

CPD in Rheumatology

European Recommendations to Ensure Quality of Care

**Anthony D Woolf
on behalf of the
UEMS Section of Rheumatology
& European Board of Rheumatology**





Quality of Health Care

- ◆ **The public need to be confident that they are receiving the highest quality of health care and achieving the expected health gain**
- ◆ **Ensuring the highest standards of health care is essential for any health care provider - organisation or individual**

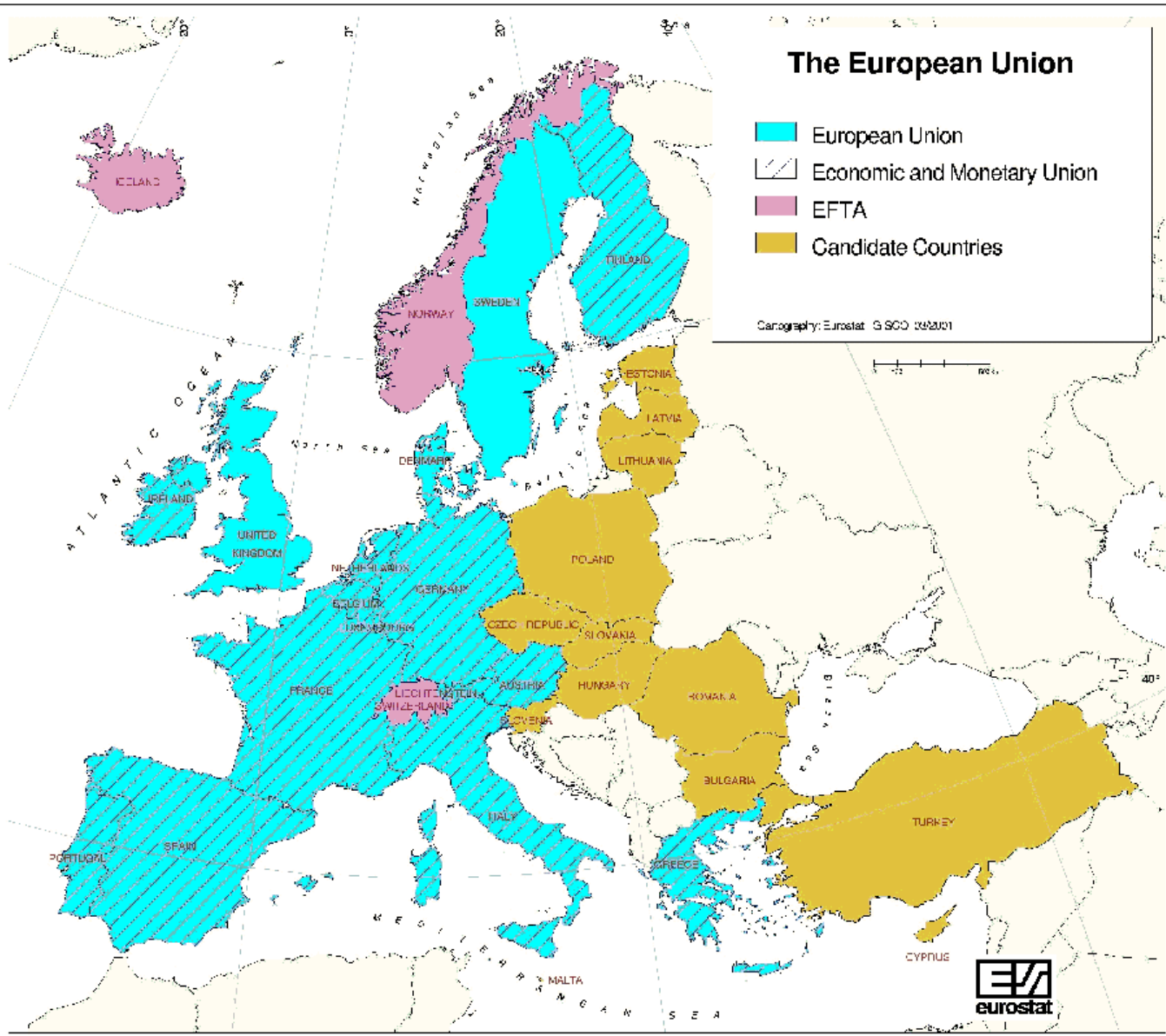
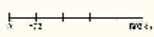
CPD in Rheumatology

- ◆ **Post-graduate training** should furnish the individual with knowledge and skills which enable him to be competent in the entire field of Rheumatology.
- ◆ **Continuing medical education and professional development** is to guarantee the maintenance and up-grading of knowledge, skills and competence following completion of post-graduate training.
- ◆ **This process of lifelong learning** is to enable the individual to expand and fulfil their personal and professional potential to meet the present and future needs of patients.

The European Union

-  European Union
-  Economic and Monetary Union
-  EFTA
-  Candidate Countries

Cartography: Eurostat G.SCO (2002/01)



What is happening in Europe?

