



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

Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Clinical Genetics

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To Presidents of the
Human Genetic Societies of Europe

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you in my capacity as chair of the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee for Clinical Genetics "MJC Clinical Genetics" of the Union of Medical Specialities in Europe, "UEMS". I urge you to read this letter carefully and contact the relevant person within your organisation if it is not yourself, to take the action outlined below in preparation for the expected establishment of a UEMS Section of Clinical Genetics during the ESHG meeting in Paris in June.

As you probably know, due to joint efforts of ESHG and UEMS, with input from the French and Czech EU-presidencies, we achieved formal recognition of Clinical Genetics as a European specialty in 2011. Being licensed as a medical genetic specialist in any European country is now mutually recognised in all other EU countries. This facilitates transborder flow of medical genetic specialists, providing a medical doctor the opportunity to work as a specialist in any EU country, once certified as a specialist in his/her home country. This recognition is only valid for medical doctors and not scientists or counsellors.

UEMS is an organisation for harmonising training and education of medical doctors throughout Europe, and is a body that liaises with EU authorities to represent and provide a voice for European medical doctors. The national medical professional organisations from each country are represented within UEMS and each recognised specialty has its own individual Section and delegates. Prior to recognition of Clinical Genetics as a European specialty, clinical genetics was represented by the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC). As a newly recognised speciality we do not yet have an independent Section.

According to UEMS procedures, an application to establish a Clinical Genetics Section was made by the Swedish Society of Medicine, on behalf of the MJC. The UEMS Council will vote on this application on April 20 and I anticipate a favourable outcome. The new Section of Clinical Genetics may therefore be able to hold its inaugural meeting during the ESHG Paris conference on Monday June 10th 2013, according to the procedures in the UEMS statutes (www.uems.eu). At this meeting the MJC Clinical Genetics will be dismissed and the first board of officers for the Section will be elected.

The procedure for setting up a Section is as follows:

UEMS will contact each national medical professional association and ask them to appoint two delegates to this first meeting. We expect that the medical associations will ask their respective national medical/clinical genetics professional societies to nominate these delegates from amongst their members. The board and officers will then be elected from these nominated delegates.

I will inform you about the outcome of the voting as soon as possible after April 20th. I would be grateful if you can take action as suggested below as soon as possible so that arrangements will be in place for the anticipated inaugural meeting June 10th.

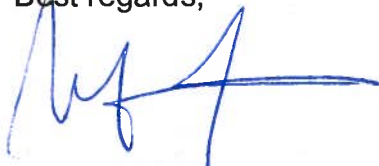
Please can you or an appropriate representative, i.e. a medical doctor in an official position within your national professional society, contact your national medical organisation and inform them about the UEMS decision to form a Clinical Genetic Section as soon as possible after you get confirmation from me that voting has been favourable. Hopefully this will help to speed up the nomination procedure. You can already start your internal decision process on who to elect as your two delegates in preparation for this.

In parallel with the formal nomination process via your national organisation, I would appreciate if you could please inform me of who you have nominated. This will help me with correspondence regarding the inaugural meeting and preparation for elections of board and officers.

UEMS does not provide any funds for its Sections. The expenses of individual Sections are covered by membership fees from the national medical professional organisations and income generated by the Section's own activities. This means that the delegates of membership organisations have to participate on their own, or their national professional society's account. We are therefore very appreciative that ESHG will host our first Section meeting free of charge and wish to take advantage of this.

If you have any questions or need any clarifications, please contact me. I will be back with more information as soon as I have it.

Best regards,



Ulf Kristoffersson
Associate professor
Senior consultant
Chair MJC Clinical Genetics