

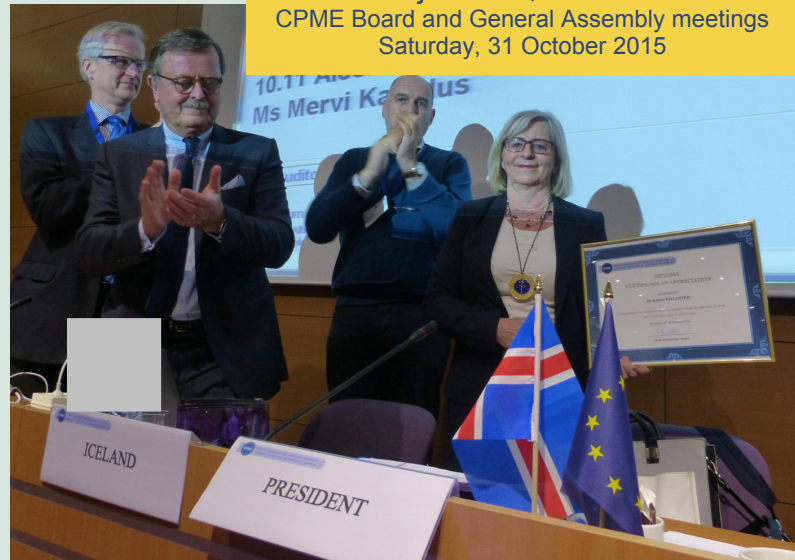
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Award ceremony

Dr Katrín Fjeldsted, CPME President
CPME Board and General Assembly meetings
Saturday, 31 October 2015



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Farewell message from the CPME President:

Dear colleagues and friends,

Welcome to the 18th edition of the CPME Newsletter. This is not my usual message, it is my farewell message as CPME President.

CPME was founded in 1959 as CP by the six original members of the European Union, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Before me, there were 20 presidents of our organisation, all men. I was the first female Vice-president and Treasurer of CPME and by becoming President I therefore managed to break the so-called glass ceiling. This was important to me even though I have never looked at myself as a woman doctor, a woman first and foremost but being a doctor is quite separate in my mind. Therefore I am a doctor who happens to be a woman. The number of women in medicine has grown considerably in the past decades and in many medical schools now over half the students are women. I urge them to become active in medical politics alongside the men.

My term as President started in January 2013 and will end in December 2015. These have been three years of an intense political agenda of pro-active and re-active work to do with the needs of patients and the medical profession. It was necessary to form a policy on the professional autonomy of doctors, on task shifting, to form a working group on Gender in Medicine, to discuss "health in all policies" with doctor MEPs and liaise with them, to ensure the safety of patients is taken into account in EU level policy-making initiatives and to oppose outside standardisation of health services to name but a few of recent topics. Numerous media interviews, articles and quotes, hundreds of letters and conferences attest to the work carried out (www.cpme.eu). None of this could have been done without the firm support I received from you all and the secretariat of the CPME under the exemplary leadership of Birgit Beger, our Secretary General. I have highly valued the policy work of Sarada Das, Constance Colin and Anamaria Corca, the communication/public relations work of Miriam d'Ambrosio and office work of Christophe Lecourtois and Marie-Paule Bockstal, not forgetting our visiting EMSA students, policy interns and others in the office that have come and gone.

With this in mind, please allow me to share my vision for the future: patients are what unites doctors in Europe. The medical profession needs unity, we need to be together in a strong organisation and patients need to remain at the centre of our care. I invite you to consult the next pages of the CPME newsletter and stay informed of our latest policy statements, activities and events. I hope to see you on December 18th in Luxembourg where European Medical Organisations hold a conference on Continuous Professional Development.

Finally, as well as thanking for the co-operation with the Executive Committee members these three years, Drs Frank - Ulrich Montgomery, Heikki Pälve, Milan Kubek, Jacques de Haller and Istvan Éger, I wish the incoming President, Dr Jacques de Haller and Drs Montgomery as Treasurer, Patrick Romestaing, Istvan Éger, Rutger van der Gaag and Bernard Maillet as Vice-presidents all the best in their work for CPME in the coming years.

