



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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September 9th, 2024

Dear National Delegates, dear colleagues,

I hope you have been enjoying the holiday period and are all keeping well.

The following seeks to give you an update on the activities of UEMS Section of Medical Genetics since our Section meeting at the ESHG conference in Berlin on June 02, 2024.

The **Section meeting in June** was extremely well attended: 39 national delegates and 5 guests came together, 14 of whom participated online, representing in total 27 member countries. We are very glad about the attendance and grateful to so many for their contributions. The draft minutes of the Section meeting that you have received describe the breadth of topics that were discussed.

After the Section meeting, a group of delegates attended a guided tour of the Urban Nation Museum, followed by dinner at a nearby Italian restaurant – a social event appreciated by all attendees.

Two new **Bureau members** have been elected and will come into office on January 01, 2025: Birgitte Diness, Denmark, as President, and Karin Writzl, Slovenia, as Secretary. Jonathan Berg, UK, has been willing to serve a 2nd term as Chair of the Examination Committee, which was confirmed by vote. The vote for the Vice-President position was deferred pending information on the eligibility of the proposed candidate. As it is clear now that the current Vice-President Feliciano Ramos cannot go for another term due to longevity in this position, an electronic vote will be held in October, well before the next Section Meeting. You have received a call for nominations as well as information on the procedure. Nominations for Vice-President should reach Peter Turnpenny by September 13, 2024, at latest. The Treasurer's term of office (Cristina Rusu) continues until the end of 2025.

The oral part of the exam for the **ECMGG (European Certificate in Medical Genetics and Genomics) 2024** was delivered shortly after the ESHG conference, on June 17. As Jonathan Berg had reported in Berlin, 25 candidates had passed the written (MCQ) part in April, and of these, 23 sat the oral part (Structured Oral Assessments, SOAs) successfully. Technically,

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everything went very smoothly. The performance and results of the exam were approved by the Final Examination Board on June 25 which was also attended by a CESMA appraiser (see below). Meanwhile, electronic certificates have been sent out to successful candidates. The complete list of certificate holders is available at [ECMGG Holders \(uems-ecmgg.org\)](http://www.uems-ecmgg.org).

The preparation for the **ECMGG 2025** has already started and many questions have been written and reviewed at the ECMGG workshop in Spring in Copenhagen. Soon after the current holiday period, meeting times for the question writing groups will be fixed to prepare the rest of the questions. As last year, the registration for the exam will open on October 1st. The new Exam General Document and all information regarding the registration and examination will be available by then on the ECMGG website (www.uems-ecmgg.org) and be linked to the Section website (www.uems-genetics.org). It would be great if the number of paying candidates close to the maximum (60 places) could be reached again. Please help to promote the exam in your country, in particular among the group of young geneticists!

As discussed repeatedly, this year's exam is subject to a full appraisal by **CESMA**, the Council for European Specialists Medical Assessment. Brian Jacobs and Ambrogio Fassina, as the designated appraisers, joined all key meetings online, including the MCQ and the SOA exam. At the time of writing, the result of the appraisal process is still pending.

The secretarial and management tasks of the Section have been growing considerably, in particular the work related to the exam. We are more than grateful to Laura Pölsler for her commitment to the secretariat of the Examination Committee, including countless emails with the candidates and the extra burden caused this year by the application for the CESMA appraisal. Fortunately, she and the Secretary of the Section will be supported soon by Marianne le Dref who is the principal manager in charge of the communication in ERN ITHACA, and now helps in organising the exam and other tasks in consultation with Alain Verloes.

Currently, two **publications** about major achievements of the Section during the last years are in preparation. A paper on the ECMGG exam is being written under the lead of Peter Turnpenny and Jonathan Berg, and a second on the revision of the ETR for Medical Genetics headed by Johannes Zschocke and myself. The plan is to submit them together to the European Journal of Human Genetics.

Peter and I will attend the UEMS Council on your behalf in mid-October in Brussels and we will report on the proceedings. It will be our final Council meeting as we prepare to hand over to Birgitte and Karin. This is also my final Newsletter, but I look forward to joining with many of you at the **next Section meeting**, which will take place virtually on **November 21**,

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2024, at 16:00 – 18:30 CET – please save the date. The agenda will be circulated two months in advance, if you have items for the agenda please let Peter and me know.

With kind regards

Ute Moog

Ute Moog

President, UEMS Section of Medical Genetics