

To the President of the National Neurological Society

Vienna, November 22nd, 2016

Call for participants for the European Exam in Neurology, June 23rd, 2017

Dear Colleague,

This letter is to inform you about the European Examination for young neurologists, and to invite you to send candidates for this Exam to Amsterdam 2017.

Although opinions about a unified Europe may differ, mobility on our continent is growing more and more, leading to increasing migration of patients and doctors across European borders. Collaboration in fields of science, health care and education within Europe facilitates medical scientific research, and should promote patient care to highest levels.

The European Academy of Neurology (EAN) is responsible for supporting the realization of most of these ideals in the field of Neurology. The European Board of Neurology (EBN), as a part of the Union of European Medical Specialists (UEMS), promotes the highest level of neurological patient care by upholding professional and ethical status of the neurological specialist and by harmonization of training programs for neurologists within Europe. The exam has a theoretical and a practical part and is held once a year in the country of the EAN-congress. We aim at meeting high standard for this exam (see the attachment).

Assessment is an integral part of a training program and a logical step to achieve harmonization is to develop a European exam for neurology. Such an examination is primarily intended to test young neurologists at the end of their training but could also serve other participants for self-assessment as part of reflective practice, and in order to inform their own continuous medical education needs. Continent-wide examinations have been standard practice in the United States for many years, and Europe should also aspire to this.

Several medical specialties, Anesthesiology being one of the forerunners, already provide Europe-wide yearly exams taken by thousands of candidates, setting a harmonized level for their young specialists, thus contributing to high quality care in this field across Europe and facilitating migration for professionals who wish to move within Europe. Although such

European examinations do not currently have a legal status, increasing national authorities are recognizing some of them as equivalent to, or in place of a national test.

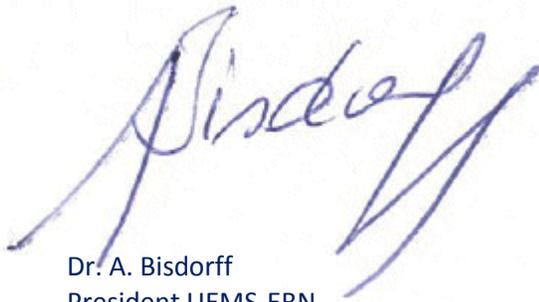
The European Board of Neurology has provided an annual exam for young neurologists since 2009. Those who pass their assessments successfully, become a certificate to indicate their distinction having done our Exam. Exam-questions and clinical assessment tasks are constructed very carefully by neurologists from all over Europe, with important input and support from the EAN, including European Guidelines and learning resources, leading to a level and variety of topics that cannot easily be reached within the borders of one nation.

Several national neurological societies in Europe do support us and *encourage* young neurologists to take the exam, including in some instances *supporting* their candidates financially to participate in the EBN-Examination. In other countries accreditation for those candidates who passed the exam may be recognized (making the exam attractive for residing neurologists as well).

This letter is a request to stimulate young neurologists or residents in the final phase of their training from your country to take the EBN-Exam and possibly to support their participation. Details on the 9th European Board Examination in Neurology, to be held at the next EAN-congress in Copenhagen can be found on our website www.uems-neuroboard.org

As an attachment, we send you a report of the previous examination in Copenhagen last year.

We sincerely hope you will send your young neurologists to Amsterdam in June 2017. Please forward this letter to the directors of the neurology training centers in your country. Do not hesitate to ask for further information or clarification via j.b.m.kuks@umcg.nl.



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President UEMS-EBN



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