



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

Association internationale sans but lucratif

International non-profit organisation

RUE DE L'INDUSTRIE, 24

BE- 1040 BRUSSELS

www.uems.eu

T: +32 2 649 51 64

info@uems.eu

UEMS SECTION OF MEDICAL GENETICS

www.uems-genetics.org



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Dear National Delegates, dear colleagues,

This newsletter seeks to give you an update on the activities of UEMS Section since the production of last newsletter in November. As Ute Moog and Peter Turnpenny ended their term on January 1st, this is also the first newsletter prepared by the new bureau. If you notice any omissions, please forgive us and let us know about it, so that we can get it corrected before the General Assembly in Milan.

ECMGG (European Certificate of Medical Genetics and Genomics) exam 2025: The exam is now fully appraised by CESMA, the Council for European Specialists Medical Assessment. Sixty-two candidates are planning to sit the exam this year (MCQ part on April 28th and oral part on June 16th). This year the interest was even higher than last year which resulted in 11 candidates not being accepted. As was the case last year, registration was opened to candidates from UEMS countries before to candidates from the rest of the world and seats were allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. This procedure has been chosen to ensure that candidates from UEMS countries, where the exam is part of the specialist recognition process, are secured a place.

The running of this successful and high-quality exam is absolutely dependent on the goodwill and unpaid contribution of many question setters, standard setters, SOA examiners and exam board members. Thank you so much to everyone! The exam now runs at capacity also means that it has become financially viable with exam fees covering the exam platform, exam statistics, travel coast for exam setting group etc..

ECMGG Workshop: The annual ECMGG workshop, held in Zaragoza on March 18th-21st 2025, was generously hosted by Feliciano Ramos and was attended by 18 participants from 12 countries, 15 in person. It began on the afternoon of the 18th with a visit to the Zaragoza University HQ that hosts a beautiful statue of Dr. Cajal, recognizing this Zaragoza scholar's important contribution to science. Thanks to the financial support of the European Reference Network ITHACA, Wednesday was devoted to learning and reflection about the science of assessment, led by faculty members Jonathan Berg, Neill Harrison and Stephen Meldrum, all from the University of Dundee, Scotland, UK. The following 1.5 days were dedicated to the review of MCQs for the ECMGG 2026, prepared by the workshop attendees in advance and a formal Exam Committee meeting to discuss retrospectively all parts of the ECMGG 2024, the state of affairs of the ECMGG 2025 and general developments. The ECMGG Workshop 2026 will take place in Strasbourg in March 2025, hosted by Alain Verloes.

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European Board of Medical Genetics, EBMG: The close collaboration with our clinical laboratory geneticist and genetic counselor colleagues has continued during these months. The main topic is, as always, how to secure high standards of care for our patients and how to aid the recognition of the three professions throughout Europe. This will also be the topic of the second EBMG Get2Gether session to be held on Monday, 26th May at 12.15, at the ESHG Conference in Milan. For a while now lack of clarity about the distribution of funds and expenses among the three professional branches has taken up time but this is now resolved. Another topic that has received much recent discussion is how to recognise the development of the profession of the genetic bioinformatician.

The UEMS Section meeting which will take place as a hybrid meeting at the ESHG conference in Milan May 25 at 14:30 – 17:00 CET. You will have recently received the agenda. As previously, we intend to circulate written reports from our different committees and representatives before the meeting, in order to shorten the time for reporting during meeting and create more time for discussion. The meeting will also include a voting for section treasurer and section CESMA representative. Cristina Rusu and Feliciano Ramos have declared their willingness for renewal. Other candidates are asked to let themselves be known to the bureau before May 1st. After the Section Meeting we hope to also have a social event which will likely be a dinner at a nearby restaurant arranged by the conference host country representatives – more information will follow soon.

Get involved:

- For the EBMG Get2Gether in Milan, we are looking for examples of actions, small or big, that could inspire others, of what you have done locally or nationally that aids the recognition of the medical genetics professions. If you have such examples, please write me.
- We have the opportunity to send two representatives to the multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Immune-Mediated disease. Professor Serdar Ceylaner has volunteered before the deadline – thanks Serdar! – but should other delegates be interested please let us know.
- UEMS requests us to distribute this survey regarding medical confidentiality: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SurveyonMedicalConfidentialityanonymous>

Looking forward to meeting many of you at the ESHG Conference in Milan!

With kind regards, on behalf of the bureau

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President, UEMS Section of Medical Genetics