



# 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

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March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear National Delegates, dear colleagues,

This newsletter seeks to give you an update on the activities of UEMS Section of Medical Genetics of the last months.

The preparation for the **ECMGG (European Certificate of Medical Genetics and Genomics) exam 2024** (MCQ part on April 26 and oral part on June 17) is nearly finished and all briefing sessions for candidates and examiners have been scheduled. We are pleased to let you know that 60 candidates have registered for this year's exam, which was exactly the maximum of places we offered and unexpectedly increases the income of the Section. Whereas the number of European candidates is approximately stable over the last years, there is a considerable increase in candidates from non-European countries.

As discussed at the virtual Section Meeting in November 2023, we apply for a full appraisal of the exam 2024 by **CESMA**, the Council for European Specialists Medical Assessment. All related documents have been submitted to UEMS CESMA in time. CESMA has appointed two appraisers, but it is still unclear at the time of writing this newsletter, whether they will join both parts of the exam virtually or perhaps go for an on-site visit of CYIM on June 17.

The annual **ECMGG Workshop**, held in **Copenhagen on March 12-15, 2024**, and generously hosted by Birgitte Diness, was attended by 23 participants from 11 countries, among whom 5 young newcomers. It began on the 12th in the afternoon with an Explore Copenhagen Tour, guided by Birgitte and her colleague Tina, followed by a shared dinner. Thanks to the financial support of the European Reference Network ITHACA, a training day on MCQ writing and SOA (structured oral assessment) preparation followed, led by faculty members Jonathan Berg, Rob Jarvis and Bonnie Lynch, all from the University of Dundee, Scotland, UK. For the 1st time, this part of the workshop was also attended by a non-MD, a Clinical Laboratory Geneticist from Latvia. All attendees regarded the training day as particularly useful. The following 1.5 days were dedicated to the review of MCQs for the ECMGG 2025, prepared by the workshop attendees in advance, writing of SOAs for this year's exam, and a formal Exam Committee meeting to discuss retrospectively all parts of the ECMGG 2023, the state of affairs of the ECMGG 2024, and general developments. We aim at a closer cooperation with

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ITHACA and will tell you more about this development at the next Section meeting in Berlin. The ECMGG Workshop 2025 will take place in Zaragoza in March 2025 (host: Feliciano Ramos).

**Meetings and conferences in Brussels:** Feliciano Ramos and Karin Witzl attended the CESMA Meeting on December 08-09, 2023; Asbjørg Stray-Pedersen and myself the CME Conference on March 08-09, 2024; and Peter Turnpenny will represent the Section at the UEMS Council Meeting on April 26-27, 2024. More information will be given at the **next Section meeting** which will take place as a hybrid meeting at the ESHG conference in Berlin on **June 02, 2024, at 14:30 – 17:00 CET**. Peter Turnpenny has sent the draft agenda very recently, please let him and me know if you have further items for the agenda. As in November, we will circulate a number of written reports before the meeting, in order to keep the reporting at the meeting very short, to avoid running out of time and to have more time for discussion. The meeting also includes a voting for 4 of the 5 Bureau positions. Peter and I complete our terms of office as Secretary and President at the end of 2024 and will not seek renewal for a 2nd term. However, Feliciano Ramos as Vice-President, and Jonathan Berg as Chair of the Examination Committee, are ready to stand for a 2nd term. After the Section Meeting, we hope to offer a social event, probably a guided tour through a small museum and subsequent dinner at a nearby restaurant – more information will follow soon. The EBMG (European Board of Medical Genetics) with its three professional branches will again provide for a **Get2gether session at the ESHG Conference 2024**, to be held on June 03 at 12:15-13:15, entitled, “Medical Genetics Professionals: how can we fit future requirements?”, organized by Thomas Eggermann, CLG and member of the ESHG SPC, and myself. We hope that many of can join.

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

With kind regards

*Ute Moog*

Ute Moog

*President, UEMS Section of Medical Genetics*