH involvement in antimicrobial resistance

After the AEMH Stockholm conference entitled; Patient Safety and Antimicrobial Resistance, the AEMH was invited to the European Antibiotics Awareness Day, November 17 in Stockholm. The data on resistance to last line antibiotics continues to cause concern in Europe. The event with the intention to have a big media coverage didn't get the attention they deserved. National incentives will be appreciated.

Thomas Zilling 19/4 2015