REPORT ON THE DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY – OCTOBER 2016

Arthur Felice
Successes

- Continued networking
- Election of the new Webmaster – Joseph Weerts
- Election of new Treasurer – Paul Ridgeway
- Recruitment of new examiners for the UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam.
- Progress and *some recent* information regarding the new electronic format of the EBSQ Examination
- Improved collaboration from Committee and Division members
Communication and information about developments on the agreement with Orzone regarding the new electronic format of the EBSQ Exam has been very late in coming (Some basic information on the 22\textsuperscript{nd} September 2016).

In the meantime, this lack of information has precluded advertising the Exam on the Website and this has a negative impact on credibility, application and finances.

Publishing the date or dates (a day or two days?) without knowing the details of content would not have made sense.

It would not be possible to answer requests for details from potential candidates.
The UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination

- Is central to the very existence of our Division
- The fees from the examination and the Honorary Fellowship are our main (if not only) source of revenue
- It constitutes our contribution for the improvement of professional standards and consequently patient safety.
Events since the Belfast Meeting

Intense networking mainly about the agreement with Orzone and the eventual new format of the EBSQ General Surgery Examination
Electronic MCQs, OSCEs or both?

Consensus:

- The overwhelming majority were in favour of the electronic format for the MCQs.
- We should retain the human contact element in the OSCEs (not entirely electronic and at a distance).
- The Division must know very clearly what the total financial burden for the Division would be without hidden extra expenses.
- This extra cost will be covered by increasing the examination fee, calculating on 30 candidates.
With the present number of candidates, we should not have more than one Examination per year.

This should preferably be planned in conjunction with the ESS Annual Conference e.g. the ESS Conference in Krakow in late November 2017.

Since this would mean that there would be an over 17 months gap from the Exam in Belfast to the one in Krakow (excessive), the coming UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination would be held at the Domus Medica Europea in Brussels in March 2017.

Format of exam ?date or dates (1 or 2) Website
1. Set dates for the Examination without knowing the details of the format of the Exam

2. Abandon the idea of an Examination in Brussels altogether and focus on the Examination in Krakow in late October 2017

3. Decide unilaterally to go for the 2 day format of the Examination (as we had been doing before), to be held in Brussels in March 2017. The 1st day could be the E-MCQs.

4. Wait for the necessary data to be passed to the Division of General Surgery when the agreement between the UEMS and Orzone is signed.
Wait for the necessary data to be passed to the Division of General Surgery, then act accordingly
Sent by Ms Ohara on the 22nd September 2016

ORZONE training session will be taking place on 7th December 2016 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Göteborg, Sweden.

Two representatives from the Division to attend
Source of Income so far is only from Examination and Honorary Fellowship fees

Balance on 28th July: €15,421,24. No movement of funds since that date.

Only debit since May ‘16 Belfast Meeting: Reimbursement of expenses to Belfast examiners and CESMA Appraisal Officers amounting to €9,104,17

The account will get money back with the transfer from the Section of the rest of 2015 EBSQ/HD fees and of the 2016: ? Amount.
With the next 2017 UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam whichever the venue.
Any Questions?