



REPORT ON THE FIRST EUROPEAN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE APPRAISAL

After many years of hard work UEMS OM Section passed the first European Appraisal on 23rd January 2020 at Domus Medica Europea in Brussels. With strong dedication and hard work in creating MCQs of colleagues from UEMS OM WG1 and EASOM colleagues a bank of questions was organized.

The info on the exam was put to UEMS OM website, promoted through section's member national activities and many travels of the UEMS OM president to the National OM meetings throughout Europe. Finances were low and marketing could not have been strong so we expected around 7 applicants at the most. At the end 14 applied, one cancelled in last week and one missed the flight so finally there were 12 applicants at the first appraisal. The Brussels Office gave full support and equipment, the CESMA supervisors were very attentive and gave us instructions how to further develop the procedure and also hints how to solve the current stress.

After the procedure 10 applicants out of 12 passed the exam. Being asked some questions we discovered that most of the applicants were trainees in OM and two were specialists already. The average age of the applicants was 32,7 years. Most of them got info about the Exam by their national representatives. The strongest motivation was to test their knowledge against ETRs, they were strongly motivated by their employers and colleagues.

All of the applicants gave the highest mark (5) to the technical information, contact and customer service. Also the venue was rated high (4). They estimated the covering with ETRs medium mark, namely the ETRs differ from their national training requirements and national ETRs were bias for them. The same happened to the literature expectations, they were mostly linked to national suggestions and the literature on the UEMS OM Appraisal website link was foreign to them. They wished to have more time for MCQs, despite all finished the test, in fact they would like to have more time to check the answers once more. The first applicant finished and put the test to the examiners 20 minutes before the official end. Also the estimation of the weight of MCQs was estimated almost 4. There were many positive experiences (well organized, clear instructions, high level of questions, good coverage, meeting foreign candidates), the only negative was to lack time.

The exam was a milestone for the specialty of OM to promote its practise and research among other medical specialties and to raise self-esteem because we are far in front of many clinical specialties. We are going to continue to reach the stable and high level OM education all over Europe.

Alenka Škerjanc, President of UEMS OM Section,

and the examiners Kari Reijula, Begoña Martinez Jarreta and Fabriziomaria Gobba

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