



**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS
SPÉCIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL
SPECIALISTS**

Association internationale sans but lucratif

International non-profit organisation

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Request: creation of a UEMS Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on “Infection Control”, as a joint invitation by UEMS Infectious Diseases (ID) and Medical Microbiology (MM) Sections

Dear Colleagues:

Health care-associated infections (HAI) represent a major common adverse event in care delivery, with a significant impact on morbidity, mortality and quality of life and present an economic burden for the society. Moreover, over the last decade, multidrug-resistant bacteria have been implicated in severe HAI with an impact on clinical outcome due to limited therapeutic options and on the spread of resistant organisms in the healthcare settings.

There is a growing body of evidence that an important proportion of HAI are preventable through infection prevention and control strategies that can also limit the spread of multi-resistant organisms in the healthcare settings. As a matter of fact, the rate of HAI and antibiotic resistance represent an important indicator of quality of care.

Infection Control represents a multi-disciplinary activity that involves infectious diseases specialists, clinical and medical microbiologists, infection control professionals and public health professionals. Some of the major stakeholders dealing with Infection Control are represented within UEMS Infectious Diseases Section and UEMS Medical Microbiology Section with strong support from scientific societies such as European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID). European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) was set up within ESCMID in order to strengthen infection control and preventive measures in European countries.

Therefore, UEMS Infectious Diseases Section and UEMS Medical Microbiology Section have initiated request for creation of the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Infection Control with goal of defining European standards of medical education and training in Infection Control. Indeed, the availability of European Infection Control core competencies is a cornerstone for harmonizing infection prevention and control training in Europe. Proposed Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on

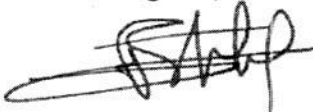
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Infection Control would ensure that part of curriculum and European Training Requirements pertaining to Infection Control in both ID and MM specialties are structured in the same way. As a next step, this proposed Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Infection Control plans to set up a European Certification in Infection Control.

Since full implementation of Infection Control measures can only be fulfilled through multidisciplinary work, invitation will be sent to all UEMS Sections hoping for future collaboration within Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Infection Control.

Best regards,



Prof. Jean Paul Stahl

President of UEMS
Infectious Diseases Section



Prof. Hilpi Rautelin

President of UEMS
Medical Microbiology Section



Prof. Evelina Tacconelli

Chairperson of EUCIC
Steering Committee