With my best regards to you all,

Dr Katrin Fjeldsted
CPME President



CPME AUTUMN MEETINGS - 31 OCTOBER 2015 - POLICY OUTCOMES

On 31 October 2015, the CPME Board adopted and/or endorsed the following policies:

- CPME Policy Condemning Cyber-attacks: Better Protection of Critical IT Infrastructures ([CPME 2015/091 FINAL](#))
- CPME Statement on Medical Confidentiality ([CPME 2015/074 FINAL](#))
- CPME Policy on Mobile Health (mHealth) ([CPME 2015/095 FINAL](#))
- CPME Declaration for the EU-OSHA Healthy Workplaces Campaign 'Manage Stress' ([CPME 2015/0086 FINAL](#))
- CPME endorsed the WMA Resolution to Stop Attacks Against Healthcare Workers and Facilities in Turkey ([CPME 2015/109 FINAL](#))
- CPME Resolution on the Situation of Health in Greece ([CPME 2015/083 FINAL](#))
- Open Letter of Support to the Medical Association of Malta on Health and Safety Standards for Hospitals ([Open Letter](#))

Autumn abstract, image courtesy of Simon Howden at FreeDigitalPhotos.net

MOBILE HEALTH? YES, BUT...

Mobile health (mHealth) is an emerging and fast-paced growing sector. mHealth is often praised for its potential to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare, to facilitate patients' empowerment and adherence to treatments, to ensure an easier access to care for patients living in remote areas, or even to reduce costs of healthcare budgets.

While potential benefits undoubtedly can emerge from the use of these new technological devices and services, one should however not overlook the potential risks they entail. Safeguards are therefore needed in terms of e.g. data privacy, professional liability, regulatory framework and assessment of mHealth Apps.

Taking stock of the foreseen risks and benefits of mHealth Apps, the CPME policy on mobile health adopted on 31 October 2015 outlines 8 recommendations for a safe use of these technologies.

Find out more about the CPME policy on mobile health here: [CPME 2015/095 FINAL](#) .

For further information, please contact:
[Constance Colin](#).



Healthcare on mobile, image courtesy of Stuart Miles FreeDigitalPhotos.net

HIGHLIGHTS

Safeguards are [...] needed in terms of e.g. data privacy, professional liability, regulatory framework and assessment of mHealth Apps.



With the financial support of



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG Ministry of Health

Presidency of the Council of the European Union

GRAND DUCHY OF Luxembourg



Joint European Medical Organisation's Conference

Continuing Professional Development for Doctors – Improving Healthcare

Luxembourg , 18 December 2015

twitter  #CPD2015

The
European Association of Senior Hospital Doctors (AEMH)
European Council of Medical Orders (CEOM)
Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME)
European Working Group of Practitioners and Specialists in Free Practice (EANA)
European Junior Doctors (EJD)
European Medical Students Association (EMSA)
European Federation of Salaried Doctors (FEMS)
European Union of General Practitioners (UEMO),
European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)

invite you to register for the conference Continuing Professional Development for Doctors.

Register here:

or contact:

