



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

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

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## UEMS SECTION OF MEDICAL GENETICS

[www.uems-genetics.org](http://www.uems-genetics.org)



October 23rd, 2025

Dear National Delegates, dear colleagues,

This newsletter seeks to give you an update on the activities of UEMS Section since the last newsletter and our meeting in May, and as a preparation for our discussions at the upcoming section meeting.

**The Section meeting** will take place as an online meeting on **November 11 at 3:30 pm CET**. The link should be in your calendar. The agenda has already been circulated and is also attached to this newsletter for your convenience. As previously, we will be circulating written reports or news in this newsletter from our different committees and representatives before the meeting whenever possible. This is to keep the reporting at the meeting very short and allow more time for discussion.

**European Certificate of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ECMGG) exam 2025:** The European Union of Medical Specialists Section of Medical Genetics (UEMS SMG) has been offering this examination for medically qualified Geneticists in collaboration with EBMG and ESHG for over 5 years. The ECMGG is intended to be the main knowledge-based assessment tool for Clinical / Medical Genetics and Genomics training across Europe, establishing world class-leading standards in the specialty throughout all European countries. The exam cycle 2025 is now successfully finished. A total of 20 new colleagues can now call themselves holders of the ECMGG.

**European Certificate of Medical Genetics and Genomics exam 2026:** The preparations are well underway for 2026. Final question setting groups for the MCQ exam will have met by the end of October, which will be followed by the second line question review and standard setting. Registration opened on October 1<sup>st</sup> and has already generated considerable interest. The exam in 2026 will take place ONLINE, in two stages. The multiple choice component will be held On April 20, 2026. Those passing the MCQ component will take the Short Oral Assessment on June 5, 2026. Registration for the ECMGG closes on January 15, 2026. Priority will be given to candidates from UEMS member countries.

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The ECMGG Workshop 2026 will take place in Strasbourg in March 2025, hosted by Dr Alain Verloes. This will include exam training, calibration of the oral exam and question setting. Please find further information, including access to the relevant documents and application process, on the website <https://www.uems-ecmgg.org>.

Clinical geneticists who are interested in being examiners for the ECMGG, particularly for the oral exam, are encouraged to contact Dr Laura Polsler ([Laura.Polsler@uzbrussel.be](mailto:Laura.Polsler@uzbrussel.be)).

**European Board of Medical Genetics, EBMG:** The close collaboration with our clinical laboratory geneticist and genetic counselor colleagues is still ongoing. The main topic, as always, is how to secure high standards of care for our patients and how to aid the recognition of the three professions throughout Europe. Another hot topic for this year is the recognition and the development of the genetic bioinformatician profession. In Gothenburg we will again have a Get2gether session to be held at the ESHG Conference, on Monday, June 15, 2026, 12:15–13:15. The focus will be on certification, starting with the ECMGG. The Get2gether sessions are open to all interested. The name is sometimes a source of confusion - please consider attending and spread the word that the Get2gether is open to all.

**The Thematic Federation of Medical Ethics:** There has been one online meeting of the Thematic federation since the last UEMS-SMG meeting. Dr. Susanne E. Boonen and Prof. Andrew Green participated on behalf of our section. A draft mission statement was presented, as well as a draft syllabus for medical ethics and a proposal for a common ethical syllabus for all sections of UEMS to consider. It was discussed whether UEMS should respond to the ethical aspects of the European Health Data Space. The specific issue is the secondary use of personal health data in this project, and the current lack of clarity about how persons can opt out of secondary use of their health data. The TFME chair is drafting a document to that effect.

Finally, the TFME also discussed a draft questionnaire to be circulated to UEMS sections and to national medical societies, to ask for views on the most pressing ethical issues in their area of practice, and to explore whether there is a uniformity in training across Europe and whether there is a need for further training.