Practical

- ◆ movement of doctors
- ◆ movement of citizens
- ◆ free communication of ideas

Legal

- ◆ right to free movement of labour within the European Union

Free Movement Requires Harmonisation

- ◆ **Training**

- content and quality

- ◆ **Clinical practice**

- similar outcomes assessed by audit

- ◆ **Continuing medical education**

- similar standards and requirements
- mutual recognition of educational activities

European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)

- ◆ The statutory purpose of the UEMS is the harmonisation and improvement of the quality of medical specialist practice in the European Union
- ◆ Education is a key element to achieving this
- ◆ Charters have been developed on Training and on Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development of Medical specialists in the European Community
- ◆ The UEMS Section of Rheumatology and the European Board of Rheumatology have developed recommendations specific to rheumatology. Consensus was achieved by review of existing training requirements and programmes followed by workshops with representation from the various European countries.
- ◆ The recommendations for CME / CPD are presented

U.E.M.S. CHARTER ON CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (October 1994)

Chapter 1 Professional Co-ordinating Authority

Chapter 2 Structure of CME

Chapter 3 Availability of CME

Chapter 4 Assessment and Accreditation of CME

Chapter 5 Quality Assurance of CME

Chapter 6 European Co-ordination of CME

Chapter 7 Migration of medical specialists

Chapter 8 Financing of CME

What is happening in rheumatology?

U.E.M.S. Section of Rheumatology / European Board of Rheumatology: Setting Standards for CME

- ◆ **Charter on CME in Rheumatology**
- ◆ **Core curriculum for CME / CPD**
- ◆ **Standards for quality assurance of CME activities**

U.E.M.S. Section of Rheumatology / European Board of Rheumatology: Setting Standards for CME

Process of Development

- ◆ **Committee with an academic and a professional representative from each European country**
- ◆ **Reviewed specialist training programmes and regulations for CME / CPD in the different countries**
- ◆ **Survey of competencies utilised by rheumatologists throughout Europe**
- ◆ **Workshops to achieve consensus with review of recommendations by member national organisations**

Charter on CME in Rheumatology

- ◆ **Individual responsibilities**
- ◆ **Curriculum and standards to be maintained**
 - 5 year cycle
 - maintenance of competency and delivery of highest standards of care
 - demonstrate by participation and competency
- ◆ **Requirements of CME**
 - national / European recommendations
- ◆ **Assessment of educational need by individuals (case review, audit)**
- ◆ **Demonstration of competency (log book, assessments of competency)**

U.E.M.S. Section of Rheumatology / European Board of Rheumatology: Setting Standards for CME

- ◆ **Charter on CME in Rheumatology**
- ◆ **Core curriculum for CME / CPD**
- ◆ **Standards for quality assurance of CME activities**

European Board of Rheumatology: Core Curriculum for CME

- ◆ **General remarks**
 - **Description of the discipline**
 - **Goals of CME and CPD**
- ◆ **General knowledge, skills and attitudes**
- ◆ **Skills of the Speciality**
- ◆ **Optional skills of the Speciality**

General Principles

- ◆ **A rheumatologist must maintain their clinical skills by regular contact with people with musculoskeletal conditions, and have responsibility for their diagnosis and management, and by participating in appropriate courses**
- ◆ **There should be ongoing experience of the spectrum of musculoskeletal conditions**

European Board of Rheumatology: Core Curriculum for CME

General knowledge, skills and attitudes , e.g

- basic knowledge**
- knowledge of the rheumatic diseases**
- clinical skills**
- laboratory tests**
- imaging**
- bone measurement**
- drug therapies**
- role of allied professionals and other medical specialties**
- patient education and self management**
- socioeconomic and legal aspects**
- research**
- communication skills**
- health care delivery**

European Board of Rheumatology: Core Curriculum for CME

Skills of the Speciality

- arthrocentesis**
- synovial needle biopsy**
- soft tissue injections**
- counselling skills**
- management skills**
- audit methodology and outcome measures**

European Board of Rheumatology: Core Curriculum for CME

Optional skills of the Speciality

Perform, and interpret where appropriate:

- various biopsies**
- x-ray examinations, ultrasonography, peripheral MRI**
- bone densitometry**
- laboratory investigations**
- electromyography**
- arthroscopy**
- non-surgical synovectomy**
- epidural and regional nerve blocks**
- manipulation and mobilisation techniques**
- capillaroscopy**
- intervertebral disc aspiration, injection or nucleolysis**

CME Activities

- ◆ Reading journals and textbooks
- ◆ Meetings - local, national, international
- ◆ In-hospital activities
- ◆ Informal contacts discussing cases with colleagues
- ◆ Distance learning
- ◆ Audit

But tendency to *teaching* not *learning*

Evidence Based Medicine

Sackett and Haynes 1995

- ◆ Convert information needs into answerable questions which must be specific giving precise details of patient, clinical intervention and outcome of interest
- ◆ Identify best evidence
- ◆ Critically appraise that evidence for validity (closeness to truth) and usefulness (clinical applicability)
- ◆ Apply results of this appraisal in clinical practice
- ◆ Evaluate performance

