



**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS  
SPÉCIALISTES  
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL  
SPECIALISTS**

*Association internationale sans but lucratif*

*International non-profit organisation*

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UEMS Division of Angiology/Vascular Medicine  
Online Meeting General Assembly November 26, 2021

Election for the next President

**Report of the President, Prof. Jean-Claude WAUTRECHT**

In accordance with the statutes and rules of the UEMS, I will end my Presidency on December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year.

I started my 4-year term on January 1, 2017 (after the elections of November 26, 2016). This mandate has been extended for 1 year following the Covid-19 pandemic and I will end it on December 31.

I had great pleasure in working with the members of the Bureau and all the National Delegates of the Division that I thank all very much. The exchanges have always been enriching and extremely cordial which is in line with what the UEMS wishes.

A code of conduct for officers of UEMS bodies was also drawn up this year in order to maintain this way of working.

During my mandate, through the many contacts developed gradually, I had the opportunity to better understand the functioning of this complex organization that is the UEMS.

The organization and functioning of UEMS were indeed not easy to understand for me and I realized that many members of the Executive of UEMS had taken many years to get there! This is the reason why I remind you schematically at each annual meeting of the structure of UEMS and internal interrelationships, hoping to have enlightened you a little about the organization. Explaining all of

this in discussions with outside organizations such as scientific societies is obviously even more complex and difficult to convey.

We must therefore realize that any progress must be well matured and discussed within our Division before proposing it to the UEMS Executive. I think I have always worked in this direction in order to best disseminate the usefulness and necessity of Angiology / Vascular Medicine at European and International level.

I would like to summarize some of the progress made within the Division in recent years:

### **National delegates**

We have now 19 European delegates: 17 full-members (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, The Netherlands and UK) and 2 not-full members (Serbia and Sweden).

EU has now 27 European Countries and 9 out of our UE full-member countries have the recognition for the specialty in Angiology. We now reach the 1/3 of EU Countries having the recognition of the specialty.

### **VAS**

In 2018, UEMS Division has decided to formalize to delegate to VAS Foundation, member of the Division as Founding Organization, the responsibilities for educational activities, European Training requirements validation in view of application for UEMS Diploma and processing of European Training Centers requests.

A MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) between UEMS and VAS European Foundation was concluded on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

A task force was put together by American Board of Vascular Medicine, American Society of Vascular Medicine, UEMS A/VM Division and VAS for harmonizing certification in the EU and in the US. UEMS is positive for that.

### **Scientific Societies**

UEMS A/VM Division, despite some differences of opinion, continues to discuss with ESVM to identify common cooperation grounds what is fundamental for the future and to increase the strength of our specialty. I am confident that we will quickly find common ground.

### **European Training Centers**

Invitations to apply for accreditation are sent out regularly. The Accreditation panel chaired by Prof. M.P. Colgan had the opportunity to visit several centers but the pandemic slowed down the process.

### **UEMS European Diploma in Angiology/Vascular Medicine**

Calls to apply are regularly launched but the number of annual applications remains low (4 applications this year). Awareness still needs to be raised.

## **Financial situation**

Financial support has been provided for years by VAS which is the founder of the Division. A specific account inside UEMS has been open this year. We are looking for ways to feed it and allow us to work in an increasingly professional manner.

## **Inside UEMS**

Contacts and interrelationships are established with our Mother Section (Internal Medicine), MJC Phlebology, MJC Immune-Mediated Diseases and MJC Thematic Federation on Wound Healing.

## **ETR Document**

The first "UEMS European Training Requirements for Angiology/Vascular Medicine" Document was the most important Document published for A/VM and its recognition at the European and International level. It was approved by UEMS in 2015 and published in 2016. As it is one of the flagships of our Division and due to the rapid evolution of knowledge, techniques and treatments, it became urgent to update this document. A new document has been submitted to UEMS this year according to a more complex procedure than before and accepted during the last UEMS Council in October 2021.

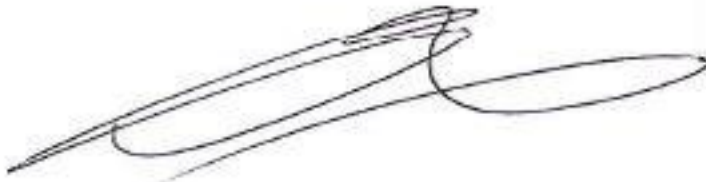
One of the most important modifications of this document is the evolution of the systems of levels towards a more complex system of grading obeying severe and widespread standards at the international level.

We have in fact decided to gradually transform our system of skills assessment by an autonomy levels system to a competence gradation system according to the CanMEDS Framework. The CanMEDS Framework is the most recognized and most widely applied health care profession competency framework in the world. (Frank JR, Snell L, Sherbino J, editors. *CanMEDS 2015 Physician Competency Framework*. Ottawa: Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada; 2015.) The use of a national competency-based framework for medical training is one reason why the Canadian medical education system is regarded as among the strongest in the world. We used some tools derived from this extremely complete document to defining the training requirements for trainees. This document allows to establish milestones to grade the competence system and to define the concept of EPA (Entrustable Professional Activities). EPA is a key task of a discipline that can be entrusted to an individual who possesses the appropriate level of competence.

I think we can be proud of this work which allows us to have a recent document which will allow us to move faster and better to harmonize the practice of Angiology / Vascular Medicine in Europe. Obviously, it is up to all of us to apply the recommendations made and to update this document regularly.

I am convinced that our Division, which has become increasingly strong and essential, will make it possible, with the help of other essential European players in the field of vascular diseases, to develop strong and excellent Angiology / Vascular medicine in Europe.

In conclusion, I would like to thank once again all those who have helped and supported me during these years in the defense and promotion of Angiology/Vascular Medicine in Europe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a cursive, somewhat abstract shape.

Jean-Claude WAUTRECHT

President of the UEMS Division Angiology/Vascular Medicine

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