



## ***European Academy of Paediatrics - Tertiary Care Council***

### **Minutes of the EAP Tertiary Care Council Spring Meeting 2019**

Saturday 07 December 2019, 09:20-11:00 h, Brussels, Belgium

**1. Welcome and introduction**

Berthold Koletzko (BK, chair) welcomed all delegates and presented the agenda that had been shared electronically in a timely manner prior to the meeting.

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted after adding additional items.

**3. Minutes of the Spring Meeting held on 18.05.2019 at Vilnius**

The minutes were approved without modifications.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes**

BK reviewed the action points which had been implemented. No questions arose.

**5. Report on UEMS**

Robert Ross Russell (RRR), European Board of Paediatrics (EBP) chair, reported that UEMS approved the paediatric emergency ETR and shared information on CEM accreditation of paediatric educational activities.

**6. ETR for Neonatology (ESPR)**

BK reviewed the development of the Neonatal ETR. A first draft was provided in Dec. 2018, but could not be discussed at the Winter meeting because it arrived only shortly prior to the meeting. BK provided feedback indicating that content was great, but some adaptations were recommended to adapt structure and format to the UEMS standard format. ESPR prepared revision version which was shared with invitation to this meeting. A further revision in response to some comments BK was shared on 6 Dec. During the course of the meeting, Charles Röhr, president of ESPR, shared how the ETR has been developed and which aspects were considered. The TTC applauded ESPR to the great achievement and supported the concept and content of the ETR, and it recommended that some minor revision of the text particularly in the introduction should be introduced to align with accepted UEMS training standards and to clarify the minimum training period of 2 years while 3 years would be considered desirable, to complete the cross cutting skills table, and to refine the knowledge and skills table trying to separate knowledge vs. skills more clearly. TTC indicated that after completing of these minor changes, the revised ETR should be resubmitted for adoption at the spring meeting 2020.

**7. ETR for Paediatric Neurology (EPNS)**



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A revised ETR had been submitted by EPNS. BK considered the description of required knowledge and skills to be excellent but indicated to the EPNS leadership that still some issues were included in the ETR that the TTC had already disagreed with during detailed discussions at the two previous meeting. One issue is that EPNS considered Paediatric Neurology a separate, interdisciplinary specialty between Paediatrics and Neurology. RRR confirmed that UMES would not approve Paediatric Neurology as a separate specialty i.e. not as a subspecialty of paediatrics. A further issue is the need of clearly stating that specialisation in paediatric neurology requires a preceding core paediatric training comprising a minimum of three years, which has not been adopted in the revised ETR. In addition, a mandatory training in adult neurology for 6 months continues to be proposed.

EPNS indicated that the previous syllabus adopted in 2009 contained such specifications, whereas Tom Stiris and Peter Hoyer recalled that in 2009 that syllabus was adopted under a transition concept with a clear indication that these concepts should not be maintained long-term. The EPNS leadership asked to halt the further development of the ETR at this time and not to share the last version of the ETR with the delegates, but rather to take time to reflect on these unresolved issues.

The TTC discussed the issue and unanimously re-confirmed its' position that Paediatric Neurology should be considered as a paediatric subspecialty where subspecialty training requires a prior training that requires a prior 3 year training in core paediatrics, and that training in adult neurology can be recommended but cannot be made a mandatory requirement.

#### **8. ETR for Paediatric Nephrology (ESPN)**

Olivia Gillion-Boyer (Paris) presented the ETR that had been previously shared with the TTC members. Small changes were proposed and unanimously supported, including incorporation of the need of two certified paediatric nephrologist (or similarly qualified individuals in countries without established subspecialty) and the recommendation rather than mandatory requirement for preparing a scientific manuscript. The TTC unanimously approved the ETR with these modifications.

#### **9. Update on the revised ETR for Paediatric Nephrology (ESPN)**

Peter Hoyer (PH) reported on the development of this draft ETR which was submitted on 25 April 2019. BK provided a first assessment and gave feedback on 28 April 2019 that the overall content was great while the structure and format needed some adaptation.

