

BELGIAN SOCIETY OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

aims to foster the development, dissemination, research and education of internal medicine in Belgium.

The Future of Internal Medicine: Reforms, Challenges, and Innovations

Prof. Dr. Steven Callens
EFIM day - 18 October 2024

Agenda

Roles and Expertise

Training and Accreditation

Demographics and Needs

BSIM (Belgian Society of
Internal Medicine)

Roles and Expertise



Expertise Areas

- Diagnostic evaluation and treatment
 - Initial treatment
 - Diagnostic and therapeutic policies
- Management of multi-organ pathologies
 - Treat patients with comorbidities and polymedication
 - Expertise in systemic inflammatory diseases and genetic disorders
- Clinical pharmacology
 - In-depth knowledge of drug interactions
 - Complications in patients with multiple pathologies





Roles

- Emergency Department
 - Internists work with emergency physicians
 - Create diagnostic and therapeutic plans
- Hospitalization
 - Own care beds, quite different in different hospitals
 - Coordinate care across different specialties
 - Ensure a holistic approach to patient care
- Consultations
 - Assist complex multipathological patients
 - Collaborate with general practitioners
- Prevention
 - Provide advice on primary prevention
 - Provide advice on secondary prevention of high prevalence diseases

Training and Accreditation



Accreditation and Training Requirements

- Accreditation of Specialists and Training
 - Laid down in several ministerial decrees in Belgium, responsibilities and board certification regionalized
- European Directive on Training Requirements
 - Annex V 2005/36/EC defines training requirements for internal medicine in Europe
 - Proposes a minimum training duration of 5 years
- Proposed Training in Belgium (Future)
 - Core curriculum of 3 years
 - Followed by 3 years of higher education
 - In line with European standards



Specialist Levels and Training Duration

- General Internal Medicine
 - Includes intensivists, endocrinologists, hematologists, and nephrologists
- Level 2 Specialists
 - Endocrinologists
 - Hematologists
 - Nephrologists
 - General Internal Medicine



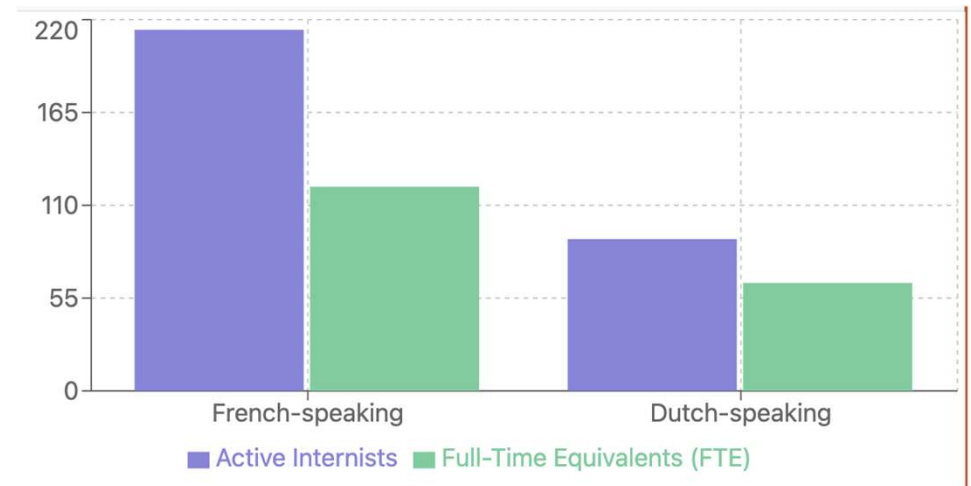
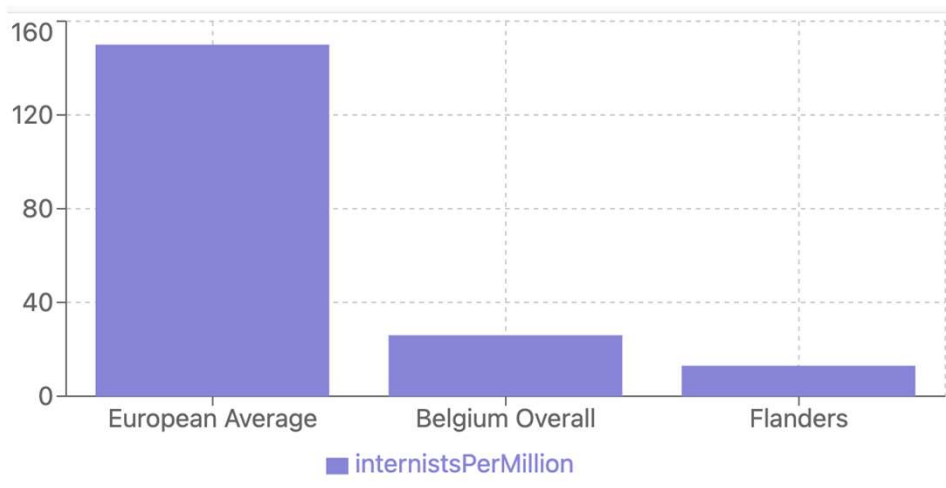
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Demographics and Needs