U.E.M.S. Section of Rheumatology / European Board of Rheumatology: Setting Standards for CME

- ◆ Charter on CME in Rheumatology
- ◆ Core curriculum for CME / CPD
- ◆ **Standards for quality assurance of
CME activities**

U.E.M.S. CHARTER ON CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

European Accreditation Council for CME

- ◆ **umbrella structure for the affiliated professional CME authorities**
- ◆ **clearing house for accreditation and CME credits in Europe**

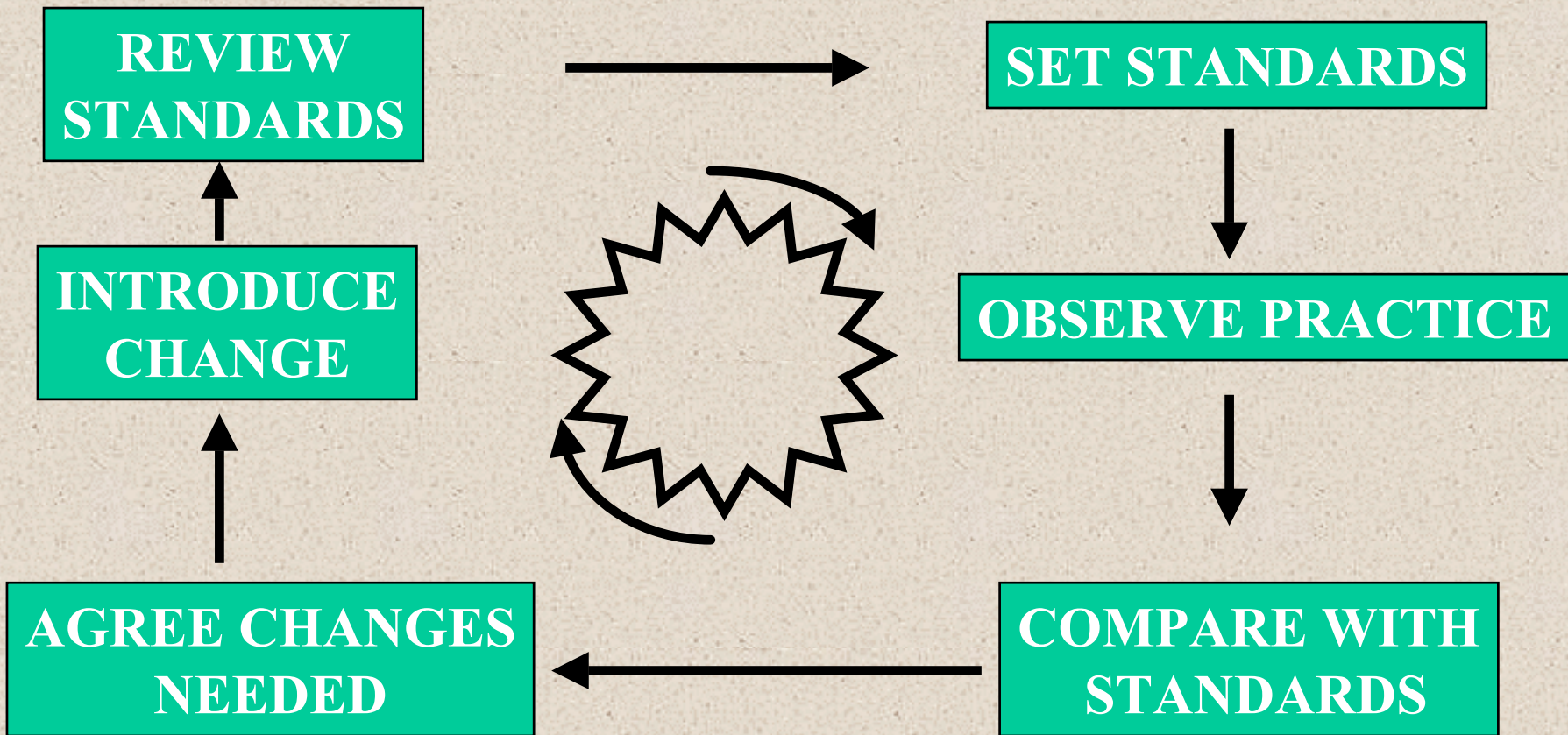
Assessment

- ◆ **To demonstrate that we have the highest level of skills**
- ◆ **To demonstrate a high standard of clinical practice producing the best outcome for the patient**

Assessment

MCQ at EULAR 1998 GENEVA

- ◆ A quiz open to all participants from different countries based on Swiss examination
- ◆ MCQ
 - true / false single correct answer
 - true / false multiple correct answers
 - matching statements / pictures
- ◆ Language not a problem
- ◆ Performed well with good discrimination





The Decade of the Bone and Joint