Harmonization of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine training in Europe: Defining the European standards

Xanthi Michail, Kyriaki Stathi, Jean Michel Viton, Alain Delarque

Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Section and Board of the European Union of Medical Specialists

- The European Union of Medical Specialists (U.E.M.S.)

 oldest political organization –
- U.E.M.S. is composed of specialist sections for each specialty in Europe and Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine (P.R.M.) was among the first specialties to be recognized as a distinct discipline
- The European Board of P.R.M., created in 1991
 - developed training & continuing professional base -

European Training Charter for Medical Specialists

♦ U.E.M.S. 1995

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- PHYSICAL & REHABILITATION MEDICINE Chapter 6
- Charter on Training of Medical Specialists in the E.U.
- Requirements for the Specialty of P.R.M.

A of this presentation is to highlight the major items of the revised Charter

- 1. a central monitoring authority for PRM, including quality assurance and personnel planning
- general aspects of training, including selection & access, duration, common basis, supervision, practical training and the use of a log book
- 3. requirements for training institutions, including recognition, size of institutions & quality assurance
- 4. requirements for teachers
- 5. requirements for trainees

Requirements for the Specialty of P.R.M.

P.R.M. is an independent medical specialty concerned with the promotion of physical & cognitive functioning, activities (including behavior), participation including quality of life) & modifying personal & environmental factors. It is responsible for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment & rehabilitation management of people with disabling medical conditions and co morbidity across all ages.

Requirements for the Specialty of P.R.M.

Specialists in P.R.M. have a holistic approach to people with acute & chronic conditions (musculoskeletal, neurological disorders, amputations, pelvic organ dysfunction, cardio-respiratory insufficiency, disability due to chronic pain & cancer)

P.R.M. specialists work in various facilities from acute care units to community settings. They use specific diagnostic assessment tools and carry out treatments including pharmacological, physical, technical, educational and vocational interventions. Because of their comprehensive training, they are best placed to be responsible for the activities of multiprofessional teams in order to achieve optimal outcomes

Central monitoring authority for P.R.M.

- ✓ at E.U. level the monitoring authority for the specialty is the European Board of P.R.M., (October 1992), from the members of the U.E.M.S. P.R.M. Section
- ✓ at a national level the training in P.R.M. is regulated by national authorities, which set standards in accordance with national rules and E.U. legislation as well as according to the requirements of the European Board of P.R.M.

Recognition of Teachers & Training Institutions

- ✓ the standard for recognition of training institutions & trainers are matters for national authorities, in accordance with national rules & E.U. legislation, as well as the requirements of the European Board of P.R.M.
- ✓ the latter has made recommendations for the optimum requirements to be met the head of the training institute should be a P.R.M. Board Certified specialist

Quality assurance

✓ a program for quality assurance of training in the specialty has been laid down and the system for recognition of quality in the specialty is monitored

GENERAL ASPECTS OF TRAINING

- ✓ candidates for training in the specialty should be physicians licensed in a country of the E.U. or they should have an equivalent qualification approved by the host country
- ✓ it is the primary responsibility of each training institution to establish further criteria for entry into their training program

REQUIREMENTS for TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

- > Be recognized as a training facility in P.R.M. by the responsible national authority in its country.
- > Be directed by a doctor, who is:
 - ✓ specialist in P.R.M., recognized as a trainer by the E.B.,
 - ✓ responsible for a team comprising: one more Board certified specialist in P.R.M., professionals allied to medicine, including physiotherapists and occupational therapists as well as a group of other personnel (speech therapists, psychologists, social workers).
- Contain the facilities to perform diagnostic assessments, functional investigation and measurement, and treatments relevant to the discipline of P.R.M.

GENERAL RULES ON MONITORING, ACCREDITATION & QUALITY MANAGEMENT OF POSTGRADUATE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS for TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

- Maintain a network of contacts among clinical colleagues & professionals allied to medicine in hospital settings and services assisting the discharge of patients into the community
- > Show training activity:
 - √ in clinical domains through organizing of case presentations, symposium, staff meeting ,journal club meeting
 - ✓ in research work by trainee participation in the research
 activities of the unit
 - ✓ in the domain of teaching in the availability of the requisite educational tools, particularly a library sufficiently stocked with P.R.M. texts and works, which are kept up to date as well as audio-visual aids to teaching

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINERS

- Be certified as a specialist in P.R.M. by the responsible national authority in his/her country
- ▶Be recognized as a trainer in P.R.M. by the responsible national authority in his/her country
- Have gained the recognition on the European Board of P.R.M. through the holding of its diploma

ACCREDITATION & QUALITY MANAGEMENT OF POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINERS

- Demonstrate his/her clinical activity as being within this discipline
- Practice in the specialty for at least 80% of his/her time in an establishment recognized as a training centre by the national responsible authority over 5 years
- Practice within a defined rehabilitation team
- Actively participate in training and research in P.R.M. with regular publications

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REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINEE

- ▶ the training course: Four years at least must be spent in departments recognised by the Board, of which a minimum of two must be spent in Departments of P.R.M.
- the trainee should gain experience of the diagnosis and management in the areas defined in the curriculum of studies and programme of theoretical knowledge

REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINEE

- P.R.M. trainees must acquire a number of skills as part of their training
- the trainee should keep a personal log book or equivalent of his/her training activities which follows the course of his or her training and present this before certification

The core specialty competencies of P.R.M.

- medical assessment in determining the underlying diagnosis
- assessment of functional capacity and the ability to change;
- * assessment of activity and participation as well as contextual factors (personal characteristics) and environment knowledge of core rehabilitation processes and their evidence base
- devising a rehabilitation plan
- knowledge, experience and application of medical and physical treatments (including physical modalities, natural factors and others)
- evaluation and measurement of outcome

The core specialty competencies of P.R.M.

- prevention and management of complications
- prognostication of disease / condition & rehabilitation outcomes
- knowledge of rehabilitations technology (orthotics, prosthetics, technical aids and others)
- team dynamics and leadership skills
- teaching skills (patients, patients' carers, rehabilitation team members and others)
- knowledge of social system and legislation on disablement
- basic knowledge of economic (and financial) aspects of rehabilitation



THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION