Editorial

Dear Colleagues

On behalf of the Division of Breast Surgery in UEMS, I welcome you to our winter Newsletter.

Here you can read an interesting interview of Prof. V. Papalois, general secretary of UEMS, explaining the scope of UEMS and find the results of the EBSQ examinations in Breast Surgery for 2018, as well as the dates and venues of the exams for next year.

Looking back on it, moving to a web based platform for the part A of the exams - written MCQs - and increasing the number of exam sites was a great step forward, facilitating the participants to take the exam in their home country or in a country nearby. Concurrently, the continuously increasing popularity of the exams and the value of holding a European Diploma certifying the high level of knowledge of a breast surgeon in Breast Cancer Management, led to the high success of the project, reflected by an almost 100% increase of the number of participants this year.

I would like to express my deep gratitude and sincere thanks to all our colleagues who, despite their heavy program of other obligations, agreed to act as examiners during the Part B - oral exam in Lille and to the European Society of Surgical Oncology (ESSO) – which along with (EUSOMA) are the two supporting scientific societies of the exam – for their close collaboration and their valuable help in every part of the exam.

The Division will continue to promote and support the highest standard of care in Breast Surgery in Europe through the organisation of high quality educational events, the continuous update of the curriculum and syllabus of training in breast surgery and of course, the evaluation and accreditation of every European Breast Surgeon through the European Board of Surgery Qualification (EBSQ) exams in breast surgery.

Kindest regards,

Christos Markopoulos, MD, PhD, FEBS
Professor of Surgery
Medical School - National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
Chair of the Exam Board

The European Breast Exam: Secretary’s Report

This year saw an unprecedented increase in candidate numbers for the Breast Exam, due in large part to the full launch of our on line written exam platform, allowing candidates to sit the exam in their own country.

This has increased the quality and professionalism of the exam and we are grateful to ORZONE (Sweden) who have worked with us to deliver this improvement. Next year we plan to add several new sites to improve accessibility.

This year we also introduced gold, silver and bronze awards for the top three candidates in the exam overall, a remarkable achievement for these exceptional surgeons.

We have also slightly modified the eligibility criteria for 2019 to reflect the wide variation in training across Europe and instead of a requirement for certification of completion of training (or licence to practice), we have standardised that candidates have 5 years of specialist training (in either general, plastic or gynaecology surgery). Other eligibility criteria remain unchanged.

Next year the oral exam will be in the beautiful Romanian city of Bucharest and we hope you will join us there.

Kind regards

Lynda Wyld, PhD, FRCS, FEBS
Professor of Surgical Oncology
University of Sheffield - UK
Secretary of the Exam Board
Dear Prof. Papalois, could you please tell us what the UEMS organisation is?

The UEMS is an organization with almost 60 years of history, representing, through their National Medical Associations, 39 Countries in the EU and beyond, a total of 1.6 million medical specialists. The UEMS work on the ground is being done by 43 Specialist Sections that also collaborate though 15 Multidisciplinary Joint Committees for areas of practice which are of interest to more than one Section. UEMS has also strong links and relations with European Institutions (Commission and Parliament), the other independent European Medical Organisations and the European Medical / Scientific Societies.

What is exactly the scope and the value of UEMS?

The UEMS prides itself for being an organization that develops real projects for real people in real life! The development of the UEMS European Training Requirements (ETRs) and Exams are two flagship projects for the UEMS. The ETRs and the Exams are developed by the UEMS Sections in close collaboration with the relevant European Scientific Societies. This is being done through a truly wide and in depth consultation across Europe that embraces Universities, Scientific Societies and Professional Colleges and Associations; the final product has the review and approval of the National Medical Associations represented in the UEMS. I cannot really think of a more robust process for developing such quality control projects as the UEMS ETRs and Exams aiming to advance and harmonise specialist practice in Europe that will of course translate into top class clinical care for patients

Therefore, I could say that the main added value of the UEMS is greater strength through mutual cooperation and a unified voice in the international representation of medical specialists, international excellence in key areas of relevance to the medical profession and addressing interdisciplinary issues in emerging areas of specialist medical practice. Most importantly, the development of new, harmonised models for the training of the next generation of medical specialists, and of high standards of clinical practice, hence improved care for patients throughout Europe

Could you please tell us a few words about the Division of Breast Surgery in UEMS?

The Division of Breast Surgery of the Section of Surgery of the UEMS has been one of the most active and productive players in the field of UEMS ETRs and Exams.

Initially it was formed as the Breast Surgery Working group with the main objective to promote and support the highest standard of care in breast surgery in Europe through high quality education, training and accreditation. The first EBSQ exam for Breast Surgeons was organized with great success in 2010, becoming very popular year by year among colleagues from EC countries and beyond. Considering the recognized success of the project, UEMS proceeded in 2015 to the official upgrade of the working group to “Division of Breast Surgery” of the UEMS Section of Surgery and the European Board of Surgery.

They have also gone one step further and they have produced superb educational material, the “European Textbook of Breast Cancer Management for Surgeons” in support of Colleagues across Europe who wish to ensure that their knowledge is up to speed and meets the standards of the UEMS ETRs.
Results of the UEMS - EBSQ in Breast Surgery Exam 2018

Best Scored Candidates

1st Lyndsey Highton
2nd Jagdeep Singh
3rd Konstantinos Zacharioudakis

The best scored candidate Mrs Lyndsey Highton receiving her EBSQ diploma and the “Gold Award” from the President of the UEMS-EBS-Division of Breast Surgery Prof. Markopoulos.

