



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

*Association internationale sans but lucratif      International non-profit organisation*

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## MJC-IC

På vegne av MASS, NFMM og NFIM og Smittevernforum deltok jeg på det første møte for den Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Infection Control (MJC IC) ved National Institute for Infectious Diseases "L. Spallanzani", IRCCS Rome, Italy, den 11.mai 2018. Møte var i regi av UEMS (Union Européenne des médecins spécialistes) som er internasjonal non-profit organisasjon som representerer alle medisinske spesialiteter i Europa. Det var 21 delegater fra nasjonale fagmedisinske foreninger, styret i UEMS, samt representanter fra European Committee in Infection Control (EUCIC), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and Trainees Association of ESCMID (TAE).

MJC sine oppgaver er se på utdanningsnivået for de forskjellige spesialitetene og jobbe for en høy standard i hele europa. Man ønsker å få til en standard på spesialisering slik at det skal være mulig å jobbe på tvers av landegrenser.

På dette første møtet hadde vi en kort presentasjon av alle representantene og deres foreninger, det ble diskutert hva vi skal jobbe med og hvordan. Det ble valgt et styre med Nicola Petrosillo fra Italia som leder.

For MJC IC er :

“The main objective is to define European standards of medical education and training in Infection Control.

- The availability of European Infection Control core competencies is a cornerstone for harmonizing infection prevention and control training and education in Europe.
- Proposed MJC on Infection Control would ensure that part of curriculum and European Training Requirements pertaining in IC in both ID and MM specialties are structured in a similar way.
- As a next step, this MJC in IC will plan to set up a European Certificate in Infection Control for medical specialists.

The scope of MJC IC is education of European Medical Specialties. Their own core curriculums should incorporate IC standards in which most of the specialties have little/no competencies.



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The objective of MJC IC is not to create a new specialty, but to give support to all the medical specialties on IC competencies, of course on the basis of an European standard (ECDC, EUCIC, etc).“

Hele referatet fra møtet er vedlagt. Nytt møte er planlagt i slutten av mars 2019.

Maria Vandbakk-Rüther  
Overlege Infeksjon/Smittevern  
Sykehuset i Vestfold

**First Meeting of the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Infection Control  
(MJC IC)**

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018, 11 -16 h  
National Institute for Infectious Diseases “L. Spallanzani”, IRCCS  
Rome, Italy**

**Present:**

**Delegates nominated by National Medical Associations (Name, Country, UEMS affiliation/function):**

Suzana Bukovski, Croatia  
Davorka Dušek, Croatia, UEMS ID Secretary  
Athanasios Skoutelis, Greece  
Klaus-Friedrich Bodmann, Germany



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Gunta Sture, Latvia  
Birgitta Lytsy, Sweden  
Maria Vandbakk-Rüther, Norway  
Per-Olof Nyström, Sweden

**Delegates nominated by UEMS Sections (Name, Country, UEMS Section):**

Tatjana Lejko Županc, Slovenia, UEMS ID delegate  
Nicola Petrosillo, Italy, UEMS ID delegate (NP)  
Maeve Doyle, Ireland, UEMS MM delegate (MD)  
Breida Boyle, Ireland, UEMS MM delegate (BB)  
Michael Zoller, Germany, European Board of Anaesthesiology  
Matthias Orth, Germany, Medical Biopathology  
Tommaso Alterio, Italy, Young European Board of Pediatrics  
Andreas Trobisch, Austria, YEAP representative  
Romaldas Mačiulaitis, Lithuania, Pharmacology  
Luis Nogueira Martinis, Portugal, LM  
Silvio Brusaferrero, Italy, Public Health  
Mihael Skerlev, Croatia, Dermatolovenerology  
Jean Paul Stahl, France, UEMS ID President\* (JPS)  
Hilpi Rautelin, Sweden, UEMS MM President\* (HR)  
*\*Present only for the first meeting*

**Observers (Name, Country, Affiliation):**

Elisabeth Presterl, Austria, EUCIC representative  
Diamantis Plachouras, Sweden, ECDC representative  
Cansu Cimen, Turkey, TAE representative

**Apologies for absence:**

Stefano del Torso  
Chrysa Tziakouri

**List of abbreviations:**

UEMS ID - UEMS Section for Infectious Diseases  
UEMS MM - UEMS Section of Medical Microbiology



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ECDC - European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control  
EUCIC - European Committee on Infection Control  
TAE - Trainee Association of ESCMID  
YEAP – Young European Academy of Paediatrics  
NMA – National Medical Association  
MJC – Multidisciplinary Joint Committee

## **Welcome**

Our host Nicola Petrosillo (NP) has welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were 21 delegates from National Medical Associations and UEMS Sections/Boards, as well as representatives from European Committee in Infection Control (EUCIC), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and Trainees Association of ESCMID (TAE). Apologies were received from Stefano del Torso and Chrysa Tziakouri. The agenda for the current meeting was also approved.