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Demographics and Needs

- Current demographics of internists
 - Gender imbalance in the field, with more male internists than female internists.
 - A significant proportion of male internists (nearly two-thirds) are over 55 years old.



“Definitief advies van de Hoge Raad voor geneesheren-specialisten en huisartsen Niveau 2 ALGEMENE INWENDIGE GENEESKUNDE” op basis van het advies van de paritaire werkgroep interne geneeskunde van 25 januari 2024

Revision of Nomenclature

- Revision of nomenclature for intellectual acts
 - Ensuring clarity and consistency in terminology
- Adequate reimbursement for consultations and first admissions
 - Applicable in both ambulatory and hospital practice
 - Ensures fair compensation for medical professionals



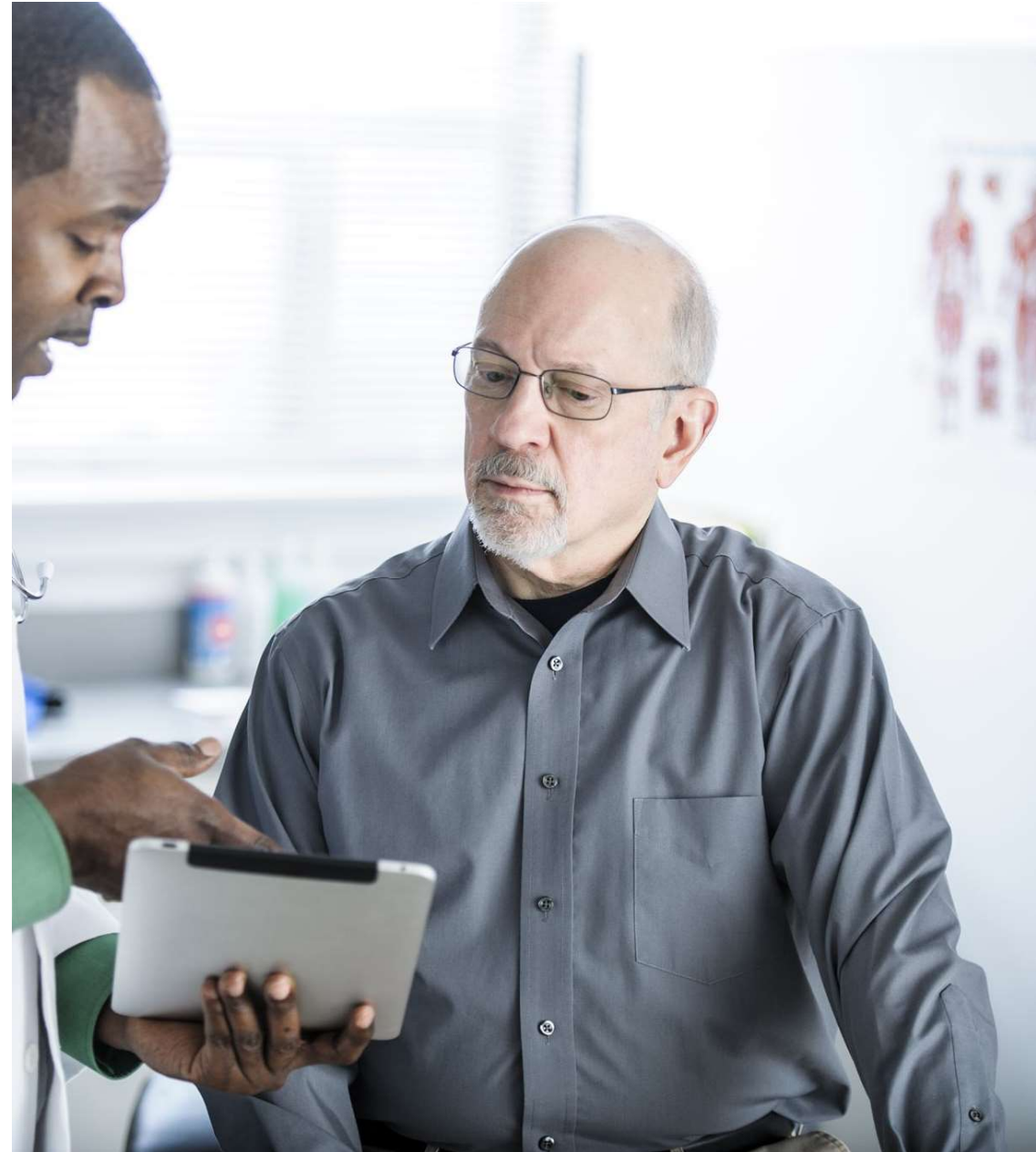


Access to Technical Acts and Medicines

- Improved access to technical acts and innovative medicines
 - Focus on inflammatory diseases
- Financing the medical work of internists in hospitals
 - Review of funding and remuneration for internists' tasks

Overlap with Infectious Diseases Specialists

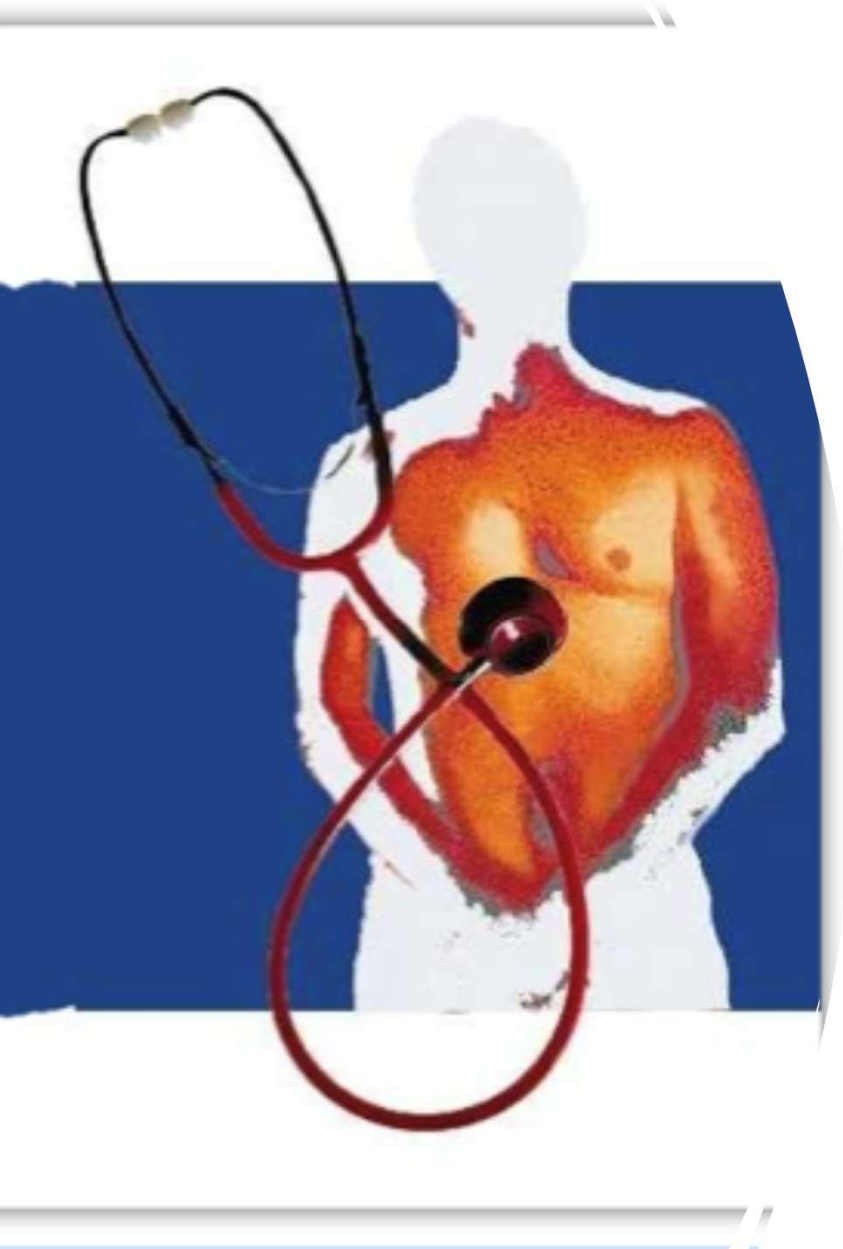
- Overlap in Responsibilities
 - Both general internists and infectious disease specialists often deal with patients who have complex, multi-system illnesses.
- Training and Recognition
 - Differences in training and recognition between the two fields.
 - Infectious disease specialists may require additional years of specialized training beyond general internal medicine.



