



UEMS SECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

MINUTES - BARCELONA

Saturday, 27th October 2012 (09:00 – 17:00)

Catalan Society of Safety and Occupational Medicine Office, 10 Tapineria Street, BARCELONA

On Friday morning there was a preparation meeting for a workshop Future of Occupational Medicine in Europe. In the afternoon we visited GAES – Centro Auditivos, a trade centre for hearing and protection devices ([file Friday, file Friday.a](#)).

Saturday's Agenda:

1. Participants and apologies

PARTICIPANTS: Dick Spreeuwers, President (The Netherlands), Simon Bulterys (Belgium), Ritva Helimäki-Aro (Finland), Thomas Kraus (Germany), Ferenc Kudaz (Hungary), Tom O'Connell (Ireland), Ivo Iavicoli (Italy), Maija Eglite (Latvia), Jolanta Walusiak Skorupa (Poland), Pedro Gustavo Reis (Portugal), Damian Fotache (Romania), Emil Vancu (Romania), Urška Močnik (Slovenia), Alenka Škerjanc, Secretary (Slovenia), Consol Serra (Spain), Mari Cruz Rodriguez Jareño (Spain), Ewan B. Macdonald (United Kingdom);

GUEST: Jorge Barroso Dias (Portugal)

APOLOGIES: Karl Hochgatterer (Austria), Christine Klien (Austria), Jadranka Mustajbegović (Croatia), Vlasta Dečković Vukreš (Croatia), Milan Tuček (Czech Republic), Ole Carstensen (Denmark), Kari Reijula (Finland), Jean Francois Gehanno (France), Annette Gäßler, Treasurer (Germany), Tor Erik Danielsen (Norway), Kristian Vetlesen (Norway), Elena-Ana Pauncu (Romania), Marek Varga (Slovakia), Klaus Ernst Stadtmüller (Switzerland), Jacques van der Vliet (The Netherlands), Nikki Cordell (United Kingdom), Romuald Krajewski (UEMS President), Giorgio Berchicci (UEMS Treasurer), Giso Schmeißer (EASOM President), Jean Francois Gehanno (EASOM).

2. Welcome

Welcome was expressed to all participants, especially to the new representatives: Maija Eglite (Latvia) and Ferenc Kudaz (Hungary).

3. Presentation from the host country

Angel Plans Cañameres, the president of Catalan Society of Occupational Medicine and Pedro Gonzalez de Castro, the president of the Spanish Society of Occupational Medicine, presented the actual situation of occupational medicine in Spain ([file 1, file 1.1](#)).

4. Minutes of the last meeting (Innsbruck, 14.04.2012)

were unanimously accepted.

Secretary of the Section reported also on many activities to acquire all 27 EU member countries to join our UEMS Section. We have already got active representatives from 21 EU Member States, Switzerland and Croatia, the activities are continuing.

5. Information from UEMS

Unfortunately UEMS Executive members apologized.

We were informed by UEMS Treasurer Dr. Giorgio Berchicci by mail that the meeting of the treasurers of all UEMS Sections is going to be held on 1st December 2012 (or on 15th January 2013) in Brussels.

6. Website

Ole is informing us continuously on our website: <http://www.uems-occupationalmedicine.com>

Please, pay some attention:

1. We kindly ask member countries to present their National Societies (Belgium, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Romania).
2. We would like to be given a warning by e-mail when new documents are applied to our website.

7. Tasks of Working Groups (WG)

WG 1 - TRAINING AND CME (Chair: Nikki Cordell)

1. The Code of Practise for Continuous Medical Development Accreditation Committee (CMDAC) Occupational Medicine Section UEMS has been finished. The money for EACCME activities will not be provided until the UEMS subaccount is opened in Brussels.
2. Chapter 6 of the Training Charter for Occupational Medicine is taking into account new insights in this field and has already been prepared for the UEMS Council. We need to put the data into the new template provided by the UEMS.
3. The secretary of the Section was invited to regular CESMA meeting that was held on 3rd May 2012 in Ljubljana. European Exam in UEMS Specialties is advancing and we were invited to take our part in this process. To make the situation clear we are going to invite the president of CESMA Dr. Zeev Goldik to our next Section meeting, probably in Luzern.

WG 2 - POLITICS (Chair: Jacques van der Vliet)

1. On Friday, our special guest Viktor Kempa, a Senior Researcher from ETUI, presented visions and problems of working environment regarding European Health and Safety Strategy 2013 – 2020 ([files 2, 3](#)). The discussion in EU has been postponed.
2. The following activities were decided to be carried out:
 - To agree and to define the meeting with the Head and Deputy Head of the Directorate-General Employment, Social Affairs, HS&H, regarding the forthcoming draft of the strategy for 2013-2020, in Luxembourg (19th November 2012?, 26th November 2012) - representatives of the Section OM are Pedro, Dick, Ewan, Simon, Milan
 - Please, check for your countries' members of Advisory Committee by looking for ACSH - Members of the Interest Group (workers, employers, governmental) under "Related Documents" in the Advisory Committee web page: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=148&langId=en&intPageId=683>, also <http://eur-law.eu/EN/2010-98-Council-Decision-16-February-2010.416859.d> and [file 4](#).
 - To prepare a Workshop on The Future Occupational Medicine in Europe (WHERE - Brussels? Glasgow? WHEN - March, April 2013? November 2013? WHOM TO INVITE - employers, employees, government)

- A Position Statement is needed, presenting the added value of OM.

