



To the president of the National Neurological Societies

Vienna, 25. October 2022

Re: Call for participants in the European Board Exam in Neurology

Dear Colleague,

The intention of this letter is to inform you about the European examination for neurologists in 2023 and to encourage you to send candidates, especially those who have completed their training, to this international examination.

Although political opinions differ on a united Europe, mobility on our continent continues to increase, leading to an increasing migration of patients and doctors across European borders. Cooperation in science, health and education within Europe facilitates medical and scientific research and aims to promote patient care at the highest level.

The European Academy of Neurology (EAN) together with the European Board of Neurology (EBN), who is part of the Union of European Medical Specialists (UEMS), promotes the highest level of neurological patient care by securing the professional and ethical status of neurological specialists and harmonizing training programs for neurologists in Europe.

The European Board Exam in Neurology is organized by the UEMS-EBN in collaboration with the EAN. The examination consists of a theoretical and a practical part and takes place online; if desired, the oral examination can also be taken at the venue of the EAN Congress.

Assessment is an integral part of a training program and a logical step towards harmonization is the development of a European neurology examination. Such an exam is primarily intended for neurologists at the end of their training, but could also be used by other participants for self-assessment in reflective practice and to inform their own medical training needs. Continent-wide examinations have been common in the United States for many years, and Europe should aim to do so as well.

Several medical specialties, including anesthesiology, already offer annual pan-European examinations taken by thousands of candidates who set a harmonized level for their specialists, contributing to high-quality care in the field across Europe and facilitating the migration of professionals wishing to move within Europe. Although these European exams currently have no legal status, national authorities are increasingly recognizing some of them as equivalent to their national exams.

Since 2009, the European Board of Neurology has offered an annual examination for neurologists. Those who successfully pass their exams receive a certificate confirming their distinction through our examination.

The exam questions and clinical assessment tasks are very carefully prepared by neurologists from all over Europe, with important input and support from the EAN, including European guidelines

and learning resources, resulting in a level and variety of topics not easily achieved within the boundaries of one nation.

Several national neurological societies in Europe support us and encourage neurologists to take the exam at the end of their training, and in some cases they even financially support their candidates to take the EBN exam.

In some countries, the EBN exam is the final exam for neurology trainees. In other countries, candidates who pass the exam can be accredited (which also makes the exam attractive to local neurologists).

The coronavirus outbreak has forced us to quickly transform the European Board of Neurology face-to-face exam into a supervised mostly online exam that also includes a multiple choice test and open book questions.

This letter is an invitation to encourage neurologists or residents in your country who are in the final stages of their training to take the EBN exam and to support them if appropriate. Details of the 14th European Neurology Examination can be found on our website (www.uems-neuroboard.org).

Individual candidates who register for the exam are expected to receive a discount on the EAN Congress fee, regardless of their performance in the exam.

Please forward this letter to the heads of neurology training centres in your country. For further information or clarification, please contact us (j.b.m.kuks@umcg.nl).

Best wishes,



Prof. Dr JBMK Kuks
Chair of the Examination Committee



Dr. Martin Rakusa
UEMS-EBN Co Chair Joint
Educational Board



Prof. Dr Riccardo Soffietti
EAN Co Chair Joint
Educational Board



Prof. Dr P. Cras
President UEMS-EBN



Prof. Dr Paul Boon
President EAN