

21st Scientific Symposium of the Austrian Pharmacological Society:
Joint Meeting with the British Pharmacological Society and the
Pharmacological Societies of Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia
Graz, 16–18 September 2015

MEETING ABSTRACT

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The EPHAR European Certified Pharmacologists (EuCP)

programme: an update

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Background: EPHAR has initiated the European Certified Pharmacologists (EuCP) Programme to identify experts in the field of pharmacology whose competency profile, in addition to their personal specialised scientific expertise, covers expert knowledge in all major fields and who have experiences and practical awareness in a wide spectrum of pharmacological techniques. Since the formal launch of the programme (July 2014), seventeen EPHAR member societies have declared their active participation in the EuCP programme.

Methods: The member societies were called to set up transparent rules for their national EuCP schemes which must meet all requirements of the EuCP Guidelines; these rules must consist of a clear catalogue of criteria with respect to knowledge, practical awareness and skills, as well as general rules including rules for final assessment of candidates. Before a national pharmacological society can begin to certify individuals as qualified for EuCP certification, the national EuCP scheme must be accredited by the EuCP Committee.

Results: As of the time of this meeting, three member societies (France, Austria, the Netherlands) have submitted national EuCP schemes. The programmes differ in structure and reflect the flexibility of the EuCP Programme with respect to the respective national conditions. The Italian programme is based on a catalogue of criteria, which have to be certified by individual applicants; the Austrian programme is based on a legally regulated medical specialisation in pharmacology and toxicology (guidelines for non-medical pharmacologists will follow); the Dutch programme describes rules for training of pharmacologists who shall be certified as EuCPs.

Discussion: Thus, these first submitted national programmes can also serve as 'case studies' for other participating member societies to develop their national EuCP rules. All three programmes are currently under evaluation by the EuCP Committee and, once approved, will be published on the EuCP website [1].

Reference

1. <http://www.eucp-certification.org>

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