WG 3 - QUALITY OF PRACTICE (Chair: Pedro Gustavo Reis)

- The systematic review for evidence based decision making on European Working Time Directive has not been finished so far. There are some statements in the "Implications for policy makers" and "Conclusion" sections where agreement of all the authors has not been achieved yet.

WG 4 - RULES OF PROCEDURES (Dick Spreeuwers)

- They are adapted to UEMS Rules of procedures.
- Next elections of the Board of UEMS Section of occupational medicine need to be carried out in spring 2013 (Dresden).

8. Meetings of the National Sections of Occupational Medicine

1. Thomas presented the Meeting of the German, Austrian and Swiss Section of Occupational Medicine that will be held in Bregenz, 13.-15.03.2013), he, Klaus and Christine invited us to have presentations on our National Sections and problems on Saturday, 15th March 2013, when the program will be carried out in English language. The data is available at the websites: <http://www.dgaum2013.de>, <http://www.gamed.at/>. Link to Bregenz: www.bregenz.at
- He also informed us that the Scientific Board decided to give the **Innovation Award 2013 for promoting OH and OM in Europe to the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine** for their activity and contribution.
1. 07.11. - 09.11.2013: 12^o FÓRUM NACIONAL DE MEDICINA DO TRABALHO, Lisboa
2. Autumn 2014, Seville, Spain: Congress of the Spanish Society of Occupational Medicine

9. Position statement on Asbestos ([file 5](#)).

was given a support from many EU countries so far and we as a Section also gave it our unanimously support. A support can be expressed by e-mail to the following address: kruff@bulkley.net

10. Research projects

- The survey of our members on professional bodies, representing our specialty, has been published already (Ballester M, Cordel N, Rodriguez MC, Serra C. A European Survey of professional bodies representing occupational medicine specialists. *Occup Med (Lond)*. 2012;62(5):366-70. Epub 2012 Jun 11) ([file 6](#)). Congratulations!
- ATOM update (Ewan McDonald informs that Nikki is sending a report on progress in 14 days)
- The Modernet project is also in progression.

11. Collaboration with EASOM

- The process on EACCME accreditation and UEMS – EASOM collaboration on this issue takes place currently.
- At the end of August 2012 a very successful meeting “Teaching Communication in Occupational Medicine took place in Berlin with active participation of UEMS members.
- Next EASOM Summer School (<http://www.easom.org/>) will take place in Timisoara (Romania) at the end of August 2013.

12. Finances

- Annette sent the financial report. We spent a certain amount of money for the activities that has been very successfully carried out.
- Annette is asked to send invoices for the fees 2012 and 2013. **She should investigate whether a fee of 150,00 EUR per year is the fee per member or fee per country (including two members).**
- The fees should be harmonized with UEMS rules for full members, associate members and observers.
- After the meeting of UEMS treasurers we are going to decide on UEMS subaccount.

13. Reports on upcoming events

- The EFOH-projects have not achieved enough participants. A conflict of interests was mentioned in accreditation process if UEMS is declared as a collaborating organization (<http://www.efoh.eu/content/partners>); in fact we have never discussed of being a collaborating organization, we have only been informed that (and when) the training courses are taking place.
- 06.12.-07.12.2012, Riga, Latvia: International Conference on Occupational Health and safety: From Policies to Practice
- 06.04.2013, Lisbon, Portugal: Congress of Occupational Health in Hospitals and Other Health Institutions - Citostatic professional work exposition
- 28.10. - 31.10.2013, Rotterdam, The Netherlands: 5th International Conference of the History of Occupational and Environmental Health: The struggle for 'evidence' in occupational and environmental health

14. Any other business

- One of the founding members of UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine Ewan Macdonald announced his farewell to the Section. He invested many hours and thoughts and cares to develop it to this stage. It is not easy to describe his activity and his efforts because almost any word has been found written about it. But we all know that his vision of occupational medicine was always far beyond others, the definition of goals were always clear and also the answers to the questions concerning the further life of the section. Thanks a lot, Ewan!

15. Date and location of the next meetings 2013

- **24.05. – 26.05.2013: Dresden, Germany**
- 27.09. – 28.09.2013: Luzern, Switzerland (visiting the construction site of the new Gotthard Base Tunnel on Friday)
- Spring 2014: Riga, Latvia
- Dan Fotache states that expenses became higher in this period of crisis and he suggested to have the venue for one of our annual meetings fixed in Central European location (Munich, Vienna) and the other one should be prepared by National organizers.

The meeting was closed at 17:00 p.m. In the evening we had a dinner in a restaurant El Gran Cafe in the oldest part of Barcelona.

We need to express special thanks to our Catalan hosts – Mari Cruz, Consol and to the president and secretary of the Catalan Society of Occupational Medicine for their warm welcome, attention and care all the time of our staying in Barcelona, and to the president of the Spanish Society of Occupational Medicine to join us on Saturday.

Dick Spreeuwiers
President

Alenka Škerjanc
Secretary