UEMS and Swedish company Orzone in collaboration to harmonise training for European medical specialists

Orzone and UEMS share the vision of improving healthcare quality through the harmonisation of training and education in Europe. For this purpose a collaboration has been established for developing a comprehensive electronic platform to support medical training, assessment and continuous professional development. The strategic direction for the establishment and the primary focus of this initiative is to extensively improve the education and training of European medical doctors, improving medical outcome and patient safety.

“This is a major step forward for the UEMS. As an organisation we promote the best possible standards of harmonised specialist training, continuing medical education (CME) and professional development (CPD), as well as quality assurance of specialist medical practice. By doing so, the UEMS is committed and serves to encourage decision-makers as well as healthcare professionals to ensure appropriate mechanisms for safe specialist medical care across Europe."

Dr Zlatko Fras
UEMS President

“The UEMS has been active since 1958 helping in assuring the highest quality of medical practice are applied throughout Europe for the benefit of European citizens."

Dr Bernard Maillet
UEMS Secretary-General

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The European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) is the oldest medical organisation in Europe as it celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2008. With a current membership of 35 countries, it is the representative organisation of the National Associations of Medical Specialists in the European Union and its associated countries.

Its structure consists of a Council responsible for and working through, 38 Specialist Sections, each with its own European Board, addressing training in the Specialty and incorporating representatives from academia (Societies, Colleges and Universities). An Executive Committee comprising the President, the Secretary-General, the Liaison Officer, and the Treasurer, is responsible for the routine functioning of the organisation.

UEMS is representative of over 1.6 million specialists in all the different specialties. It also has strong links and relations with European Institutions (Commission and Parliament), the other independent European Medical Organisations (e.g. CPME, PWG, UEMO) and the European Medical & Scientific Societies.

By its agreed documents, UEMS sets standards for high quality healthcare practice that are transmitted to the Authorities and Institutions of the EU and the National Medical Associations stimulating and encouraging them to implement its recommendations.

The UEMS established the extremely important European Accreditation Council for CME (EACCME®) in 2000, which facilitates the exchange of CME credits within the European Union, its associated countries and the United States. These are achieved by virtue of common memoranda of agreement on mutual recognition reached between UEMS, the National Accreditation Authorities and the American Medical Association.

Orzone AB is headquartered in Goteborg (Sweden) with focus on medical outcome. Orzone is committed to help improve medical outcome by developing creative tools, based on virtual reality, e-health and advanced simulation technology. The tools facilitate structured proficiency based training and assessment of medical skills.

The electronic platform, to be developed in collaboration with the UEMS, can be used for training, assessment and continuous professional development. It will log and track progression (knowledge, skills and professionalism) of each trainee/specialist. The trainee and trainer will be able to check how well the trainee fulfils the curriculum requirements.

There is a strong focus to build a system which helps trainees, trainers, program directors and accreditation bodies in their daily practice. The exact structure and content will vary between the different Specialties and therefore Orzone will work closely together with each medical specialty.