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BSIM (Belgian Society of Internal Medicine)

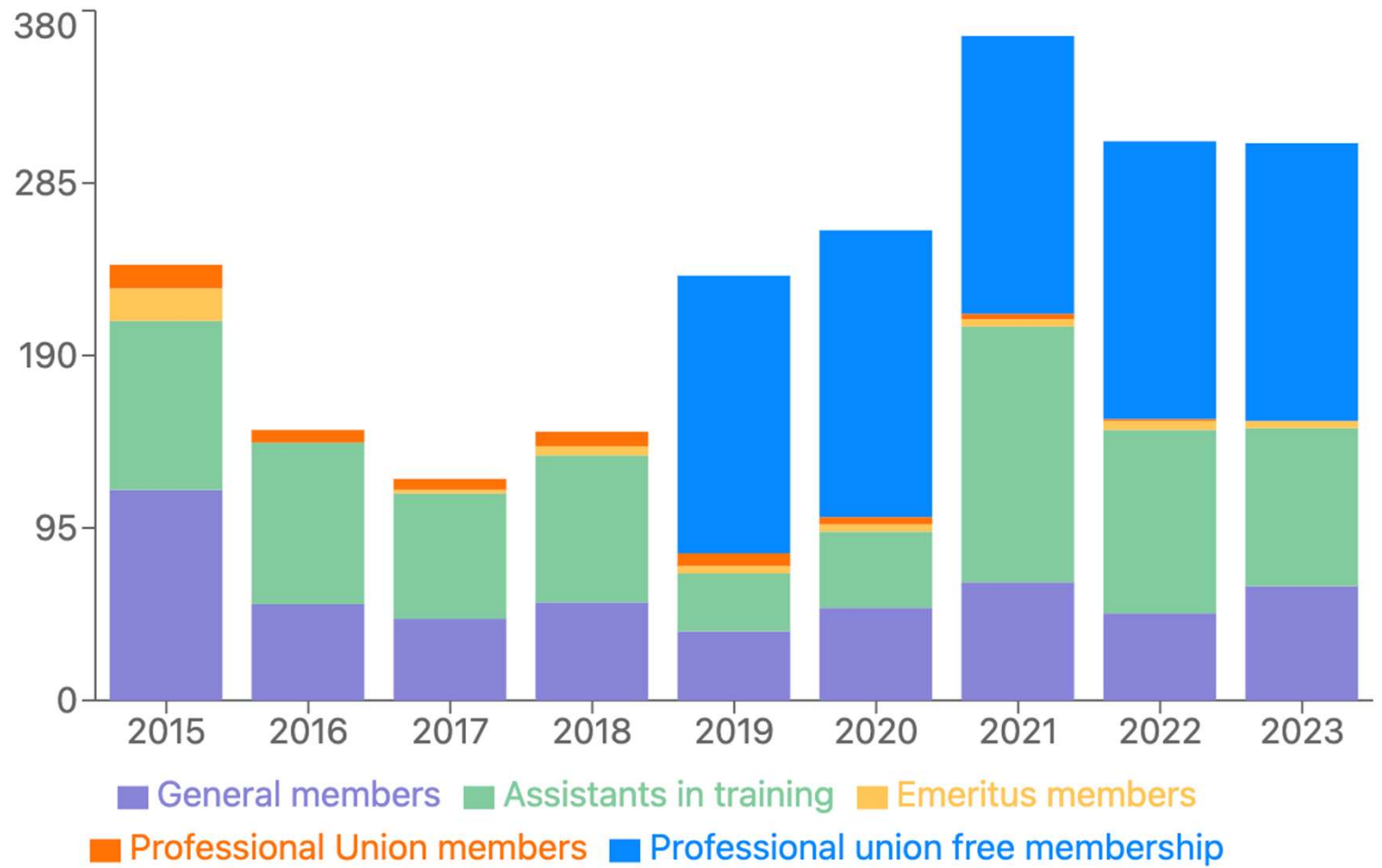
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BSIM: Objectives and Activities

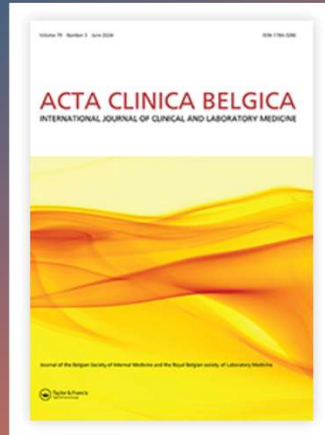
- Conferences and Workshops
 - Organizes annual conference in December 2024
- Research and Publications
 - Supports research and collaborates with Acta Clinica Belgica
- Training and Recognition
 - Organizes interuniversity courses
 - Supports specialist recognition

