Statement on ePortfolio

Portfolios and electronic portfolios have become more important in recent years, both in undergraduate and postgraduate training worldwide, as a means of effectively monitoring and tracking training. There are many universities, national and professional societies, and other authorities, that are currently utilising ePortfolios for their trainees. In postgraduate medical training portfolios have had an increasingly central role, and ePortfolios should support professional recognition and mobility of professionals at an international level. Thus, the European Junior Doctors, as the representative organisation for over 300,000 junior doctors around Europe, recommends the following basic requirements be included in ePortfolios used in postgraduate medical training:

- Electronic systems are recommended for use instead of paper based portfolios or other physical lecture materials;

- ePortfolios, should be free of charge, easy to access, and individualised;

- ePortfolios should be provided by public institutions (e.g. governmental organisations, medical chamber, universities, etc.), instead of private companies or other organisations;

- ePortfolios should support personal development and postgraduate medical training on competency based level;

- ePortfolios should contain feedback, self-assessment, and quality assurance tools;

- ePortfolios should be user friendly, multi-platform and data should be transferable and connected with other electronic systems, in concordance with personal rights and legislation;

- ePortfolios should not significantly increase the administrative workload of junior or senior doctors;

- Assessment and licensing should remain at national level, independent of who offers the ePortfolio service;

- In countries where there is a Final Training Assessment for licensing, ePortfolios should be part of that evaluation.

Use of electronic portfolios is recommended by the European Junior Doctors' Permanent Woking Group. There are different types of portfolio systems in use, in a variety of manners, across Europe. The EJD aims to make the available systems more user friendly in the assessment and tracking of training. The EJD encourages those countries where do not operate such systems to implement ePortfolio programs according to the recommendations above.

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