REPORT ON THE DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY – SEPTEMBER 2015

Arthur Felice
New Executive elected:

on 17th June 2014
Infrastructure adopted as described in Berlin

Not pyramidal but multi-layered and flat – decisions taken at nodes where there is maximal information flow
Successes

- Intensive networking
- Generally improved teamwork
- Service flexibility and network agility
- Higher efficiency
- Lower costs
Confusion regarding boundaries of responsibility and competence

Loss of trust: Is it because of the system or because of some attitudes?
Events in 2015 so far:

- Joint Surgical Gastroenterology Conference in Dubai together with the UAE Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, organised by Prime Hospital Dubai 26th to 28th February 2015

- FEBS General Surgery recognised as a postgraduate specialty qualification in Saudi Arabia and Qatar (Faris Al Aswad)

- UEMS – EBSQ General Surgery Exam in Athens on the 16th and 17th June 2014

- Meeting of the Division of General Surgery on 17th June 2015. Not enough time to present the minutes.
Non-events

- UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam in Beijing not done because of lack of concordance with our Chinese colleagues on fees for the exam (Still a lost opportunity in my opinion)

- UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination in Beirut, Lebanon. Cancelled because of the geo-political situation (Warnings from MFA of several countries)

- Preparatory Course in Athens on 29th and 30th June 2015 – cancelled because of insufficient number of applicants
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Number of candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Turin</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Krakow</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2012</td>
<td>Salzburg</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Istanbul</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2013</td>
<td>Helsinki</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Beirut- Lebanon</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Athens</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Candidates for EBSQ Gen Surgery by year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Line graph showing the number of candidates per year](image-url)
Projects

- Extension of Transferrable Competencies: Potentially to put the UEMS Section of Surgery ahead of the competition internationally while improving patient outcomes.

- Favour re-engagement of valid expertise lost.
Transferrable Competencies: The situation:

Present
- General Surgery
- Heart Surgery
- Vascular Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Endocrine Surgery
- Traumatology
- Transplant Surgery
- Coloproctology
- Surgical Oncology
- Breast Surgery
- Hand Surgery
- HPB Surgery

Projects
- Emergency/On call Surgery
- Basic Sciences
- Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
- Gastrointestinal Endoscopy & Functional GI Diagnostics
- Simulation & Human Skills
To my knowledge, the following Working Groups are in various stages of development (in a state of flux):

- **ECS (Esophagus Cardia Stomach):** Advanced very efficiently - Examination: Stockholm, Sweden, on the 3rd & 4th November 2015. They have now their own Division. Congratulations!

- **Emergency Surgery:** Professor Jonathan Tilsed set up his Working Group; defined General Surgery; outlined knowledge and skills as well as Logbook and Syllabus. Prof. Alessandro Garcea and Prof. Luca Ponchietti were also involved.

- **Minimally Invasive Surgery:** Prof. Georg Bischof has called for two national representatives per state to form the Working Group. There has been a response, but I am not informed of the extent.
Future plans for 2015

- To encourage the working groups for the projects in Transferrable Competencies
- Define better the boundaries of responsibility and competence
- Improve accountability and audit
- Change: Avoid unnecessary rules becoming baseless dogma
- Find ways to avoid conflicts of interest
- Make better use of Domus Medica
- Invest in MCQ correcting hardware.
Financial situation

- Source of Income so far is only from Examination fees
- The profit/loss balance still strongly in the positive
- Flight and accommodation expenses for the Athens EBSQ Examiners *surely* to be reimbursed
- Economy class flight expenses to Examiners at the EBSQ Exam in Beirut (>1 year) have still to be reimbursed.
Next UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam: Options

- Belfast: 10\textsuperscript{th} – 11\textsuperscript{th} May 2015 in Belfast together with the ICOSET, the Division meeting.

- Naples: 8\textsuperscript{th} and 9th June 2015 :in conjunction with the ESS Conference

- Dubai: Agreed to reconsider for 2016

- Should we consider the Domus Medica as a venue for the UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam and UEMS Division of General Surgery meeting (still in collaboration with the ESS as a body)?
With the next UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam

The alternative would be the 10th and 11th May 2016 in Naples in conjunction with the ESS Annual Conference
Any Questions?
The Network of Accredited Clinical Skills Centres of Europe (NASCE)

A multidisciplinary joint committee (MJC)
Prof. Daniel Casanova

Myself

Both of us are just NASCE members only
Istanbul on the 14\textsuperscript{th} and 15\textsuperscript{th} September 2015

Neither Prof. Casanova nor I could attend (for very valid reasons)
Objectives

- Clinical skills education

- Primarily to enhance the standards for the operation of Clinical Skills Centres, through assessment and accreditation

- Suggestions to widen its scope beyond Clinical Skills Centres to Postgraduate Training Centres have so far been resisted
Accreditation

The centre not the content

Two Accreditation Levels:
Multidisciplinary Format
Single speciality Format

More details on the website:
www.nascenet.org
The Accreditation Review Board will make the overall accreditation recommendation to Council, whether an application meets the criteria for accreditation at the specified level, following a visitation.
Future NASCE plans

- The next NASCE meeting will be in Gent, Belgium, February 25, 2016.

- The autumn meeting 2016 will be in Lund, Sweden, date to be determined
Thanks
Does rigidity mean strength?

- Resilience often helps

MRI of ruptured penis