



# EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL Meeting

On: Thursday, 13 May 2014, Geneva, Switzerland

### Minutes

#### 1. Apologies and Welcome (Nica Cappellini)

Nica thanked the Swiss Society for organising this meeting and welcoming EFIM at the European and Swiss Congress of Internal Medicine, ESCIM in Geneva. Nica welcomed the members of the Administrative Council in Geneva and announced the names of the AC members who sent their apologies:

- Said Taharboucht, Rachid Malek - Algerian Society of Internal Medicine;
- Markus Peck-Radosavljevic, Ernst Pilger and Herbert Watzke - Austrian Society of Internal Medicine;
- Lenka Bosanska - Czech Society of Internal Medicine/DGIM;
- Marit Graner, Kimmo Kontula, Kim Pettersson-Fernholm and Risto Kaaja - Finnish Society of Internal Medicine;
- Ulrich R. Fölsch, Petra-Maria Schumm-Draeger - German Society of Internal Medicine;
- Sotirios Raptis, Nicholas Katsilambros - Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine
- Giorgio Vescovo, Dario Manfellotto - FADOI Italy;
- Gino Roberto Corazza - Italian Society of Internal Medicine;
- Virginijus Sapoka - Lithuanian Society on Internal Medicine;
- Joseph Azzopardi - Association of Physicians of Malta;
- Andrej Dukat, Ivica Lazurova - Slovakian Society of Internal Medicine;
- Radovan Hojs - Slovenian Society of IM
- Juan José Justado Ruiz-Capillas, Jordi Casademont Pou - Spanish Society of Internal Medicine;
- Verena Briner - Swiss Society of General Internal Medicine;
- Bruno Fouqueray - Amgen Switzerland;
- Sophia De Rooij - Dutch Society of Internal Medicine;

**Present:** Please find list of attendees attached

#### 2. Minutes of the Administrative Council Meeting, Prague 2 October (N Cappellini)

Minutes from EFIM Administrative council meeting held in Prague on 2 October 2013 were approved by the members of the Administrative Council.

**3. EFIM activities: European Medicines Agency EMA, European Commission expert group on rare diseases, ACP**

Nica gave short overview on the numerous activities where EFIM is actively involved.

**- European Medicines Agency EMA - Daniel Sereni**

EFIM is officially recognised as a Healthcare Professional Organisation. As such EFIM is invited to participate at EMA's different activities. EFIM representatives are Daniel Sereni and Lorenzo Dagna who are involved in the Healthcare Professionals Working Group. EMA keeps EFIM informed about important warning concerning safety that is circulated to the national societies and on specific issues like shortage in certain medicine.

**- European Commission expert group on rare diseases - Lorenzo Dagna**

The European Commission has recently created Commission of Experts group who will advise the Commission on the activities in the Rare Diseases field. Lorenzo Dagna and Nica Cappellini are representing EFIM in this Expert Group. Lorenzo attended the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Expert Group in Luxembourg, February 2014, taking part in the discussions with other scientific societies. Such EFIM activity will set up new objectives for EFIM Rare Diseases WG and will significantly increase the role of EFIM in Europe.

**- ACP - Frank Bosh**

Frank informed the AC members on EFIM future collaboration with ACP and introduced Smart Medicine. ACP is keen to offer Smart Medicine to EFIM members for a reduced price of 95\$ per member.

- Another possibility is to make ACP available to every internist in Europe.

- Additional suggestion is to use the expertise from European internists and integrate them in the Smart Medicine.

- EFIM is working together with ACP to make Smart Medicine available through EFIM website.

One more application that can be useful to European internists is Maxapp, which is currently available to the members of SGIM. There are existing discussions with ACP on the possibilities of making Maxapp available to all EFIM members in the near future.