**Revision of the European Training Requirements (ETR) for Medical Genetics:** We are starting the process of revising our ETR. Dr. Sarah Verheyen from Austria is heading the effort. For the next version, we need to develop Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs). In Austria, they have recently developed six such EPAs for Human Genetics, which could serve as a starting point for the EPAs to be integrated into our ETR. I believe that many of us will be presented with the task of including EPAs in our national training requirements in the next couple of years. Participating in the revision of the ETRs may serve as a preparation for this and a prime example of how our collaboration can support our national delivery of high-quality training for future colleagues. We all have the task of identifying national representatives who will work on the revision. Each country is encouraged to nominate a

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candidate. If a candidate is not nominated we ask that you make arrangements for another representative to serve on your behalf (for instance as a regional representative) to ensure that we have all national perspectives presented in the development.

**Thematic Federation for Legal and Forensic Medicine:** Our representative, Wouter te Rijdt and Andrew Green, report that no meetings have been held, but Dr John Firth has been elected chair.

**UEMS meeting in Tbilisi:** Dr. Karin Writzl and I attended the UEMS Autumn Meeting in Tbilisi in October 2025. During the meeting, ETRs for a range of other specialties were discussed, and all presented ETRs were approved. In the future, we will aim to add a comment in the preparatory process to the ETRs of most or all specialties, suggesting that genetics be included, referencing the previously developed document outlining key genetics topics relevant to all specialties.

At the meeting Dr. Serdar Ceylaner from our Section, who leads the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Rare and Undiagnosed Disease, presented the ambitious plans of this group, including defining common skill sets related to rare diseases for medical specialties, developing courses in rare disease for each of the clinical specialties, further development of their exam, production of video material, and more. It is clear that we need to devote time to determine how the work of this MJC intersects with initiatives from our sections and other rare disease organisations and institutions.

A guideline for appraisal and accreditation of postgraduate training centres has been developed and will be circulated for commenting shortly.

A draft charter and a survey of situation in the UEMS member countries on Continuing professional development (CPD) are underway.

The new working group regarding AI is discussing among others things, how to use AI in exam creation, what place AI should/could have in education of trainees, and a proposal for a common transversal part for every ETR.

Some specialties have already prepared the documents on AI already; these can be found on the UEMS website. The plan is to create a short paper with limits and opportunities — including the dangers for patients, doctors, and society — of AI, and to present it at the UEMS Congress in 2026.

The UEMS financial situation was also presented. The financial position is strong, now that the Domus Medica in Brussel is almost fully financed and generating income. Most income comes from EACCME and other activities. There is a wish to diversify sources of income by establishing a UEMS congress and perhaps a journal.

Other future projects planned are a Memberzone (log-in on the UEMS website with improved document storage, etc.), a fellowship project (a catalogue of individuals who have passed UEMS-affiliated exams, and possibly a place contact database) and the development of a charter to define and formalise the relationship between national specialty scientific societies and the UEMS.

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**1<sup>st</sup> UEMS Congress** : This conference will be taking place from 27–30 May 2026 in Leuven, Belgium. Abstract submission is open with a deadline January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested in participating as a mentor or mentee, or both, you may submit your application through the following link: [www.uems.eu/mentorship-initiative](http://www.uems.eu/mentorship-initiative). We encourage you all to register.

### Get involved:

- ECMGG exam group is always on the lookout for more qualified standard setters and examiners for the oral exam. Please reach out to Laura Pölsler should you or someone from your country be willing to participate.
- Make trainees in your country aware of the ECMGG exam
- Mark the dates for ESHG in Gothenborg next year, our section meeting is planned for Sunday, 14 June 2026, 14:30–17:00
- If you know of bioinformaticians in your country who are interested in participating in the development of the profession under the EBMG umbrella, please connect them to Angela Peron and me.
- If there is legislation in your country regarding AI in medicine/training, or if you know of position papers or similar documents, the working group on AI is interested in learning about it.
- Identify national representatives who will work on the revision of the ETR and EPAs under the leadership of Dr. Sarah Verheyen.

With kind regards, on behalf of the bureau

*Birgitte Rode Diness*

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*President, UEMS Section of Medical Genetics*