



**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**

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AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE EUROPEAN ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR CME (EACCME)[®]

– a body of

THE “UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES (UEMS)”

AND

THE UEMS SPECIALIST SECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

Brussels, November 18, 2011.

Protocol for the Mutual Agreement between
UEMS – EACCME[®] and the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine.

Introduction and Background.

The EACCME[®] has been fully operational since January 2000. From the beginning, it was established with support of the national CME regulating bodies and its activities increase progressively. With more and more European countries establishing a form of obligatory CME, the importance and need for the easy non-bureaucratic EACCME[®] system of recognition and exchange of CME credits has become increasingly appreciated.

All stakeholders in the Accreditation Process (The UEMS – EACCME[®] with its Sections and Boards and the National Accreditation Authorities of the Member States of the European Union and European Economic Area) have agreed on the same basic criteria for Quality Control and Evaluation and also agree on a minimal information data base that should be provided by the Organisers of Events in order to evaluate these events. These criteria are fully described in the UEMS Quality Assurance document (reference D 0217).

Relationship between UEMS and the National Accreditation Authorities.

The National Accreditation Authority of each Member State of the EU/EEA is the relevant authority guiding and ultimately controlling the Accreditation of those specialists working in its own country and determining the total number of credits required.

Distinction has to be made between the approval of an event on the one hand from the number of credits attributed to that event.

EACCME[®] awards the appropriate number of European credits for each event based on the European CME Credit system (ECMEC's) based on the one hour of educational activity = one ECMEC system. The National Accreditation Authority has the right and may determine the number of credits applicable within its own jurisdiction by applying a local factor to the European number. Some National Accreditation Authorities may limit the number of credits allowed for its national specialists attending an event but this limitation cannot have an effect on the European credits awarded to the event for specialists of other Member States.

National Events are evaluated and accredited by the National Accreditation Authority of the Member State where the events takes place. When such a national event is attended by a doctor from another Member State of the EU/EEA, acceptance will depend on the decision of the specialist's home National Accreditation Authority,

Both EACCME[®] (of the UEMS) and the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine. hereby agree on the following:

1. Applications for EACCME[®] recognition for European of International CME events are made to the UEMS office in Brussels.
2. All relevant papers are sent to the Section of Occupational Medicine for quality evaluation of the event according to the EACCME[®] criteria.
3. If an application is received directly by the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine, then Section must also immediately forward the request to the UEMS-EACCME[®] in order to obtain the approval of the National Accreditation Authority of the country where the event is due to take place.
4. The evaluation of the event by the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine must be finalised in a defined period of time (within 3 weeks).
5. Since both UEMS - EACCME[®] and the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine play different but significant roles in the evaluation process, they will share equally the fees paid by the event's organising body.
6. The subscription fee is based on the sliding scale, dependent on the number of participants, established by the EACCME[®] and accepted by the Section. (see Annex)
7. EACCME[®] is responsible for sending invoices to the Organisers/Providers of the CME event. That amount due to the Section will be transferred to the Section as expediently as possible following settlement.
8. Failure of the Section to perform the evaluation within the time specified (3 weeks), necessitating EACCME[®] to seek alternative expert assessment, forfeits its right to any fee for the event.
9. EACCME[®] will issue a formal Certificate of Approval to the organisers for issue to the participants following a successful application.

This agreement shall take effect from the date of its signature.

For the UEMS – EACCME

For the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine

Zlatko Fras,
President

Dick Spreeuwens,
President

Additional Detail.

In the allocation of credits, EACCME[®] has adopted the European CME Credit system (ECMEC's) based on the one hour of educational activity = one ECMEC system with a maximum of 3 ECMEC's for a half-day and 6 ECMEC's for a full day event.

The National Accreditation Authority is also requested to allocate its local credits (if different) in a defined time to assist the organisers.

Thanks to the mutual recognition of credits, the credits allocated by the UEMS – EACCME[®] can be used in USA as PRA class 1 credits for the ACCME. Similarly, credits allocated by the ACCME are accepted by the UEMS – EACCME[®].

This agreement on mutual recognition of credits between the UEMS – EACCME[®] and the UEMS Section of Occupational Medicine on the one part and the National Accreditation Authorities of the Member States of the European Union/EEA on the other part, aims to assist the National Accreditation Authorities in providing an objective European evaluation of CME events and thus reduce duplication of their workload. It should also help the National Accreditation Authorities recognise each other's work.

Sliding Scale for the Assessment & Recognition Fees (amounts are expressed in €)

Number of Participants	Fee for UEMS – EACCME®	Fee for the Section	Total amount of the invoice to be paid by the Organizers
Up to 50	50	50	100
51 - 250	100	100	200
251 - 500	200	200	400
501 - 1000	300	300	600
1001 - 2000	400	400	800
2001 - 5000	500	500	1000
More than 5001	1000	1000	2000

If the Section fails to evaluate the event within the time schedule mentioned in the agreement, no fee will be granted to the Section.

These numbers do not take into account the fee for the National Accreditation Authority.