The EBU Examination Committee announces 2009 EBU In-Service Assessment

The EBU Examination Committee announces the 14th annual In-Service Assessment on:

Date : Friday 13 February 2009
Time : 12:00 – 16:00 hrs

The 2009 In-Service Assessment can be done in either one of the following:

a) Online assessment.

b) Written/paper assessment.

The EBU In-Service Assessment is offered in the English language and consists of 100 multiple choice questions covering all fields of urology. Each question has four alternatives of which only one is correct or best answer. During the assessment no books or other sources of information are allowed (closed book assessment).

Introduction
Self assessment and regular testing of ability and knowledge are very powerful teaching modalities. The European Board of Urology offers the annual ‘In-Service Assessment in Urology’ to all trainees in urology. Through this assessment programme directors (and residents) are able to identify deficiencies - also related to specific subtopics – allowing them to specifically target those areas in future developments. As each trainee is identified by experience and is therefore often offered in those areas in future studies. As each trainee is identified by experience and is therefore often offered in those areas in future developments, they are carefully selected and of equal difficulty for all candidates. The FEBU oral examination is organised once a year.


The financial envelope for the programme is EUR 321,5 million and is managed by the Commission and the Public Health Executive Agency (PHEA). The basic principle of the programme is co-financing and the maximum reimbursement is usually up to 50 or 60 per cent. Organisations applying for operating grants must have members in at least half of the Member States with a balanced geographical coverage across the EU. For actions designated as “joint Actions”, for example designated by the European Board of Urology (EBU) as an international organisation, the participating countries will be asked to submit proposals for actions which could be jointly financed by the Commission and one or more Member States. All projects must cover at least one of the specific objectives of this programme and should provide added value at European level and support developments in the field of health.

The EU Member States enjoy full rights to participate in the Health Programme. Organisations from any EU Member State can participate in the programme, e.g.:

• Research institutes and universities
• Public administrations
• Non - governmental organisations
• Commercial firms

The Health Programme is also open to organisations based in accession and candidate countries, European Neighbourhood countries and Western Balkan countries included in the stabilisation and association process.

A strategic EU approach to health

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European Board of Urology examinations: Where do we stand today?

Since I was appointed chairman of the EBU Examination Committee a few months ago, I receive many e-mails each month inquiring into the logistics of FEBU exams. This short article should help to address the most frequent and “burning” questions.

What is the FEBU Written Examination?

The FEBU written examination is a multiple choice question (MCQ) exam, covering the entire urological field including the related basic science. A total of 350 MCQs have to be answered within the two-and-a-half (2.5) hours set for the exam.

In what languages is this exam offered?

When this exam was first organized, in Genoa in 1992, it was offered in nine different languages. However, as of 2008, the FEBU written examination is only offered in English. A strong argument for this change was that it was widely felt that the FEBU title should be understandable in the most commonly used language in science, which is English.

There are some exceptions and these relate to countries where the FEBU written examination is an integral part of the national urological exit exams.

Who can participate?

Candidates meeting any of the following criteria:

• Residents of a European training programme in their final year of training.
• European certified urologists.
• Non-European urologists, certified as a specialist urologist by the relevant authorities in their country of origin.

What is the FEBU oral examination?

For the oral examination, the FEBU examination takes one hour and a half to two hours for each candidate. During this exam, the candidate is asked one oral question, which is carefully prepared in advance, by the examination secretariat. The question has to be answered within 10 minutes and the candidate has 10 minutes to prepare the answer. The oral examination is usually held in English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Spanish and Portuguese.

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Who can participate in the Oral FEBU exam and in which language?

Candidates who have passed the FEBU written examination and met one of the following criteria:

• Residents of a European training program in their final year of training.
• European certified urologists.
• Non-European urologists, certified as a specialist urologist by the relevant authorities in their country of origin.

The FEBU written examination is offered in Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Spanish and Portuguese.

What is the format of the In-Service Assessment?

The assessment consists of 100 MCQs covering all urological fields. The In-Service Assessment is organized in such a way that candidates can participate in their own training institute.

The assessment can be taken in any of the following two ways:

• Online assessment: made available through the EBU website.
• Written assessment: only organized in training institutes that apply for participation. Registration will be open as of November 3rd, 2008.

For more information concerning these exams visit the following website: http://www.ebu.com

The BDU In-Service Assessment is an annual examination for all trainees in urology. The BDU In-Service Assessment is organized in such a way that candidates can participate in their own training institute. The assessment can be taken in any of the following two ways:

• Online assessment: made available through the EBU website.
• Written assessment: only organized in training institutes that apply for participation. Registration will be open as of November 3rd, 2008.

For more information concerning these exams visit the following website: http://www.ebu.com

MCQ booklet – study material

The BDU has published MCQ booklet of previous assessments (2009-2008) including the correct answers. To download the order form, please visit our website and go to Other/Forms.

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• Online assessment: made available through the EBU website.
• Written assessment: only organized in training institutes that apply for participation. Registration will be open as of November 3rd, 2008.

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