Report of the Surgical Oncology Division

Chair: Ms. Lynda Wyld
Presented by: Ibrahim Edhemovic
The 2016 EBSQ examination in Surgical Oncology took place in Brussels on 23rd and 24th September.

- 26 applicants: 1 ineligible on the basis of inadequate log book experience
- 25 eligible and accepted
- 5 withdrawals (1 illness, 1 wife pregnant, 3 family matters)
- 20 candidates examined

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Jordan</td>
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<td>Kuwait</td>
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<td>Oman</td>
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<td>Syria</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
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Two papers: one focused on general oncology knowledge, the second based on clinical cases and testing application of knowledge and critical thinking.

Pass mark set by Anghoff referencing

None excluded from analysis
Academic viva (part 2 of 3)

- Candidates allocated 2 academic papers of current interest
- Papers allocated based on their declared 2 subject preferences
- 1 hour to read both papers and then a 30 minute academic viva
- Focus on critical thinking, trial design and methodology plus evidence based practice.
Clinical viva (part 3 of 3)

- 10 pre prepared cases covering all major cancer sites
- Evaluates clinical management skills, decision making and clinical knowledge of current best European practice
- Each candidate discusses 2 case scenarios themed around their specialist subject (HPB, Upper GI, Visceral, breast)
Outcome

- 2/20 candidates failed. Pass rate 90%
  - 1 poor score on both MCQs, borderline academic, good clinical.
  - 1 academic very poor

- 4 prize winners: all given free registration at the next ESSO congress in Krakow, 2017 where they will be awarded a gold or silver medal at the General Assembly.
  - 1st Prize: Mr Sztipits (Hungary)
  - 2nd Prize: Mr Pelz (Germany)
  - 3rd Prize: Mr Arjona-Sanchez (Spain)
  - 3rd Prize: Mr Veerabadhram (India)
Plans for the 2017 exam

- Splitting of the exam in two parts (written and oral)

- Written part (on-line) would be organized on one or more locations simultaneously (Europe, India, Egypt) depending on applicants’ countries (May 2017)

- Only successful candidates would be invited to the oral exam in Brussels (September 2017)

- This would help to reduce the costs both for the exam board and for the candidates and increase the number of candidates
Current system allows only non-split exam.
Suggestions for changes in the on-line application system

- Currently, system does not allow setting-up the split exam at different time and different locations

- To consider the website application (e-portfolio) upgrading to enable the additional functionality.
  - An option (check box or similar) for splitting the exam should be offered
  - Divisions which want to implement splitting of the exam confirm split exam option and enter additional locations and dates
  - If option for splitting the exam is not selected, everything remains the same
Suggestions for changes in the payment process

- Evaluating of the candidates’ eligibility: 100 EUR
  - In case of re-evaluation for the next exam should be paid again

- Written exam (to be paid if candidate fulfil eligibility criteria): 250 EUR
  - Re-takers pay again

- Oral exam (to be paid if candidate passed written exam): 250 EUR
  - Re-takers pay again
On line system – the impressions

- Setting-up a new exam was simple and straightforward.

- Webpages editing required some learning; however, after some testing the whole process turned out to be simple and easy.
Automated emailing is not always useful
Archiving of old data would be useful