**4. EFIM Website development - launch new EFIM website (R Duckitt )**

Roger announced the launch of new EFIM website inviting all the members to register. The website went live on 11 May, including new platform, integrating many websites to take information from. Key objectives of EFIM website are: Increase Website usage & raise profile of EFIM

- \* User registration, database and private area
- \* Link to the European Journal of Internal Medicine
- \* Link to Case Report Journal
- \* Educational Resources incl. ESIM and News
- \* Information and advertising for Conferences
- \* Subspecialty news

Articles to be posted and added will be included shortly. Roger stated that registration is the most important item for EFIM to build their own data base. He presented to the AC members the few steps to be followed for creating new account, following registration as a user, and receiving email filling profile. There

are currently 25 new users registered. Key point to the new website is access to the journal, which still has some glitches but it's workable. Roger talked about App instant polls, quick questions poll, coming back with answers within 2 - 3 days and informed the members that the website is offering lots of fantastic opportunities. Roger invited the members to visit EFIM booth and discover EFIM new website. Frank added that in the coming weeks, newsletter will be circulated with EFIM website guidelines.

## **5. UEMS & EBIM project (Rijk Gans & Werner Bauer)**

Rijk Gans presented the UEMS & EBIM project. European Societies and UEMS discussed increased cooperation on 1 March. The scientific society agreed to come up with a template for Memorandum of Understanding which should be done between UEMS Sections and European Scientific Societies identifying and recognizing Sections and Societies' respective competence to prevent overlapping and duplicated work. EFIM was invited to identify the domains and group of diseases for which networks could be created.

UEMS & EBIM held a Meeting in Kusnacht, Switzerland on 1 - 2 March which was very successful. Rijk presented the members from the selected Working Groups which include 3 representatives from EFIM, 3 representatives from UEMS and 2 Young Internists. One more member from Eastern Europe will be involved. The goal is to create the Core curriculum in Internal Medicine. Rijk invited anyone with the expertise on this subject to join the discussion.

The objectives are:

- define core competencies,
- define procedures,
- define foundation years for subspecialty,
- define milestones,
- define assessment during training,
- define European exams - CESMA,
- define schedule.

There are three scenarios: Internal Medicine training and qualifications, Internal Medicine and subspecialty training with qualification in both, Common trunk in Internal Medicine for subspecialty training.

Curriculum should reflect the increasing need for general, integrative care of the acutely ill patient in the hospital setting and the chronic patient in the outpatient setting. Strategy is to have the paper published in EJIM European guidance for training.

Forecasted timeline of the work is two years.

- Draft after two meetings
  - Meet with representatives of national societies (early 2015)
- Aim for approval by the UEMS Council at the meeting in October of 2015

Nica congratulated Rijk on the well-organized timeline and added that examples should be taken from the Hematology, Rheumatology societies.

Nica requested comments to be sent to EFIM secretariat and pointed out that EFIM is very lucky to have internist at the UEMS.

## **6. EFIM Bylaws proposed changes and appointment of Jan Willem Elte for the Associate Secretary position**

Pedro presented the proposed changes to EFIM Bylaws introducing EFIM EC members - different nationalities, and the procedures in case of tied vote.

The following has been proposed:

- *The Executive Committee consists of a President, a Vice President who is the President Elect, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, **who should be of different nationalities**, and two additional members. The Past-President and representative(s) of the Young Internists are non-voting members of the Executive Committee. Any official documents of the Federation can be signed by two members of the Executive Committee, one of whom must be the President or the Secretary.*
- *In the case where the same number of votes is cast for the two final candidates, there should be a further vote by the delegates present at the meeting. In the event of a further tied vote, the decision would be by a ballot among the voting members of the Executive (President, Vice-President who is the President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and two ordinary members) excluding any member of the Executive who is a candidate. If the decision is still tied, the President will make the final decision on the choice between the two candidates.*  
AC members approved the proposed changes to EFIM By-laws anonymously.

Furthermore Pedro expressed his gratitude for Jan Willem's great support in assisting him as EFIM Secretary General and specified the importance for the federation of having Jan Willem on board as Associate Secretary. AC members approved Jan Willem Elte for the Association Secretary position.

#### **7. Call for subcommittee members - results (N Cappellini)**

Nica presented EFIM subcommittees and selected members. The subcommittee chairs will report to the Executive Committee. Following committees were listed: Communications, ESIM, ECIM and EU Affairs. EFIM Research Subcommittee was established during the EC meeting nominating Ramon Pujol as the chair. Nica added that other members will be involved in the Research subcommittee and invited AC members to send applications to the secretariat. Nica recommended to the selected subcommittee members who are attending the congress to meet with their chairs. Chris indicated the importance of having strong structure, involving other members of the societies. Concise guidelines for the subcommittees work will be published on EFIM website soon.

