

Minutes combined meeting Section of Surgery and Section of Cardio-thoracic Surgery - 11th July 2003 - The Royal College of Surgeons, London

Present: *Section and European Board of Surgery*

Professor R Greenhalgh
Professor J Gruwez
Professor M -J Polonius
Professor Brandscheid

Cardio-thoracic Surgery

Professor H A Huysmans
Professor T Lerut
Professor W Klepetko

Apologies: Professor Weder
Dr Panoussopoulos

It was agreed that the original meeting 10th May 2003 would be circulated. It was reiterated that both the Section of Surgery and Section of Cardio-thoracic Surgery wish to see a united high quality European Board of Thoracic Surgery.

It is expected that each Section will have its Division of Thoracic Surgery but the sole aims of these Divisions will be the creation of the single united European Board of Thoracic Surgery.

Next steps

The next moves are to identify "designated thoracic surgeons acceptable to both Sections" from each European member state. Professor Brandscheid for Surgery and Professor Lerut for Cardio-thoracic surgery were going to discuss with two other colleagues from their Section membership of the Working Group of "designated thoracic surgeons acceptable to both Sections". It was hoped that this Working Group is identified in time to be agreed at the Section of Surgery meeting in Athens on 3rd October.

Mandate of the Working Party

The mandate of the Working Party is to establish statutes of the European Board of Thoracic Surgery. It is hoped that this working party of "designated thoracic surgeons acceptable to both Divisions", will form the European Board of Thoracic Surgery with each person properly delegated from the member states and this European Board of Thoracic Surgery will relate to both Sections. Through this newly created Board the 2 Sections will be brought closer together. The working party will meet in Vienna in October.

SUMMARY

Meeting of the European Section and Board of Surgery and the European Section and Board of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery

The meeting took place in Brussels on Saturday 10th May 2003 at 08:30am.

Present: Professor J Witte, President Surgery UEMS
Professor R Greenhalgh, President European Board of Surgery
Dr D Panoussopoulos, Secretary Section of Surgery
Dr P Rutten, Treasurer European Board of Surgery
Professor J Gruwez, Emiritus President, European Board of Surgery
Professor H A Huysmans, President Section of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
Professor T Lerut, President Board of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
The Secretary, Section & Board of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery

Vascular Surgery

It was agreed that vascular surgery and thoracic surgery would be discussed by the two Sections and Boards.

On vascular surgery, after detailed discussion, it was agreed that the European Board of Vascular Surgery within the Section of Surgery would be the sole European Board responsible for vascular surgery and that if those within the Section of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery wished to achieve the vascular qualification, they would liaise with the European Board of Vascular Surgery.

Thoracic Surgery

It was agreed from the start that it is recognised by both Sections, that there is a constituency of surgeons with a thoracic interest who train within cardio-Thoracic surgery and a second constituency of thoracic surgeons who train within surgery.

These two constituencies of surgeons are recognised by the two Sections and the aim would be to achieve a final common pathway of a single European Board of Thoracic Surgery through co-operation between these two Divisions.

It was determined that at the Royal College of Surgeons European Day in London on Friday 11th July, we could meet once more with two members of the Division of Thoracic Surgery from within Cardio-Thoracic surgery and two members representing the Division of Thoracic Surgery from within the Division of Thoracic Surgery of the Section of Surgery.

It is recognised that sometimes a country will request the same person to represent thoracic surgery in both Sections.

In conclusion, it is agreed that the aim should be to create a single European Board of Thoracic Surgery through collaboration between the two Sections. Professor Greenhalgh agreed to write to Mr Chris Russell in the Royal College of Surgeons to request a room at 12:30 on Friday 11th July, where we can take lunch. A letter has subsequently been written.