

E.A.N.A.

EUROPÄISCHE ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT DER NIEDERGELASSENEN ÄRZTE
EUROPEAN WORKING GROUP OF PRACTITIONERS AND SPECIALISTS IN FREE PRACTICE
GROUPEMENT EUROPÉEN DES MÉDICINS EN PRATIQUE LIBRE

Minutes of the E.A.N.A. meeting held in Dublin from 19-20 November 2011

present:

President	Dr. Jörg Pruckner	Switzerland	Dr. Yves Guisan
Belgium	Dr. Roland Lemye	Slovakia	Dr. Ladislav Pasztor
Germany	Dr. Kerstin Jäger Dr. Regina Biesenecker	Slovenia	Dr. Gordana Kalan Zivcec
France	Dr. Michel Chassang	Spain	Dr. André Bolliger Dr. Olga Garcia Gómez Dr. Nelly Albesa-Caro Gemma Albesa
Ireland	Dr. William J. Lynch Dr. Lynda Hamilton Claire Camilleri	Czech Republic	absent with excuse
Luxemburg	absent with excuse	Hungary	Dr. Ferenc Hajnal Dr. Renata Papp
Austria	Dr. Josef Lohninger	UK	Dr. Michael Paul
Portugal	absent with excuse	Guests	Dr. Neil Brennan Dr. Ronan Boland
Romania	absent with excuse	Reporter	Mag. Nathalie Holzer
Sweden	Dr. Ilona Barnard		

Absent with excuse: Dr. Max Zollner, Dr. Gunar Welander

E.A.N.A. President Dr. Pruckner welcomes all participants, in particular Dr. Gordana Kalan Zivcec (Slovenia) and Dr. Michael Paul (UK) who participate in the meeting as guests. The minutes of last meeting held in Luxembourg are unanimously accepted and the present agenda is discussed. The presentation of Dr. Ronan Boland, the Irish guest speaker of the autumn meeting, is scheduled for Saturday ("Practising medicine with reduced resources"). The agenda is amended with respect to the date of the Luxembourg meeting (May). This is followed by an overview of the programme of the meeting, as well as of the social programme planned by the Irish Medical Organisation.

1. President's report

In his report, Dr. Pruckner gives a review of the events and objectives of the individual international organizations (AEMH, UEMS, FEMS, PWG, EFMA/WHO, WMA). Dr. Gordana Kalan Zivcec in her capacity of Vice-President of the CEOM reports on the activities of the CEOM.

Dr. Ferenc Hajnal reports that the Hungarian organization will assume the UEMO presidency, and that for this reason, restructuration took place, in order to be able to cope with this mandate.

France, respectively the “Confédération des Syndicats Médicaux Français” is warmly welcomed as new E.A.N.A. member.

In his report, Dr. Pruckner also gives an account of:

- European Commission's **evaluation of Directive 2005/36/EC on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications**
- Information of the public on prescription medicines – advertising advances by the pharmaceutical industry
- Improvements in Pharmacovigilance in Europe
- Guidelines of the initiative “Arznei und Vernunft” (available only in German, may be ordered on request)

Dr. Pruckner reads the farewell-letter from Ms Leutloff-Simons who will no longer participate in the E.A.N.A. meetings and wishes all the best for the future of the organisation.

In addition, Dr. Pruckner reports shortly on the EMOs meeting which took place on 31 Oct. following the PWG meeting in Amsterdam, and in which participated as E.A.N.A. representative. At present, there is much distrust among the EMOs, however, it can be expected that the „Domus medica“ will improve the situation.

Dr. Claude Schummer, in his capacity of E.A.N.A. Secretary General, will participate in the forthcoming EMO meeting which will take place together with the next CEOM meeting on 2nd December in Paris (unfortunately, Dr. Claude Schummer, was prevented from attending shortly before the present meeting).

Dr. Lyam Lynch presents Mr Neil Brennan, head of the Committee of international affairs of the Irish Medical Organisation who warmly welcomes all participants as host.

Alliance of EMOs

There is unanimous agreement that, if an alliance was to be created, it would be important for the E.A.N.A. to participate therein. However, this would increase the costs of participation in the individual meetings considerably, which is not justifiable considering the present state of the budget.

If this alliance was actually founded, a solution must be found which takes into consideration the personality of each individual organization, so that it will be guaranteed that organizations will be able to finance their activities.

It is decided that the E.A.N.A. – as far as possible - will continue to participate in the meetings in assuming the role of a liaison organization, not least because of the fact that personal meetings, at present, are the only way of preventing misunderstandings. The President and/or the Secretary General will continue to represent E.A.N.A. issues at the meetings.

In addition it is decided to draft a common resolution on this issue during the meeting.

Treasurer's report

Dr. Roland Lemye, the treasurer, reports on the present financial situation of the E.A.N.A.,-the present actual balance would require the membership fees to be raised by 10%.

The Romanian fee of € 500 is still due and Dr. Renata Papp reports that Dr. Serban has lost his position within the Board of the Romanian Association. The termination of the membership is being considered,- if the situation in Romania should change, Dr. Serban would have the possibility of applying for re-admission at any time.

The member countries in principle agree that at present, it does not seem reasonable to raise membership fees, and that instead, efforts should be made to attract new members.

In this respect, the President asks Dr. Renata Papp to make use of her contacts for the purpose of gaining new members.

Dr. Ilona Barnard reports about a “Nordic meeting” where Finland, Norway and Denmark will be represented.