#### **8. EJIM (K Grundy) & EJCRIM (S Malosio)**

##### **EJIM**

Karena presented the progress on EJIM informing the AC members on the 20% growth in submission comparing to 2013. The highest increase in submission comes from US and UK, and fewer submissions from France and the Netherlands. Production time has decreased to 3,7 weeks, publishing it on the web within 3 weeks. In 2014, 4 issues out of 10 gradually going towards becoming monthly publication. EJIM is accessible for over 7,540 libraries and institutions, of which 4,238 are actively downloading. The average use is increasing. 25% of the reads are from US, 20 from Asia and 35% readers are from Europe. Karena promoted the Clinical key which is the world's first clinical insight engine. The latest news is the EJINME access for all the national societies' members available through EFIM website. The announcement was warmly received by the AC members. Journal is now available to all members. Karena asked the AC members to pick up flyers and to actively promote EJINME among their societies' members. Nica thanked Karena on the success of EJIM and the revenue that EFIM is receiving from the journal. Frank congratulated Karena on the great work she has done with

the website development. Faustino announced to the AC members EFIM will generate small revenue from the EJIM for the first time.

### **EJCRIM**

Silvia Malosio presented the results of EJCRIM, five months after launching the journal. The aim of the journal is to provide a forum to internal medicine doctors for the description of interesting cases. It is a learning tool for YI. Free access is available through EFIM and EJCRIM website. The objectives were to receive at least 100 manuscripts per year, with a short peer-review time and 20% yearly increase in submissions. After 5 months 51 manuscripts were submitted of which 18 were accepted, 24 rejected, and 4 are pending. Italy has the highest number of submissions followed by Turkey and India. All the published articles are available on Google Scholar.

Case reports are no longer published in EJIM but are redirected to EJCRIM. Internal and Emergency Medicine (Journal of the Italian Society of Internal Medicine) agreed to direct authors of case reports to EJCRIM.

Promotion at congresses is very active, Promotion at the societies is in progress, some with pending responses.

Facebook page has been opened to target the YI as well as LinkedIn account with the aim to create a community. Silvia pointed out that EJCRIM should recruit further editors and is looking for submission of interesting and complex cases. Submission on emerging topics are welcome. Ramon congratulated Silvia and added that EFIM can be very proud of both journals.

### **9. ESIM Report Winter School 2014 outcome (N Cappellini)**

Nica gave presentation on the results from ESIM Winter School which was hosted in Saas - Fee, Switzerland for the 4<sup>th</sup> time. Nica congratulated Verena Briner for her fantastic work and the achievements for ESIM done in the past years.

Unfortunately Verena was not able to join the AC meeting. Nica informed the AC members that YI from 18 different countries and speakers from 8 countries attended the school. Nica emphasised that the atmosphere was great followed by a very good team and fascinating programme at the same time congratulating Philippe Jaeger for being a great lecturer. Still, some of the residents supported by the national societies were not aware of EFIM. 3 CPC was most loved lecture, followed by Case presentation as a second most liked lecture.

Regrettably some of the social activities had to be cancelled due to bad weather.

### **10. ESIM winter 2015 (I Ruza)**

Ieva Ruza presented the progress of ESIM 2015 winter school to take place in Riga, Latvia from 25 - 31 January 2015. She mentioned that Riga is very easy to reach from many different European cities. The school will contain the same format. Programme will be mixture of scientific and social. There is a slight increase to the registration fee due to the VAT. Prof. Aivars Lejnics is the director of the school, following Verena Briner and Margus Lember as Co - directors. Ieva Ruza will manage the school secretariat. The school will take place at the Welton Elephant hotel located in Riga which offers different meeting possibilities and accommodation in single or twin rooms. There will be possibilities for an amusing social programme. Ieva informed the AC members that the communication will be circulated to all national societies after the congress. More detailed information will be published on EFIM website shortly.