Membership



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- Multifaceted medical research publication
 - Includes diverse topics in medical research
- Diverse Belgian board
 - Composed of General Internal Medicine and clinical biologists
- Conference abstract reviews
- Should be the go-to journal
 - Recommended as a primary source for medical research



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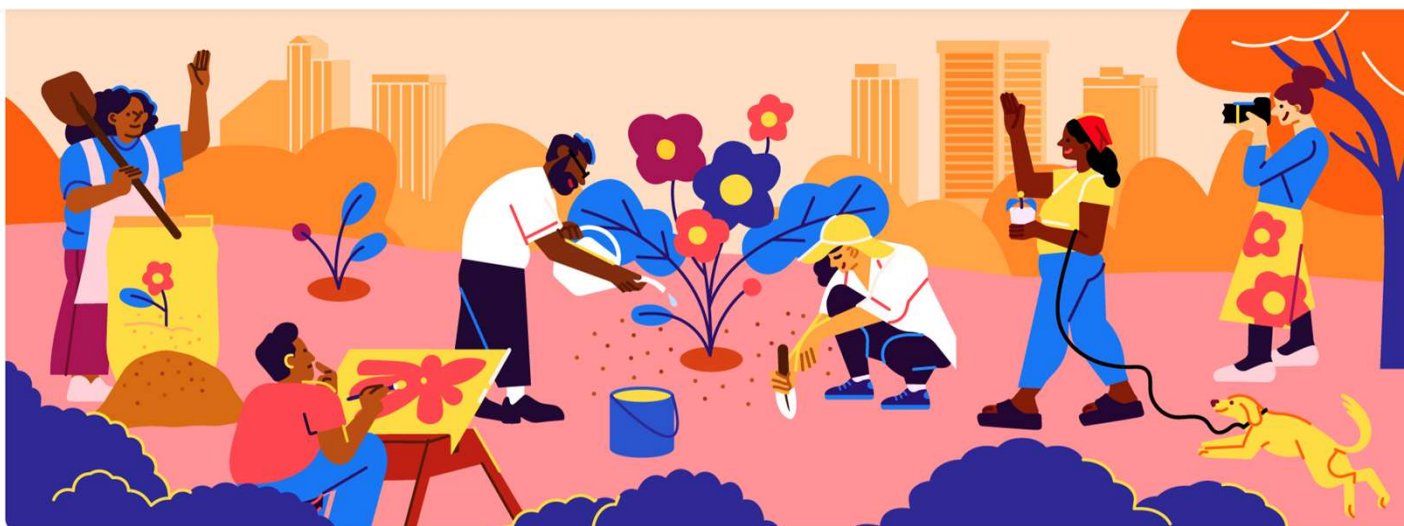


BSIM Board

- Regular Board Meetings
 - Ensures consistent communication and decision-making
- Diverse Board
 - Includes members from various hospitals and universities in Belgium
- Website Modernization
 - Rejuvenate website and modernize the look



yBSIM



Belgian Young Internists

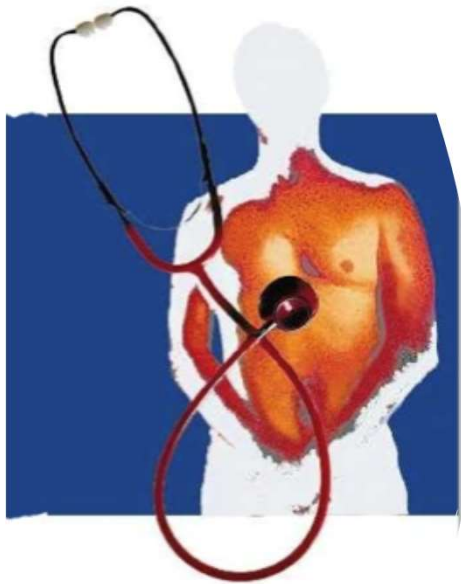
🔒 Privé groep · 250 leden

Lid worden van groep



Welcome on the young Belgian internist facebookpage. This is a page where you can share any information, ask questions or post any information c... **Lees meer**

Creating the Forward Momentum



Increase the General Internal Medicine Workforce

Addresses the shortage by improving training and recognition



Modernizing the Nomenclature

Proposes adequate compensation for consultations and initial admissions



Advancing Medical Education

3+3 curriculum reform



Strengthening Interdisciplinary Connections