



European Academy of Paediatrics – Secondary-Tertiary Care Council

Minutes of the EAP Secondary-Tertiary Care Council Meeting Thursday 21 January 2021, 19.45-20.30 h CET (online via Zoom)

Attendees: see attachment

1. Welcome and introduction

Berthold Koletzko (BK, chair of the preceding Tertiary Care Council) welcomed all delegates to the first meeting of the Secondary-Tertiary Care Council, which had been created as a consequence of the recently revised EAP statutes. He presented the agenda that had been shared electronically in a timely manner prior to the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

3. Minutes of the preceding Meeting held on 07.12.2019 at Brussels

The minutes were approved without modifications.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

BK reviewed the action points which had been implemented. No questions arose.

5. Report on UEMS

Robert Ross Russell (RRR), European Board of Paediatrics (EBP) chair, reported on the UEMS evaluation of paediatric ETRs and emphasized that involvement of adult specialities in related areas is encouraged. He also reported on the first successful implementation of the European Board examination in October 2020.

6. ETR for Neonatology (ESPR)

The ETR was presented and approved by online voting.

7. Update on ETR for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (EPNS)

The ETR was presented and approved by online voting.

Peter Hoyer noted that the introductory text of the ETRs was somewhat redundant from ETR to ETR and suggested this be reviewed. RRR and BK agreed to review and update the ETR template.

8. Report on European Board Examination in Paediatric Nephrology (ESPN)

BK shared that Elena Levchenko (ESPN) had reported on a very positive implementation of the European Board Examination in Paediatric Nephrology and encouraged other subspecialty societies to consider setting up exams as well (cf. attached report).

9. Report on H2020 Project CORE MD

BK shared that this EU funded project has been funded with EAP as one of the partners and is scheduled to formally start on 1 April 2021.

- **Background:** Reported serious complications from implanted medical devices (some heart valves, hip replacements, surgical meshes, lymphoma with breast implants) led to new Regulation on Medical Devices (EU 2017/745) that will come into force on 26.05.2021. The goal is that medical devices should be subjected to a clinical evaluation / clinical studies prior to approval for market introduction. CORE-MD will explore and recommend approaches for evaluating primarily high-risk medical devices (implanted devices)



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- Particular challenges for implementing an evidence-based regulatory policy for medical devices for **paediatric patients** that need few high-risk devices, and creating firm clinical evidence is often impeded by small sample sizes and huge patient heterogeneity, as well as limited economic incentives for manufacturers. If no alternative approaches for evaluation are developed, availability of state-of-the-art devices for children might be restricted, and paediatric patients might suffer from considerably delayed and limited market introduction of innovative devices.
- **Goal of the EAP contribution to CORE MD:** Development of a broadly agreed, evidence-based and feasible regulatory policy for paediatric medical devices.
- **Tasks:** Systematic evaluation of evidence and best practices, and at least one workshop with EAP members and society representatives to review data and options, and develop recommendations, preferably resulting in development of a White Paper.
- **Volunteers needed:** We are looking for colleagues from different specialties using high-risk medical devices in children (*e.g. central catheters; dialysis catheters; closure devices and stents used in interventional cardiology; GI and respiratory tract stents; PEG and PEJ devices, surgical material e.g. ventriculo-peritoneal shunts, etc.*) => **please contact BK or the EAP office with suggestions!**

10. Election of the Secondary-Tertiary Care Council Chair

BK was nominated as the only candidate for the new position of the Secondary-Tertiary Care Council Chair. He reported on his activities as Tertiary Care Council chair since his election at the EAP Winter Meeting in Dec. 2018 and on his goals for the future. The EAP secretary Ann de Guchteneare chaired the online voting and the result, with the election of Berthold Koletzko. BK thanked all delegates for the confidence expressed.

11. Any other business

- Adolescent Medicine:** Pierre-Andre Michaud reported on the MJC on adolescent medicine at UEMS and the proposed way forward and invited volunteers to contribute.
- Complex care:** Maria Brenner reported on the initiative with the plan to develop a position paper and to hold an EAP master class. She invited volunteers to contribute.
- EAP supported Guideline App:** BK reported as follows:
 - **Problem:** Evidence based guidelines often not well implemented
 - **Goal:** Key messages relevant for practical patient care condensed and shared by APP on handheld devices
 - **Done:** 1st. module celiac disease diagnosis and management developed and implemented (with 2 EU grants), 2nd. module parenteral nutrition to be launched shortly
 - **Requested:** Your suggestions on guidelines to be included, with messages for practice for broad groups of clinicians. Volunteers who wish to help developing short key messages (young EAP agreed already) => **please contact BK or the EAP office with suggestions!**

BK thanked all participants for their interest and contribution. The meeting was adjourned at 20.30 h.