### **11. ESIM Summer School 2014 (N Montano)**

Nicola Montano informed the AC members on the progress of the ESIM Summer School. The school will take place in Hotel Flamingo, Santa Margherita di Pula in Cagliari, Sardinia, from 14 -21 June 2014. Programme is almost ready. The school will maintain the general format of the previous very successful courses, with lectures, workshops, case presentations actively involving the students. He introduced Richard Smith, the Editor of Jama and former Editor of British Medical Journal who will be the faculty of the school and will be in charge of the “Less is more section”. 41 applications have been received from different countries. Nicola believe this will increase the visibility of ESIM initiative and will continue to maintain ESIM School as a unique experience.

### **12. Generalists and Specialists Meeting (R Pujol)**

Ramon informed the AC members that the Generalists and Specialists projects is put on hold due to the uncertain future with the new management company MCI.

### **13. Adult Vaccination Project (S Unal)**

Serhat presented the progress of ADVICE project and introduced the members of the WG. The primary aim of the project is to document the current adult vaccination practices and reimbursement strategies in the member countries of EFIM.

The second aim is to increase the awareness and to implement European practice guidelines on adult vaccination. The project is divided in 6 parts:

1. General epidemiology of vaccine preventable diseases in adults in Europe A pilot study was completed in a single centre among internal medicine residents in Turkey.
2. Doctor awareness and compliance data (Questionnaire 1).
3. Patient perception data (Questionnaire 2).
4. Adult vaccination across national health care systems (Questionnaire 3).
5. Education programs
6. European adult vaccination guideline

Survey which was carried out during the ESIM summer school in Turkey was presented and will be circulated among the EFIM member countries. Serhat and Mine invited AC members to be actively involved in the ADVICE project and provide their thoughts and contributions. Serhat drew attention to the raise of awareness. The ADVICE project will be published on EFIM website shortly.

### **14. Upcoming congresses: Moscow 2015 (V Kokorin), 2016 (P Conthe, F Bosch)**

#### **Moscow 2015 (V Kokorin)**

Presentation was given Anatoly Martynov, and Valentin Kokorin. Congress will take place at Crokus Expo center between 13 and 16 October. Website will be open in May 2014 following the Geneva congress. Timeline for the congress was presented with the following timeframe:

- Website opening and start of registration - May 2014
  - Preliminary scientific program - October 2014
  - Request names of Abstract Reviewers from EFIM National Society Members - September 2014
  - Abstract submission deadline and finalized programme - May 2015
  - Abstract decisions e-mailed to authors - June 2015
  - End of early registration - mid August 2015
- Congress will be actively promoted on different events, website and medical congresses. Valentin presented the potential social events - river Cruz, ballet show, sightseeing tours and invited all AC members to spread the word welcoming them to the EFIM 2015 congress.

### **EFIM Congress 2016**

Frank introduced the idea to the AC members on the decision taken to organise ECIM 1<sup>st</sup> congress by EFIM. The first congress will be smaller, involving EFIM cooperative activities, by asking the national societies presidents to be involved in the reviewing of the abstracts. Nica asked the possibilities on adding the expertise on the website. Johannes Koebberling strongly objected to this decision due to chain of unsuccessful congresses in the past. Nica reassured the AC members that the federation has grown intensely in the past years and it is worth trying to organise EFIM own congress. Erdal Akalin agreed with Nica's ideas indicating the importance of holding Internal medicine event in Europe. Dicker Dror specified the implication of increasing EFIM visibility by organising EFIM congress. Daniel added that there is a lot of work done and the progress has been made to make this decision possible. Things are changing, industry is investing less than before. Gaspoz gave an example on the received support from the national pharmaceutical company for the organisation of the Geneva congress. The pharmaceutical company sponsored ESCIM congress with higher support once they realised that the congress is international. Pedro encouraged the possibility of organising ECIM. Eleni Boutati added that this event will present an umbrella for all the national societies. Ramon specified that we have to support the decision, proposing to promote research which will make EFIM more attractive to the pharmaceutical companies. Promote the research as a flagships and prime subject of the congress. Johannes objected to this decision and advised the EC members to carefully measure this project before the decision is taken. Johannes proposed universities and not expensive venues to be used. Roger doesn't share Johannes opinion but he stated that it is important to think about the objectives like insurance companies that compensate the healthcare and think about other topics. Antonio Baptista added that it is very important to convince that internal medicine in Europe is an important brand. It is imperative to have Germany, the Netherlands, France, Portugal and Spain on board to have this even successful.