The Tertiary Care Council (TCC) discussed the proposal of ESPN that each trainee should author at least one scientific paper, preferably as first author. The TCC agreed that one could strongly recommend that trainees in paediatric subspecialties should obtain experience in research. However, the TTC considered that publication of an article in a peer reviewed journal should not be made an obligatory requirement for completing training since this may not be achievable for all colleagues within the time foreseen for training, particularly if training occurs in non-academic hospitals, and also because often a considerable time period passes between performing the research and getting a manuscript accepted for publication which could unduly delay training certification. Thus the TTC requests that ESPN changes the respective wording to express e.g. a strong recommendation rather than an obligatory requirement.



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PH kindly offered to provide feedback on this discussion to ESPN. BK is willing to offer any additional comments if requested by ESPN.

### **10. Preparation for an ETR on Respiratory Health (Paediatric Section of ERS)**

Tables describing required knowledge and skills were developed with a consensus based method (Primhak R, Tabin N, Beydon N, Bhatt J, Eber E, Hammer J, Martinez-Gimeno A, Midulla F, Nenna R, Paton J, Ross Russell R. Update of the European paediatric respiratory medicine syllabus. *Breathe* (Sheff). 2019 Sep;15(3):173-180. doi: 10.1183/20734735.0188-2019; cf. attachment) and shared in Oct. 2019. BK considered the content appropriate and encouraged the Paediatrics Section of ERS to develop this further into a full ETR following our standard template.

### **11. Sharing European Paediatric Guidelines by WebApp**

BK reminded delegates of the plan to establish a WebApp for translating European Guidelines into simple messages that facilitate evidence based decision in clinical practice. Delegates are encouraged to suggest European guidelines for development of WebApp modules, preferably along with volunteers who can develop decision-making trees and simple messages.

### **12. Statement on rotavirus vaccination**

After the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Kindergeneeskunde had informed EAP that the Government of the Netherlands wished to introduce reimbursement of rotavirus vaccination for children only for children considered at high risk, such as premature and dysmature babies and babies with congenital defects, EAP jointly with ESPID developed a position paper "Should rotavirus vaccination be offered to all children in Europe, or only to subgroups of children with assumed increased risk? Comment of EAP and the ESPID". The paper is under review. The content was shared with the Dutch Government that indicated to be willing to review its policy within 2 years.

### **13. Report on preparations of the European research programme "Horizon Europe"**

BK reported on the current developments in preparing for the European research programme "Horizon Europe", where current plans foresee funding with some 7.7 billion Euro for health research. The workprogramme 2021-2022 will be adopted in 2020. The TTC discussed the importance of advocating investment in child health research and options on how to best achieve this. It was agreed that BK would try to collect information on ongoing activities among subspecialty societies and explore options for collaborating with partners in approaching the European Commission, Members of the European Parliament, and National Contact Points.

### **14. Report on Training Centre Certification**

Martin White reported on the evaluation of the National Centre for Inherited Metabolic Disorders, CHI at Temple Street, Dublin, Ireland that was visited on 30 Sept. 2019. Certification was approved and the certificate was presented.

José Manuel Lopes dos Santos reported on the evaluation of the Paediatric Allergy Unit, Dept. Paediatrics, Centro Hospitalar Universitario Lisboa Norte, Hospital de Santa Maria, Lisbon, Portugal. Certification was approved and the certificate was presented.

### **15. Any other business**

No other points were raised. The meeting was closed at 11:00 h.



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Berthold Koletzko, Professor of Paediatrics  
Chair, Tertiary Care Council

Attachments:

List of attendees

Copy of the publication Primhak R, Tabin N, Beydon N, Bhatt J, Eber E, Hammer J, Martinez-Gimeno A, Midulla F, Nenna R, Paton J, Ross Russell R. Update of the European paediatric respiratory medicine syllabus. *Breathe (Sheff)*. 2019 Sep;15(3):173-180. doi: 10.1183/20734735.0188-2019