The best scored candidates (from the left): Mr K. Zacharioudakis, Mrs Lyndsey Highton and Mrs J. Singh

The morning group of successful candidates with Prof C. Markopoulos (standing in the middle) and Prof L. Wyld (sitting left)

The afternoon group of successful candidates with some of the examiners in the first row.
(From the left: standing examiners Andreas Karakatsanis (SE) and Petros Charalampoudis (UK); sitting: Ash Kothari (UK), Yasan Masanaat (UK), Rosina Ahmed (IN), Omar Omar (EG), Masoom Muttalib (UK), Ana Galan (ESSO secretary), Lynda Wyld (UK), Liesbeth Jansen (NL), Zenon Rayter (UK).
### Successful candidates of the EBSQ in Breast Surgery Exam 2018

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<td>Catalin Florin Pop</td>
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<td>Chaitra Sonthineni</td>
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<td>Chiara Sirianni</td>
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<td>Marios Konstantinos Tasoulis</td>
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<td>Federica Chiesa</td>
<td>Masuma Sarker</td>
<td>Tushar Jadhav</td>
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<td>Mona Sulieman</td>
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<td>Giuseppina (Jo) Mondani</td>
<td>Muhammad Irfan</td>
<td>Wafa Abu Mahfuz</td>
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<td>Hatice Deniz Eren Böler</td>
<td>Natalia Rodríguez-Spiteri</td>
<td>Youmna Galaa Sabry</td>
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* Names in alphabetical order

### Examiners of the EBSQ in Breast Surgery Exam 2018, Lille - France

*From left: Fredrick Warnberg (SE), Sumohan Chatterjee (UK), Marjolein Smidt (NL), Christos Markopoulos (GR), Sandelin Kerstin (SE), Andrew Baildam (UK), Masoom Muttalib (UK), Lynda Wyld (UK), Chris Holcomb (UK), Liesbeth Jansen (NL), Rosina Ahmed (IN), Ash Kothari (UK), Yasan Masanaat (UK), Andreas Karakatsanis (SE), Petros Charalampoudis (UK), Omar Omar (EG), Zenon Rayter (UK).*
EBSQ Examination in Breast Surgery 2019

Web based MCQs / Written Examination
The written exam will take place on the 21st of June 2019.
The deadline for receipt of applications for the written exam is the 30th April 2019.

Venue of the written exam:
The written exam will be held at a number of locations globally to increase accessibility.

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The Oral Examination
The oral exam will take place in Bucharest (RO), on 29th & 30th of September, 2019.
Candidates will be notified if they have passed the written exam and are eligible to take the oral exam within 2 weeks of sitting the written exam and MUST register and pay to sit the oral exam before 10th of July 2019. There is a limit of the number of candidates who can be accepted for the oral exam; preference will be given according to date of application for the exam, so late applicants will be passed on to the exam of the following year.

Applications must be submitted via the online application tool on: http://www.uemssurg.org/divisions/breast-surgery/ebsq-examination
ESSO Advanced Course on Breast Cancer - 2019

26-28 September, 2019
Bucharest, Romania

Aim of the course
This highly interactive workshop is at the cutting edge of current concepts of surgical treatment of breast cancer. It will focus on the evidence-based clinical practice and technical aspects of breast cancer surgery within a multidisciplinary approach.

Main topics
- Familial gene carriers - Risk assessment and management of healthy carriers and initial cancer management
- Oncoplastic techniques in breast preservation - planning and marking
- MRM, SSM, SRM, NSM - Technical considerations and pre-operative marking
- New methods in imaging
- Management of sentinel nodes positive patients
- Neoadjuvant treatment in breast cancer (Symposium)
- Conventional breast pathology or gene profiles
- Young breast cancer patients - surgery, radiotherapy, systemic treatment
- Breast reconstruction (Symposium)
- Tailored treatmtn of high risk lesions (Symposium)
- Surgical treatment of local recurrences

Educational methods
- Video-based discussion sessions
- Case-based workshops
- Case studies
- Mock MDT with cases
- Plenary lectures

Target audience
- Senior residents (last two years of specialization with clinical interest in breast cancer)
- Surgical oncologists
- Breast surgeons within 5 years after ending specialization residency
- Medical and radiation oncologists with 3-5 years of experience in the treatment of breast cancer patients

More Information
Download Program - Faculty - Fees
ESSO Advanced Course on Breast Cancer Surgery

Breast Cancer Management for Surgeons
A European Multidisciplinary Textbook

Editors:
Wyld, L., Markopoulos, C., Leidenius, M., Senkus-Konefka, E. (Eds.)

- Provides an evidence-based discussion, citing the most recent literature
- Closely linked to European practice guidelines (EUSOMA, St. Gallen, ESMO)
- Contains clinical algorithms for case management in each section
- Includes a selection of top European opinion leaders as section authors
- Published with the official approval of ESSO and EUSOMA
- Contains a selection of self-test MCQs
- Ideal reference book for the preparation of any European exam in Breast Surgery

* Candidates who have applied and paid the fee for the exam are eligible for a 15% discount on the book and will be issued with a discount code which may be used to purchase the book from the publisher’s (Springer) website
* Editor's remuneration payments and royalties are granted to the Division of Breast Surgery