### **15. Clinical Research Course 2014 (D Sereni)**

Daniel gave brief presentation on the Clinical Research course to take place in Paris from 7 - 9 July. Daniel informed the members that 40 applications from 17 countries have been received. Selection is in progress to identify 17 candidates who will follow the course. The Clinical Research course is sponsored by Amgen.

## 16. FDIME Report (D Sereni)

Daniel continued briefing the AC members on the activities of the Foundation in 2014.

6 YI were supported by FDIME to participate in the ESIM Winter and ESIM summer school. ESIM Bursaries are given to the countries with lower income who cannot afford to send any resident. The Foundation supports the Clinical Research Seminar and the YI exchange programme. Research grants for the study of Rare Diseases were offered by the Foundation. However the quality were not up to the expectations, judged by the selection committee, therefore there is new call opened and the grants will be given at the end of the year. To raise these funds, FDIME organised benefits concerts. The following one will take place in Zurich, in October 2014.

## 17. Young internists (C Araujo)

Carla gave the presentation on YI activities. The aim is to build together the future of internal medicine in Europe. The secretary and the chair are involved in EFIM Executive Committee to be able to learn, share experience, observe.

List of YI members were presented. YI will be electing two new members (candidates from Turkey and from Switzerland). YI group grow immensely in the past year, showing the progress of the activities from the very first YI assembly to the one in Prague. Research project is one of the goals from YI, YI day was presented, and the planned programme for the Geneva YI day. YI Switzerland will present their activities, finishing with a keynote lecture.

The representatives from YI who are actively involved in EFIM WG, subcommittees, ESIM and other activities were mentioned.

## 18. Exchange Programme (C Araujo)

Carla presented the progress of the Exchange group which is EFIM new flag with Pedro Conthe as the chair of the group. **EFIM and FDIME will sponsor 20 scholarships** of €600, which number could be increased at the discretion of and sponsoring by the National Society. The objectives of the Exchange group are to learn about: The main differences between the two countries in terms of Health Care Systems and the main differences in the management of a particular topic or illness in both. Carla informed the AC members that 5 candidates from the Netherlands were sent of whom two will be supported by FDIME and three by EFIM. Examples from the report of the residents were presented. Carla thanked the Executive Committee members for all the support given to grow this programme and make it successful. Chris proposed to encourage all the residents from the Exchange programme and the YI to register to EFIM new website and follow EFIM activities. Pedro added the importance of evaluating the procedure for the Exchange programme, providing support with the administrative side.

## 19. Next AC Meeting Estonia 26 - 27 September (Margus Lember)

Margus Lember presented the progress of the upcoming AC meeting to take place in the city centre of Tartu in Estonia. The meeting will take place from Thursday 25 September to Saturday 27 September combining the Conference of the Estonian Society of Internal medicine on polymorbidity. The idea is to share the experience between internists from Europe and Estonia.

AC meeting will take place at the Senate Room of the University of Tartu on Saturday 27 Sep. Margus informed the AC members that transfer will be provided for all the participants, travelling from Tallinn to Tartu and there different accommodation possibilities for the members who wish to prolong their stay in Tallinn. Registrations for the meeting and hotel bookings will be opened in July.

**20. EFIM Spring meeting 2015 - presentation by Cyprus society of Internal Medicine (Irene Kaoulla Gasa)**

Irene Kaoulla presented the proposal for EFIM spring meeting to take place in Cyprus. Cyprus Society was founded in 1980 counting 70 active members and 60 old members. Irene introduced the Board of the society with Prof. Miltiadous as the President and Prof. Ioannou as the Vice President. Meeting will take place at the Sout Eastern Cyprus in Paralimni or Ayia Napa which are near by the Larnaca airport. The meeting was proposed to take place early May 2015. The Cyprus society of internal medicine is honored to host EFIM AC meeting in Cyprus, and Irene welcomed all the AC members to support this proposal and attend the Cyprus meeting.

AC members accepted and approved the proposal anonymously.

**21. Any other items: to be notified to the Secretary General in advance of the meeting (e-mail: [info@efim.org](mailto:info@efim.org))**

No other items were raised.