Berthold Koletzko, Else-Kröner Seniorprofessor of Paediatrics
Chair, Secondary-Tertiary Care Council



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Annex 1: List of attendees

Annex 2: ESPN Board Examination in Paediatric Nephrology

Annex 1: List of attendees



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Name	Surname	Country
Karoly	Illy	Netherlands
Suleyman	Yildiz	Turkey
Wilhelm	Kaulfersch	Austria
Jiri	Bronsky	Czech Republic
Lukasz	Dembnski	Poland
Artur	Mazur	Polska
Berthold	Koletzko	Germany
Mujgan	Alikasifoglu	Turkey
De Guchte	Ann	Belgium
Lia	Syridou	Greece
Natasa	Toplak	Slovenia
Peter	Altorjai	Hungary
Hans Juerğ	Dornbusch	Austria
Liesbeth	Siderius	Netherlands
Lena	de Maiziere	Germany
Joana	Rios	Portugal
Mateja	Vintar Spreitzer	Slovenia
Dr Pravin	Sreedharan	United Kingdom
Maria Joac	Queiros Machado	Germany
Yackov	Berkun	Israel
Mark	Turner	United Kingdom
Rob	Ross Russell	United Kingdom
Stefano	Del Torso	Italy
Jordi	Anton	Pediatric Rheumatology
Aida	Mujkic	Croatia
Marina	Mamenko	Ukraine
Wyder	Corinne	Switzerland
Michaud	Pierre-Andre	Switzerland
Koray	Boduroglu	Turkey
Tom	Stiris	Norway
Chris	Pruunsild	Estonia
Maria	Gutu	Romania



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Annex 2:



ESPN Board Examination in Paediatric Nephrology

Aim

Evaluation of theoretical knowledge and clinical thinking in Pediatric Nephrology aiming at harmonizing minimal requirements for practicing Pediatric Nephrology in tertiary centers of Pediatric Nephrology in Europe.

Eligibility Criteria

A medical doctor who has successfully completed training according to the recommendations defined by 'European Training Requirements for Training in Paediatric Nephrology' of at least 3 years in general Paediatrics and has been trained in Pediatric Nephrology during a period of at least 24 months (preferably 36 months), or the equivalent part-time employment, are considered eligible.

Documents to be submitted for assessment of eligibility:

- 1) Copy of passport
- 2) Copy of MD certificate
- 3) Copy of certificate in General Paediatrics
- 4) Letter of Paediatric Nephrology Training Director confirming start and end dates of training in Paediatric Nephrology

ESPN educational committee evaluates the eligibility of candidates. Eligible candidates can register for examination using a registration link.

Examination content

Examination content covers all fields of Pediatric Nephrology. The number of questions per field are pre-defined by Educational Committee depending on importance of the field for practicing general Pediatric Nephrology. Questions are written by members of Educational Committee. Each question is validated by another member of Educational Committee, and by an independent Pediatric Nephrologist.

All members of Educational Committee got one full-day training by an educational expert on how to write clinical case based MCQs for board examinations.

Examination format

Online format. 100 MCQs (all clinical case based) with five possible answer options, from which one answer is correct (BO5 format). Duration of examination: 3 hours. Each candidate who has successfully registered for the examination gets a link to the examination platform which can be activated on the date and hour of examination. After 3 hours the link expires. The candidates can immediately see their scores. No guess correction is applied.

Examination platform was provided by Eskimo B.V.



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Pass Mark

Pass mark was pre-defined by the Educational Committee and was set at ~70% of correct answers. Based on the results of the examination Pass Mark was set at score above Mean – SEM. In 2020 the pass mark was >68.

Reporting to candidates

Educational Committee meets after the examination to discuss results and to agree on the final pass mark. After the meeting ESPN secretariat send 'pass or fail' email to candidates. Candidates who passed the examination received ESPN Board certificate.

Examination statistics 2020

- 129 applications, 17 non-eligible (mostly due to too short training period); 112 eligible candidates (Belgium 4, Canada 1, Croatia 2, Denmark 1, Germany 6, Finland 1, France 2, Greece 2, Hong Kong 2, India 2, Iraq 1, Italy 8, Jordan 1, Kuwait 1, Lebanon 1, Malaysia 5, The Netherlands 3, Oman 1, Palestine 2, Poland 2, Portugal 1, Qatar 3, Russia 1, Saudi Arabia 4, Serbia 1, Singapore 1, Spain 18, USA 3, Tunisia 2, Turkey 26, UA 1, UK 1)
- 112 candidates registered for online examination, 111 participated, 92 submitted the examination, 79 candidates passed (71 % of those who participated)