



UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine

MINUTES

Doonbeg, near Limerick

20th October 2007; 08.30 am - 1.30 pm

1. Participants and apologies

Participants:

Nundita Retoo
Elsbeth Huber
Milan Tucek
Vlasta Deckovic-Vukres
Jadranka Mustajbegovic
Ole Carstensen
Kaj Husman
Alexis Descatha
Annette Gässler (Treasurer)
Thomas Kraus
Claus Piekarski
Dermot Halpin
Tom McMahon
Blandid Hayes
Anne-Christine Markset
Knut Skyberg (Secretary)
Paulo Coelho dos Santos
Elena-Ana Păuncu
Alenka Škerjanc
Stanislav Pusnik
Monica Ballester
Consol Serra (President)
Rafael Timermans
Mats Berg
Nikki Cordell

ATOM
Austria
Czech Republic
Croatia
Croatia
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Germany
Germany
Ireland
Ireland
Ireland
Norway
Norway
Portugal
Rumania
Slovenia
Slovenia
Spain
Spain
Spain
Sweden
UK

Apologies:

Luc Quaeghebeur
Sigve Christensen
Kristina Mukala
Andre Weel
Ritva Helimäki-Aro
Jonas Brisman
Dick Spreeuwers
Jacques van der Vliet
Ewan Macdonald
Alain Cantineau

Belgium
Denmark
EASOM
EASOM
Finland
Sweden
The Netherlands
The Netherlands
UK
France

2. Welcome

Consol welcomed all section members, observers, and especially the new members and observers. She expressed her gratitude for the well-organised meeting and further celebration of the 10 years of the section. Everyone gave a short presentation of affiliation and relation to occupational medicine.

Tom MacMahon (past first President and founder of the Section) and Claus Piekarski announced that they finished their period in the Section. The Section is grateful for their excellent work during these years. Dermont Halpin and Thomas Kraus, respectively, are the new nominated representatives for Ireland and Germany.

3. Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. “Education for occupational physicians”

Dr. Blanaid Hayes, Chair of the Education & Training Committee of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland gave an interesting presentation of the history of the Irish Faculty of Occupational Medicine and the involvement of the Faculty in the education of Occupational Physicians.

4. Minutes of last meeting (Zagreb, 12.05.07)

No corrections were made. The minutes were approved.

5. Section’s website

Ole presented the new website. So far there is a test version under the EU-OSHA website. There have been access problems, but this is being solved. There is need for a logo. Do we have any creative designers within our group? Working groups can now share documents on the site. Members may get a notice when changes occur. A calendar can be set up. The discussion board may be open or closed. To improve the site, Ole will need to do several days of work. Main priority now is to decide how we present our section to the public. The menu should also include links. A password will be sent around.

**Action: Ole,
Dick, Consol,
Knut**

6. ATOM

Nundita presented the development of the ATOM project. Countries outside Europe have been participating since 2006. The project is based on national funding. The pressing issue is what to assess. A survey report is now available. Close cooperation with working group 6 (WG 6) is needed. Nikki will take over the lead in WG 6. There will be an ATOM work shop at the ICOH conference on education and training in Glasgow 10.-12. April 2008. Reduced participation fee before 14. December. Suggestions for workshops are welcome.

**Action:
Nundita, Nikki,
Ewan**

7. **Action plan. Meetings in working groups (see appendix)**
All participants were organised in working groups, according to previous assignment and who were present at the meeting.
The following WGs presented their priorities for activities:

GROUP 1 :WEBSITE

Chair: Ole Carstensen
Knut Skyberg, Consol Serra

- 1) To give the password to all Section members to access the private website area
- 2) To develop the introductory text
- 3) To develop a Section logo

Action: Ole

GROUP 2: SPECIALTY TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Chair: Stanislav Pusnik
Milan Tucek, Anne-Christine Markset, Mats Berg

- 1) To identify the contents of other projects (ATOM, EASOM, etc.) dealing with this subject
- 2) To prepare a proposal for the UEMS Section of OM
- 3) To collaborate with Group 6 in analysing logbooks

**Action:
Stanislav**

GROUP 5: PRACTICE GUIDELINES AND
CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Chair: Kaj Husman
Klaus Piekarski, Monica Ballester, Vlasta Deckovic-Vukcres

Identification of challenges:

- 1) Assessing fitness for work
- 2) Defining the role of OP in controlling sickness absence
- 3) Promoting the workability (or work capacity)

Actions:

Use the website to spread good national practice guidelines:
decide which, translate, find sponsor

Link website to Cochrane Library field of OM
Check NIOSH bluebook

Action: Kaj

GROUP 6: ASSESSMENT OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND TRAINEES

Chair: Nikki Cordell
Elena Pauncu Jadranka Mustajbegovic

- 1) Theory: collect different curricula
- 2) Practice: collect different countries' logbooks and analyse
- 3) Thesis vs. other assessment: how do different countries assess

Action: Nikki

GROUP 8: COLLABORATE WITH EU INSTITUTIONS

Chair: Tom McMahon
Elsbeth Huber, Dermot Halpin

- 1) Report outcome of these meetings' progress to national bodies annually (draft will be made by secretary)
- 2) European H&S Agency- Bilbao: meeting with current director
- 3) WHO: recontact them (Rokho Kim will be invited to next UEMS meeting)

Action: Tom

GROUP 10: TO FIND NEW WAYS IN OH TO COPE WITH CHANGING WORLD, NEW INTERVENTION TECHNIQUES, KNOWLEDGE

Chair: Alenka Skerjanc
Alexis Descatha, Rafael Timmermans, Paulo Coelho, Thomas Kraus

- 1) To identify dimensions of the main problems in EU countries:

mental health problems at work, mental problems at work, elderly workers, immigrants, vulnerable workers, shift work, cardiovascular diseases, etc
- 2) To find new ways to cope with changes. The Bilbao office will be contacted to do this task.

