European Academy of Paediatrics



Paediatric Section of U.E.M.S

Minutes EAP Spring Meeting – Primary and Secondary Care Council Meeting Saturday, 18 May, 2019 | 08:15-09:45

The meeting chaired by Karoly Illy (KI, NL) and Peter Altorjai (PA, HU) brought fruitful discussions on each and every points of the planned agenda soon after new delegates introduced themselves.

PA gave a short report on his attendance at the Bratislava ECPCP meeting upon the invitation of the current president, Angel Carrasco with particular focus on negotiations concerning UEMS recommendation in the planned update process of the EAP approved ECPCP curriculum. He detailed, that ECPCP is about to finish the EPAs (entrusbable professional activities, a process led by a German primary care paediatrician, Folkert Fehr) firstly, and then they will consider any update or review of the document.

After that, there were intense talks on the old topic on the best caretakers for children in primary care settings: whether they are paediatricians or general practitioners. Main arguments were:

- EAP being an umbrella for paediatrics has to follow EU-driven UEMS directives on cross-border (health) care activities, the rights of free movements and also to ensure access to the best quality healthcare available;
- At the same time, EAP also has to represent paediatricians as professionals, too, almost a half of them working in primary care settings in the EU;
- Also it was addressed that we shouldn't neglect the added value of family doctors.

When discussing the question of primary paediatric care training centres, the audience agreed as a whole, that when in primary care, a completely new approach is needed, secondary and tertiary care might only be involved partially, as discussed with Jernej Zravsnik (SI),m the former chair of the primary care council. UEMS currently has no or very few practice, since the current ETRs have been and are also currently being developed respecting secondary and tertiary care settings, as Robert Ross Russell emphasised (EBP, UK). Nevertheless, there were short reports on national practices of primary care training and assessment in the primary care setting from Germany, Slovenia and Hungary.

Adamos Hadjipanayis (CY), the president of the EAP added, that even the MOCHA project was unable to point the most preferred method of paediatric caretaking. However, politicians in each country will only listen to scientific results supported by financial factors.

Ending up the discussion, it was decided that EAP should compile a strategy on quality paediatric primary care, by:

- incorporating research (EU projects, studies) already done
- develop new research not solely on scientific, but also in economic domain for all caretaking systems (featuring primary care paediatricians, general practitioners or both in a mixed system)



• ending up wording a mission statement similar to that of the American Academy of Paediatrics, fully reflecting EAP's view on advocation both for children and paediatric workforce

For that, intense correspondence is needed with experts of health economics. Bringing Eurochild's 'childonomics' advisory group to the table, Ann De Guecherre (BE) and PA decided to establish relation to the chief scientific advisor, she being of Hungarian origin, too.

These key issues were mentioned from countries:

- Ivanna Romankevich (UA) reported on the situation primary care training centers, particularly following the new provision on primary care from the MoH, Ukraine
- Prof. Aspazija Sofijanova (MK) gave the colleagues insight into the Macedonian situation of paediatrics, particularly about the shortage of primary care paediatricians and their possible solution for that by utilising a 'fast-track', separate training for primary care

Lastly, PA gave his report on the intense correspondence with the former ITFBHS, now: ICODE representatives on developmental dysplasia of the hip. He mentioned, that the consensus paper made by the task force with evidence-based recommendations was submitted and recently accepted by the European Journal of Paediatrics for publication. An ad-hoc working group was formed (proposed member: Corinne Wyder (CH), Mateja Vintar Spreitzer (SI), Ivanna Romankevich (UA), Karoly Illy, Jernej Zravsnik (SI) and Peter Altorjai) to correspond ICODE.