



Zurich, 20.May 2012

EJD Report

EJD Spring Meeting 2012 Zurich, Switzerland



Representatives of 19 European Countries and European Medical Organisations met on the 11th and 12th of May 2012 in Zurich, Switzerland, for the Spring Meeting of the European Junior Doctors Permanent Working Group (EJD) to discuss the main issues in medical training, producing the outcomes summarised in this document.

May 2012

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ELECTIONS

In Zurich elections were held to fill the open positions in the Executive Board. These are the results:

Treasurer & Economy Committee Chair:	Noora Ritamäki (Finland)
Medical Workforce Committee Chair:	Helena Haskaj (Slovenia)

By electing the new members also the term of the Executive Board was adjusted and will last until the 31st December 2013.

MAIN OUTCOMES

Qualifications Directive

The European Commission's legislative Proposal of the EU Directive 2005/36 on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications was discussed intensively. The topics concerning Junior Doctors were identified and amendments suggested. These suggestions will be brought to an EJD statement on the legislative proposal which will be sent to the European Parliament soon. The EJD will follow the further process and lobby for its interest.

A proposed joint statement of the European Medical Organisations regarding this directive was discussed and adopted. It will be published after it has been adopted and signed by the involved European Medical Organisations, representing more than 2 Million physicians all over Europe.

Impact of Task Shifting on Postgraduate Training

In the AM11 in Malta the EJD implemented the Working Group on Task Shifting. It is evaluating the impact of task shifting on the training and workload of Junior Doctors. The Working Group is about to identify the core competences of a physician and the resulting possibilities of delegation and substitution of tasks.

Junior Doctors are stressed by the overflow of bureaucracy and routine tasks while not having enough time for patients. Therefore the EJD sees a benefit in shifting this task to other professions. But shifting a task must also mean shifting the responsibility of this task. Therefore, the Working Group will seek for solutions for a framework of task shifting.

In order to integrate related professions and politicians already in the early stage, the EJD started to cooperate with Thomas Ulmer, Member of the European Parliament, and the European Physician Assistant collaboration (EuroPA-C).

e-Domus Medica Europea

The EJD renewed the common internet platform for the European Medical Organisations. The new layout and structure of the website was presented. It should provide information about the structures, political work and representation of the participating European medical organisations. Therefore, they will now update their information and afterwards the website will be back online in July on <http://www.edomusmedica.eu>.

Emergency Medicine in Europe

The "Working Group on Emergency Medicine" was established to evaluate the impact on working conditions of Junior Doctors regarding the question of the structures of Emergency Medicine Departments. As these are either run as one Department with one interdisciplinary team (regardless the fact a primary specialty ER exists), or separated in specialties with one (or more) physicians per specialty, there is certainly an impact on night shifts and on call times.

The current situation of Emergency Medicine was reflected in a short presentation. It was followed by a discussion about arising questions from the implementation of combined Emergency Medicine Departments and Emergency Medicine as a primary specialty in more and more countries as well as about the future tasks of the Working Group on Emergency Medicine.

As a next step the Working Group is planning to gather more information about the number of trainees in Emergency Medicine in Europe and the structures of Emergency Departments. A Questionnaire is to be developed and to be made available to all trainees, monitoring the situation of trainees from their point of view. For the EJD there is a major issue regarding the structure of Emergency Departments as well as the qualification of physicians working in.

European Medical Mobility

In 2008 the EJD together with EMSA launched the European Medical Mobility Website (EMM). This database compiles the information necessary to all doctors that wish to train in a European Country, thus promoting mobility for Junior Doctors. To ensure that the information is available as needed the EJD updated the website and is about to renew the information. This process should be finished until autumn '12 and the website then be re-launched on <http://www.medicalmobility.eu>.

Bologna Process

A first draft on a Policy statement regarding the implementation of the Bologna Process and its impact on Medical Education was discussed in the Plenary. The major issue for the EJD is the 3rd cycle as it directly touches postgraduate training. The questions arising were mentioned in the draft and discussed intensively. As further aspects were brought in, the draft will be adapted and then presented to the national members for further comments. The release of the policy paper is planned for autumn 2012.

Networking

The EJD is cooperating with various International Medical Organisations and participating in several projects in Europe and worldwide. Guests from Medical organisations such as the CPME, UEMS, FEMS, AEMH, Medical Chambers and Associations as well as from the IFMSA and the Junior Doctors Network of the WMA proved the active interaction with the EJD. To amplify the impact and join resources the EJD will further develop and strengthen these links in future and will reach out for new cooperations.

Salary and Demography

A basic factor in comparing working conditions in Health Care Systems in Europe is the Salary of Medical Doctors. It's necessary to regularly monitor and compare the payment related to working hours, on call times, work-life balance and satisfaction of Junior Doctors. Therefore, the Working Group on "Salary and Demography" started a survey in order to collect data which will be presented in the EJD Autumn Meeting 2012 in Malaga.

UEMS Sections / Boards / MJC

The EJD elected several new Representatives for the UEMS Sections / Boards / MJC to continue the successful cooperation like done for years now. The full list can be found on: http://juniorDoctors.eu/boards_sections_and_mjcs.

EJD Autumn Meeting 2012 – Malaga, Spain

The EJD delegation of Spain gave a presentation about the hosting city of the next EJD Meeting in October 2012 and invited to this event. The EJD is looking forward to it.

About the EJD and the Future of the Organisation

The EJD was formally created in Bad-Nauheim, Germany, in May 1976 as Permanent Working Group of European Junior Doctors (PWG). Since then, the EJD has become the European medical organisation with the most comprehensive national membership, representing over 300.000 Junior Doctors all over Europe. The EJD's initial objectives include safeguarding the interests of the Junior Doctors in Europe, improving relations between its member organizations and narrowing the gap between the Junior Doctors all over Europe.

Since founding, the EJD has actively intervened in defending of the medical profession in Europe with the purpose of contributing to the development of Junior Doctors' work. From the beginning of the EJD's existence, it became evident that the Junior Doctors of the various countries have many similar experiences and are faced with the same challenges. Under the motto 'one country, one vote, one language' the EJD has managed to use the cultural, scientific and political diversity of the members in its favour. The EJD has made a considerable contribute to improve education and training of European Junior Doctors integrated in better European health systems for the benefit of the community, whilst maintaining a satisfactory personal work/lifestyle balance.

In future, the EJD will assume the responsibility of this heritage. We wish to continue to set new marks within the spirit of being the organization of the Junior Doctors, fiercely standing for excellence of training and health care towards a European standard of equality of opportunities, with no discrimination of sex, race, or country.