Action: Alenka

8. Strategy for maintenance or improvement of the position of OP's in the various European countries

Jacques presented the EU strategy for 2005-12 at our last meeting. A draft paper for a response from us had been circulated, and the final version of the paper and an accompanying letter sent around before the meeting were approved. They will be signed and sent shortly. All section

members will receive a copy so National representatives to the EU can be informed.

Action:
Consol and all

9. Surveys

Survey of societies of occupational medicine

Monica presented preliminary results from the survey. 19/24 countries answered, more are coming. National responses needed for some countries with regional replies. There was a big interest in the survey results. A draft paper will be circulated for comments. Final results will be available for the next meeting. The aim is also journal publication, in for instance OM.

Action: Monica

Survey on training

Last survey done in 2002. WG2 needs to address this. Plan for next survey will be presented at our next meeting.

Action:
Stanislav

10. Finances

Annette has opened an account in Germany. We agreed that it could be split into two, to allow some interest from part of the money. An invoice for 2006-2007 is sent out in November, asking for €150 per country per year. To have transparency a financial report and an excel sheet showing payments will be presented for each section meeting. The accounts and transactions will be revised by Jadranka.

Action:
**Annette and
Jadranka**

11. Joint meeting UEMS-EASOM: EACCME

Consol reported that after conversations with Kristiina and EASOM assembly (September 2007) on the need to establish a European CME accreditation procedure, a UEMS-EASOM joint meeting was proposed. Actually, 20 UEMS sections have EACCME agreement, our section has not yet signed. The proposal to have the joint meeting was approved.

**Action: Consol
and Kristiina**

12. Reports from conferences and info on upcoming events.

Knut reported from the well-organised EPICOH 2007 in Banff, Canada. Next year is in Costa Rica 9.-11, June. PREMUS-EPICOH 2010 will be held in France.

Elena reported on the last EASOM Summer School in Zaragoza (Spain) last September, organised by Begoña Martinez Jarreta.

Vlasta & Tom have been invited to a Rumenian congress on occupational health, giving a UEMS presentation.

Vlasta invited all to participate at Croatian congress and ICOH

Health services research meeting in Dubrovnik, 8.-11.
November.

13. Date and place of next meetings

19th April 2008: Brussels (UEMS 50th anniversary celebration
on Friday evening)

8th November 2008 (Proposal): Joint EASOM-UEMS OM
section meeting in Belgrade, to be confirmed by EASOM
board.

June 2009: ATOM meeting in Cardiff

Spring 2009 Lisbon was proposed

**Action: Knut
and Consol**

Consol thanked all participants for coming and for their contributions
and discussions during the meeting. We were grateful for all
arrangements being made by our Irish hosts.

5 November 2007

Consol Serra
(President)

Knut Skyberg
(Secretary)

Appendix.
Action plan: revised priorities and working groups



SECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE
ACTION PLAN, 2006 – 2009

| PRIORITY | | Working group | Objectives (to be filled in) | Actions (to be filled in) |
|----------|--|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | To continue and strengthen the development of the Section's website | Ole Carstensen (Webmaster and contact person) Dick Spreeuwiers (Co-Webmaster) Knut Skyberg Consol Serra | | |
| 2 | To advance in the harmonisation of basic requirements and quality of speciality training programmes. | Stanislav Pusnik (contact person) Milan Tucek Anne-Christine Markset Petar Bulat (EASOM) Ljiljana Kezunovic | | |
| 3 | To influence stakeholders and legislators and to promote one voice for OM at EU and national levels. | Jacques van der Vliet (contact person) Elsbeth Huber Damian Fotache | | |
| 4 | To advance in the harmonisation of CME criteria and recertification. | Kristiina Mikkala (EASOM) (contact person) Alain Cantineau Nurka Pranjic Milan Tucek Annette Gäßler | | |

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|----|--|---|--|--|
| 5 | To promote good practice and continuous quality improvement. | Kaj Husman (contact person) Ewan Macdonald Consol Serra Rosa Naumoska Monica Ballester Vlasta Deckovic-Vukres | | |
| 6 | To contribute to the assessment of training programmes and trainees. | Ewan Macdonald (contact person) Elena Pauncu Jadranka Mustajbegovic Nikki Cordell | | |
| 7 | To participate in key forums and conferences with important impact on the speciality. | Jadranka Mustajbegovic (contact person) Paulo Coelho dos Santos All | | |
| 8 | To collaborate with EU institutions related to occupational health | Tom McMahon (contact person) Consol Serra Kristiina Mukala (EASOM) Jacques van del Vliet Elsbeth Huber | | |
| 9 | To strengthen the impact of the Section in member countries | Consol Serra (contact person) All | | |
| 10 | To find new ways in OH to cope with the changing world of work, new intervention techniques, knowledge transfer. | Dick Spreeuwerts (contact person) Ewan Macdonald Alenka Skerjanc Luc Quaeghebeur Rafael Timermans | | |

| | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|
| 11 | To make a plan of future tasks to finance | Consol Serra (contact person) Knut Skyberg Annette Gässler | | |
| 12 | To attract new members | Consol Serra (contact person) All | | |
| 13 | To discuss the establishment of a future Board within the Section | Knut Skyberg (contact person) Consol Serra Bernard Maillet (UEMS) | | |
| 14 | To ensure that all member countries contribute equally to the financing of the Section | Annette Gässler (contact person) | | |