## **What is UEMS?**

Hilpi Rautelin (HR) has explained structure and functioning of UEMS for the delegates of NMAs who are not directly involved in the work of UEMS Sections/Boards and for the observers.

UEMS is an international non-profit association that represents all medical specialists in Europe. UEMS was constituted in 1958, current headquarters is in Belgium. With a current membership from 37 countries, it is the representative organisation of the National Associations of Medical Specialists in the European Union and its associated countries. Its structure consists of a Council responsible for and working through 43 Specialist Sections and their European Boards, addressing training in their respective Specialty and incorporating representatives from academia (Societies, Colleges and Universities). Its work is underpinned by Standing Committees on Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development, on Postgraduate Training,



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Quality Management in Specialist Practice, as well as ad hoc Working Groups. An Executive comprising the President, the Secretary-General, the Liaison Officer, and the Treasurer, is responsible for the routine functioning of the organisation.

UEMS represents over 1.6 million medical specialists in all the different specialties. It also has strong links and relations with European Institutions (Commission and Parliament), the other independent European Medical Organisations and the European Medical / Scientific Societies.

Objectives of UEMS are:

- to study, promote and harmonize the training of medical specialists, medical practice and health care within the EU
- to study and promote free movement of specialist doctors within the EU
- to represent medical specialist profession (National Associations of Medical Specialists) at the European level (> 1.6 million medical specialists)
- to defend and promote professional interests of European medical specialists

UEMS Specialist Section is UEMS entity in charge of promoting and defending the interests of a given medical specialty. It is composed of medical specialists nominated by the member associations. UEMS Specialist Section develops European standards of medical training in their respective medical discipline. It may be created if specialty recognized as an independent specialty by > 1/3 EU Member States. European Board can be created as a subgroup, in conjunction with the relevant European Society.

Other relevant UEMS entities are:

- Division(s): a branch of the specialty or competence within the Section
- Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC)
- Thematic Federations

Specialist Postgraduate Training for a certain specialty/discipline is defined by European Training Requirements (ETRs). ETR covers Training requirements (clinical, academic, professional), Standards of clinical care, Accreditation of trainers, Appraisal and accreditation of training centres. More than 26 ETR from different specialties have been adapted by UEMS Council.

CESMA (Council for European Specialists Medical Assessment) is an advisory board created in 2007 with goal to provide recommendation and advice on the organisation of European



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examinations for medical specialists at the European level. These European Examinations may offer alternative to National assessments.

European Accreditation Council for CME (EACCME) has been established in 1999 by UEMS and deals with CME/CPD accreditation. Since then EACCME has provided accreditation for International live educational events (about 2000 conferences, meetings annually) and E-learning materials (about 100 materials annually).

Detailed explanation on UEMS structure, objectives and activities can be found on the website <https://www.uems.eu/about-us/presentation>

## **Report from UEMS Infectious Diseases Section (Jean Paul Stahl)**

JPS has explained the structure, functioning and activities of UEMS Section of Infectious Diseases. Section was established in 1997 and European Board of Infectious Diseases in 1998. There are 54 delegates from 33 countries.

Aim of UEMS ID Section is:

- to guarantee the highest standards of care in the field of Infectious Diseases in Europe by ensuring that the ID specialty is recognized in all European countries.
- to rise the professional training and education in ID to the highest possible level
- to ensure free movement of ID specialists within Europe
- to recommend the necessary content of training programmes

Section has prepared European Training Requirements for the Specialty of Infectious Diseases, as well as Curriculum which will be approved at the next UEMS Council meeting in Bruxelles. Next step is to prepare and organize European exam.

## **Report from UEMS Section of Medical Microbiology (HR)**

HR has explained structure, functioning and activities of UEMS Section of Medical Microbiology.



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Section of Medical Microbiology was founded in 2008, prior to this there was Division of Microbiology in Section of Biopathology/Laboratory Medicine. There are 47 delegates from 25 different countries.

Major achievements of UEMS MM

- European Training Requirements (ETRs) in Medical Microbiology  
Adopted in 2013
- Curriculum Medical Microbiology  
Adopted in 2017
- Creation of MJC-Infection Control  
Adopted in 2017
- Working party for a European Exam in Medical Microbiology

## **Terms of reference of Multidisciplinary Joint Committee with emphasis on MJC in Infection Control (Jean Paul Stahl)**

### **Creation**

UEMS Council can, on the request of two Sections or on its own initiative (in our case Section of Infectious Diseases and Section of Medical Microbiology), create a Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) for competences or spheres of activity belonging to several disciplines. Such a joint committee must be open to members of any Section wishing to participate. Although not a Section in its own right, such MJC must follow the same UEMS rules of procedure as though they were a Section and refer all decisions to the Council. Like Sections, MJCs are internal structures of the UEMS and thus are not separate legal entities. The creation of a MJC is not the first step towards the creation of a Section. MJCs are a platform of co-operation between Sections to address multidisciplinary issues.

