The Fellowship of the European Board of Anaesthesiology (FEBA)

Dear Colleagues,

The UEMS (https://www.uems.eu/about-us) has been improving and harmonising the Specialist Education throughout Europe for over 60 years. Having Sections and Boards for every speciality and also Multidisciplinary Joint Committees these UEMS sections have each developed European specialist exams. These exams are based on the European Requirements for Specialist according to ANEX V and also based on the Training requirements (ETR), which are renewed by the Specialty Boards every 5 years. The national societies for our specialty were asked for comments on the latest ETR in Anaesthesiology last year. To further professional development, there are two sub-organisations of UEMS, CESMA for the exams (https://www.uems.eu/areas-of-expertise/postgraduate-training/cesma) and EACCME (https://eaccme.uems.eu/home.aspx for the certification) for the accreditation and CME points of educational meetings and congresses.

Anaesthesiology was the first to introduce a European exam, which is also by far the most successful one. Established by a group of European anaesthesiology organisations (European Academy, European Board, European Society) it has been further developed (EDAIC) and is now administered by the European Society of Anaesthesiology. It has spread all over the world and become a recognised Standard for Anaesthesiology knowledge throughout Europe. It is acknowledged to be the best example of a successful CESMA exam, although many other sections are now running successful exams, so our Leadership in this field is jeopardised. Most of these other UEMS sections have already introduced a European Fellowship to certify quality of Education, Examination and Continuous Medical Education.

The criteria for FEBA

Having discussed this on many occasions in the past it is rational that Anaesthesiology should also introduce such a Fellowship and the European Board of Anaesthesiology (http://www.eba-uems.eu/) decided the time was right to establish the Fellowship of European Board of Anaesthesiology (FEBA). The agreed criteria will be a minimum of 5 years education and training in an UEMS Country according to the latest Training requirements (http://www.eba-uems.eu/resources/Copenhagen/ETR-Anaesthesiology-2018.pdf), success in the European exam (EDAIC), and proof of good standing in the National Anaesthetic Society / Registration Organisation and a national Specialist Accreditation. After practising Anaesthesiology for a further 5 years in an UEMS member state (that is 10 years from the start of training) anaesthesiologists can apply for the Fellowship (FEBA). Once successfully achieved the FEBA will need to be renewed every 5 years to demonstrate ongoing good standing, and maintenance of registration and
continuing medical education demonstrated by EACME points or equivalent national system. (Link to more details about the FEBA HERE).

**Establishing the FEBA**

Like all new developments the FEBA will also involve continuous improvement particularly during this initial phase and refinement of the application process. The necessary documents will be in many European languages so we may ask you for your collaboration in this project helping us prove the national accreditation and the proof of good standing. Also, we invite your society to support this important anaesthesiology development and help to promote it. The FEBA documentation will be under the supervision of a Belgian lawyer so we can protect against fraud, which has been an issue for other sections during the introduction of their Fellowships. We will of course collaborate with the ESA and UEMS and all national societies in this project.

**Summary**

In summary the EBA believe this an important step that the specialty in Europe should now be taking and we would be very grateful if your society would help and join with us in the establishment and promotion of the FEBA so Anaesthesiology will maintain its position with the other sections of the UEMS and have its own European Fellowship to be proud of.

Yours

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