It is decided to increase the fees by 5% on condition that new members will be admitted.

President Dr. Pruckner points out that the costs of meetings, if possible, shall not exceed € 3000, and that in the future, this shall be taken into consideration in the planning (conference rooms and catering).

**Female doctors in the self-employed sector –
presentation by Dr. Ilona Barnard and Dr. Olga Garcia Gomez (see enclosure)**

After the presentation, each member country has the possibility to report on the present national situation.

As the term feminization has a rather negative connotation, it is decided to abandon it in the future.

It is decided to establish a working group on this topic, headed by Dr. Yves Guisan. The President asks Dr. Guisan to draft relevant questions and to forward them to the members (cc secretariat).

Recertification – Dr. Andre Bolliger

The proposal to put this topic on the agenda is due to the specific situation in Spain. At present, the conditions for exercising the profession on a private basis there are difficult.

In his presentation, Dr. Bolliger reports on several specific problems:

- In the case of cross-border provision of medical care, German patients in particular have no possibility to be reimbursed
- The public health care system lacks doctors
- “rapid recognition” of professional qualifications of third-country doctors (in this context Dr. Lynch points out that the UEMO has adopted a statement according to which every patient has the right to be treated by a qualified doctor). Often, they are preferred to Spanish doctors, although approx. 5000 private, self-employed doctors are available in the national system.

The so-called “mestos” constitute another unused potential: a considerable number of doctors having qualified outside the national system. Often, they are not recognized, because they have not accomplished the regular academic education.

The following discussion deals with the idea of adopting an E.A.N.A. resolution concerning these problems.

Dr. Lynch suggests that the legal situation should be clarified before making a statement.

It is decided to put this topic on the agenda of the forthcoming meeting. Until then, the information should be available allowing the E.A.N.A. to possibly make a statement on the mentioned problems.

Task shifting

The President thanks for the understanding that it will not be possible to deal with the issue as extensively as foreseen.

He draws the attention to an alarming trend in Sweden where nursing personnel should be authorized in the future to carry out interventions.

Dr. Barnard is asked to find out in how far this is correct, and - if this is the case – if this development is or was supported by the Swedish Medical Association.

It is decided that the E.A.N.A. will draft a statement on task shifting at the next meeting.

Medical statistics at a glance – presentation by Dr. Lohninger (see enclosure)

The topic was already dealt with in Luxembourg and Dr. Lohninger presents a second interim report.

He points out the problem of inadequate/insufficient data, and that “Eurostat” is the only reasonable website, although this database, too, is not 100% correct.

Until now, little feed-back was received partly at short notice, so that he was unable to include it into his presentation.

As there shall be another presentation of this topic in Gibraltar, the member countries are kindly asked to forward exact figures to Dr. Lohninger in time.

Practising medicine with reduced resources – presentation Dr. Ronan Boland (see enclosure)

Dr. Ronan Boland is (outgoing) GP Committee Chairman of the IMO.

Prevention – presentation by Dr. Kerstin Jäger (see enclosure)

This survey aims at scrutinizing the prevention situation in the individual countries and in defining the concept of ideal secondary prevention.

The results of the survey shall be laid down in a statement on optimum prevention. Therefore, all countries are kindly asked to provide all information available (unless they have not done it by now) on:

- Immunizations and vaccinations calendar
- Maternal care
- Paediatric care
- Gynaecological care
- Health checks

Statement on electronic prescribing

The President informs about a planned statement on electronic prescribing of medicines for chronic patients which should be valid all over Europe. This resolution draft shall be presented and adopted at the next CPME meeting (see enclosure). He reads the most important sections and asks the participants about their opinion and whether it is reasonable to support this resolution.

There is unanimous agreement that the E.A.N.A. will continue to deal with this topic.

At the next meeting, Dr. Pruckner will report on the results and the procedure to take.

Statement Stockholm – revision (see enclosure)

The statement enclosed, adopted at the Stockholm meeting in 2000, is re-confirmed (with the exception of the 2nd passage) and can be considered to supplement the one of Luxembourg.

A statement on the Directive on prescription medicines shall be prepared at the meeting to be held in Gibraltar. A working group consisting of Dr. Lynch and Dr. Lemye will be established, who will prepare information.

Resolution-EMOs (see enclosure)

A statement is adopted which shall serve as foundation for future cooperation and which shall be sent to all EMOs after the meeting.

National reports (see enclosures)

It is decided to forward the national reports only electronically in the future, and to present the main topics during the meeting (these short reports shall not exceed 2-5 minutes).

If a topic deserves discussion, there is the possibility of putting it on the agenda.

Please request national report directly from the member countries, unless enclosed.

There is, of course, the possibility of giving longer presentations, if needed.

Miscellaneous

- **Pin**

Please forward your orders to the secretariat, the pins (or the buttons) will be sent to the individual countries, or brought to the next meeting.

- **Election of the President**

The elections are due in 2011; the acting President points out that the E.A.N.A. secretariat is always bound to the country of the president. Therefore, candidates should have adequate human and local resources.

- **Spring meeting 2011**

The next meeting will be held in Gibraltar from 27-28 May (see enclosure).

- **Autumn meeting**

Dr. Kerstin Jäger proposes Halle/Saale as venue for the autumn meeting of 2011. The exact date remains to be fixed.

Meeting closed at: 20 November 2010

Nathalie Holzer reporting for the President