### **Members**

The UEMS National Medical Associations can directly nominate two delegates to the MJC. The delegates have to be practicing medical specialists in a specialty represented in MJC or in a specialty that is relevant to MJC activities. A Section wishing to participate in work of a MJC can also nominate two delegates to a MJC.



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## **Objectives**

The objectives of the MJCs are the same as those of the Sections:

- The study, promotion and harmonisation of the highest level of training of medical specialists, medical practice and health care within the European Union for the given specialty.
- The study and promotion of free movement of medical specialists within the EU
- The defence of the professional interests of European Medical Specialists

MJCs can create Working Groups and European Boards to address scientific and training issues. All such decisions have to be referred to and approved by the UEMS Council.

## **Relation with third parties external to UEMS**

As for Sections, any action towards external entities must be initiated under the aegis of the UEMS Executive in order to ensure timely, coherent and appropriate action. MJCs are also encouraged to co-operate with relevant scientific Societies. In this regard, they can create European Boards to address training and scientific issues.

More details on structure and functioning of MJC can be found on <https://www.uems.eu/about-us/presentation>

## **Objectives and Aims of MJC in Infection Control (Nicola Petrosillo)**

### **Rationale for creating Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Infection Control (MJC IC)**

Health care-associated infections (HAI) represent a major common adverse event in care delivery, with a significant impact on morbidity, mortality and quality of life and present an economic burden for the society. Moreover, over the last decade, multidrug-resistant bacteria have been implicated in severe HAI with an impact on clinical outcome due to limited therapeutic options and on the spread of resistant organisms in the healthcare settings. There is a growing body of evidence that an important proportion of HAI are preventable through infection prevention and control strategies that can also limit the spread of multi-resistant organisms in the healthcare settings. As a matter of fact, the rate of HAI and antibiotic resistance represent an important indicator of quality of care.

### **Creation of MJC IC**





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After a long preparation, on October 21, 2017 a formal request for the creation of MJC on Infection Control, as a joint invitation by Infectious Diseases UEMS Section and Medical Microbiology UEMS section, also supported by EUCIC, was discussed at the annual meeting of UEMS at Bruxelles. In the meeting Jean-Paul Stahl, President of UEMS ID Section, Hilpi Rautelin, President of UEMS MM Section, and Nicola Petrosillo on behalf of EUCIC and of UEMS ID presented the proposal, that was approved unanimously (that is not usual). The UEMS President Prof. Romuald Krajewski asked MJC IC to collaborate with all the specialties represented in UEMS, when they prepare their core competencies in order to incorporate principles of IC in their curriculum.

### **Multidisciplinary approach**

Infection Control represents a multi-disciplinary activity that involves infectious diseases specialists, clinical and medical microbiologists, infection control professionals and public health and hygiene professionals. Since full implementation of IC measures can only be accomplished by multidisciplinary work, invitation will be sent to all Sections for their collaboration in MJC IC. Close collaboration with non-UEMS stakeholders dealing with IC such as EUCIC and ECDC, is imperatives.

### **Objectives**

- The main objective is to define European standards of medical education and training in Infection Control.
- The availability of European Infection Control core competencies is a cornerstone for harmonizing infection prevention and control training and education in Europe.
- Proposed MJC on Infection Control would ensure that part of curriculum and European Training Requirements pertaining in IC in both ID and MM specialties are structured in a similar way.
- As a next step, this MJC in IC will plan to set up a European Certificate in Infection Control for medical specialists.

The scope of MJC IC is education of European Medical Specialties. Their own core curriculums should incorporate IC standards in which most of the specialties have little/no competencies. The objective of MJC IC is not to create a new specialty, but to give support to all the medical specialties on IC competencies, of course on the basis of an European standard (ECDC, EUCIC, etc).

### **Election of the Executive Committee of MJC in Infection Control**



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During the meeting the following participants have been unanimously elected for the Executive Board:

President: Nicola Petrosillo, Italy (ID)  
Vice-president: Maeve Doyle, Ireland (MM)  
Secretary: Davorka Dušek, Croatia (ID)  
Treasurer: Breida Boyle, Ireland (MM)

Members at large:

Mihael Skerlev, Croatia (Dermatology)  
Silvio Brusaferrò, Italy (Public Health)

## **Financial issues (Davorka Dušek)**

All MJC's have to assume the responsibility for financing its activities. Account of MJC's are in Belgium opened by the UEMS. Management is under the responsibility of the Bureau of the MJC.

MJC's' sources of funding according to UEMS ROP:

- \* the same as for Section
- \* additionally, a contribution from Sections that participate in MJC activities

According to UEMS RO, funding of Section's activities may come from (non-exhaustive list):

- \* Membership fees from associations (NMA) delegating medical specialists to the Section (the amount for each delegation has to be decided by the Section)
- \* Reimbursement of evaluations of CME events in the framework of the UEMS EACCME
- \* Fees received for the visitation of training centres
- \* Fees received for European Examinations
- \* Participation and attendance to EU-funded or national specialty-related project
- \* Donations

All source of funding must be declared and justified and must derive from a legitimate source. At this point of time, possible sources of funding for MJC IC are contributions from NMAs and Sections.

## **Website (Davorka Dušek)**



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DD explained that the costs of development as well as the website administration are covered fully by the MJC.

The UEMS general website is hosted by Squiz, a Polish company. Different UEMS Sections have used Squiz for their websites (Surgery <https://www.uemssurg.org/>; Rheumatology <https://uemsrheumatology.eu/>). It is *not* compulsory for every Section to use the same company.

Squiz offer the UEMS Sections/MJCs preferential rates :

- Costs: 1500€ for the development of the website + 500€ per year for maintenance
- Online training provided by Squiz to the webmaster of the section
- Fully customizable website (categories and subcategories, content, links, etc...)
- Content of each part of the website to be provided by the section

Participants have decided to try to find some other options before accepting Squiz proposal.

## **Report from EUCIC representative (Elisabeth Presterl)**

The European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) aims to strengthen infection control and preventive measures in European countries to reduce the burden of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). This is achieved through a network offering resources and knowhow as well as the organization of training programmes and support structures.

Major goals are:

- Contribution to the harmonization and standardization of IPC procedures
- Development of new educational and training tools
- Development of new European network of excellence centers to run clinical research on IC
- Increase the awareness of IC

Major projects:

- Development of a Training Programme & European Certificate for IC
- Gap analysis of implementation of current IPC measures against MDR-GN spreading in European hospitals
- Definition of a network of excellence centers for research in IC
- Improvement of representativeness of IC at European level

Stakeholders Board

ECDC, WHO, EUNETIPS, HIS, IFIC, EUPHA, ESGAP, ESGNI, WAAAR

**The EUCIC “European Infection Prevention and Control Certificate”**



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Europe's approach to IPC is still very heterogeneous among different countries and sometimes also among different healthcare settings within the same country. However, every country has a certain expertise and/or specialty to offer. The mutual exchange of knowledge between European institutions provides a unique perspective on IPC, resulting in a unique European competence. Based on this perspective and competence, a specific educational programme was developed to train a new generation of IPC specialists by EUCIC.

This 2-year programme consists of 10 modules

- 1 compulsory basic module (covers basic aspects of IPC)
- 6 compulsory advanced modules
- 3 local modules (represent in-house expertise and country-specific aspects)
- 2 e-Learning modules (various topics)

### **Report from ECDC representative (Diamantis Plachouras)**

Diamantis Plachouras (DP) has presented report on behalf of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (ARHAI) Programme.

Some of many ECDC activities include:

- PPS of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and antimicrobial use in European acute care hospitals and long term care facilities
- Directory of online resources for prevention and control on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and healthcare-associated infections (HAI) including list of Training courses in infection prevention and control (IPC)
- core competencies for infection control and hospital hygiene professionals in the European Union

ECDC collaborates with EUCIC, WHO and US CDC on matters concerning IPC.

### **Cooperation with trainees (Cansu Cimen)**

Trainee Association of ESCMID (TAE) is a network of young professionals in Clinical Microbiology (CM) and Infectious Diseases (ID) and it is organized under the auspices of European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID). TAE is led by the TAE Steering Committee, which is a group of CM and ID trainees and/or recently finished (<3 years ago) medical specialists. TAE Steering Committee also represents the interests of medical students and young researchers. General aims of TAE are to improve the training in clinical microbiology



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and infectious diseases and to create a large international network of trainees (at least one contact person in each country) to facilitate collaboration.

Cansu Cimen has presented TAE achievements so far including:

- \* activities during ECCMID (TAE Trainees' Day, sessions held in collaboration with ESCMID Study Groups, TAE Awards for Training Achievements)
- \* ESCMID Summer School
- \* ESCMID Postgraduate Education Courses
- \* published 2 TAE manuscript on work-life balance of residents in CM and ID
- \* Launched a new survey on trainee's experiences in supervision, mentorship and management.
- \* Established a memorandum of understanding between TAE and Young Leaders Circle of ASM.

TAE is very interested in collaborating with MJC IC and with their network of young ID/CM professionals can contribute significantly to this Committee.

Other Sections are also interested in participation of their young specialists in the work of MJC IC. Tommaso Alterio and Andreas Trobisch represented Young European Academy of Paediatrics during this meeting.