ESSI.SAARTO@CPME.EU

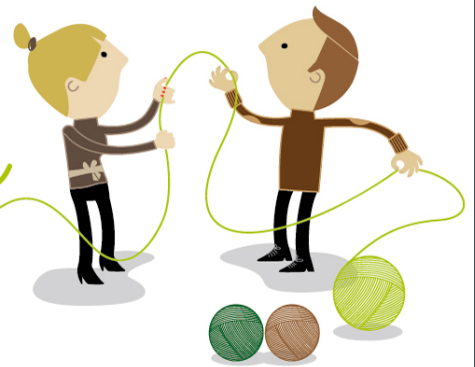


Healthy
Workplaces

Manage



stress

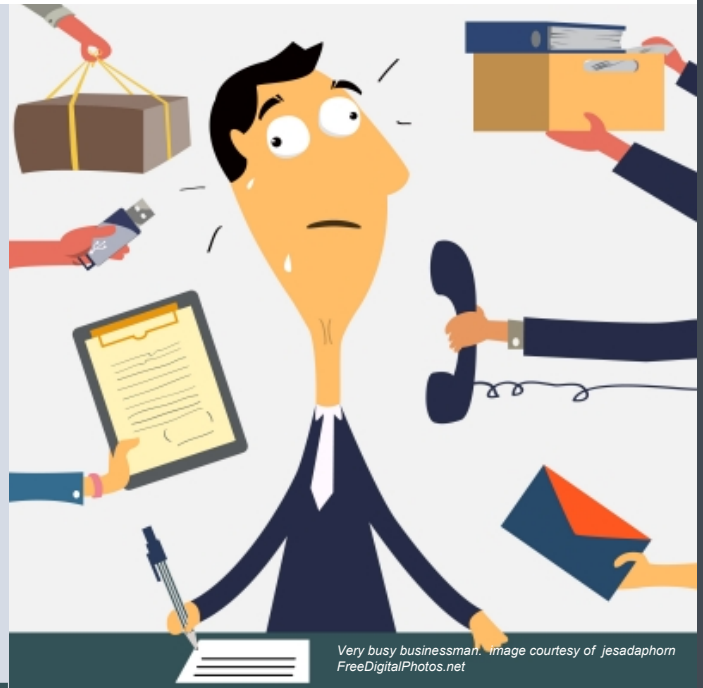


MANAGING STRESS AT THE WORKPLACE

At its meeting on 31 October, the CPME Board adopted the [‘CPME Declaration for EU-OSHA Healthy Workplaces Campaign ‘Manage Stress’](#). The Declaration reaffirms European doctors’ commitment to continuously highlight the workplace’s impact on health and ensure a high quality of medical services to prevent, diagnose and treat stress-related illness.

As CPME Rapporteur for Occupational Health, Dr Jacques de Haller, President-elect of CPME, highlights:

“The medical profession is a very good case study of the need for this campaign: levels of stress-related illness among doctors are high, which can have a negative effect on the individual doctors, and of course also on patients and on the entire healthcare system. But this is just one example, in every workplace stress has a knock-on effect that reaches far beyond the person affected and has an impact on their work and family life. It is therefore everyone’s responsibility to promote healthy workplaces”.



Very busy businessman. Image courtesy of jesadaphorn FreeDigitalPhotos.net

The Declaration also acknowledges that doctors and other health professionals themselves are often vulnerable to stress.

Promoting health at the workplace has a long-standing history at CPME: the [‘CPME Occupational Health Charter’](#) is based on discussions reaching back to 1969. The 2014-2015 ‘Healthy Workplaces’ campaign, which is hosted by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), is the third of its kind which CPME has joined. European doctors look forward to continuing the collaboration.

For further information, please contact:
[Sarada Das](#).

MEDICAL CONFIDENTIALITY



HIGHLIGHTS

Tragic events [...] must not be a pretext to justify the restriction of this fundamental principle.

Medical consultation. Image courtesy of cooldesign at FreeDigitalPhotos.net

In a Statement adopted on 31 October 2015, European doctors reaffirm the importance of the principle of medical confidentiality, both for the benefit of patients and society as whole.

The CPME statement on medical confidentiality outlines the reasons why medical confidentiality exists, the rights it confers to patients and the obligations it entails for doctors. The Statement also acknowledges the cases when the obligation not to

divulge confidential patient information can be lifted.

Tragic events such as the crash of the Germanwings Airbus last 24 March which led to the death of 150 people, must not be a pretext to justify the restriction of this fundamental principle. The CPME Statement on medical confidentiality is available here: [CPME 2015/074 FINAL](#) .

For further information, please contact:
[Constance Colin](#).

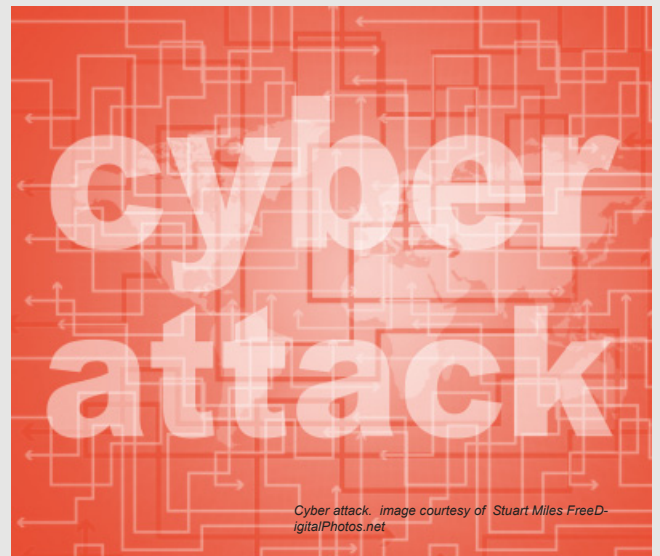
CYBER-ATTACKS: BETTER PROTECTION NEEDED IN HEALTHCARE

In a policy condemning cyber-attacks, European doctors call for better protection of critical IT infrastructures used in healthcare. Cyber-attacks directed at infrastructures of public general interest, such as hospital information systems, practice management systems or control systems for technical medical devices, represent a growing threat. The divulgence of sensitive patient information which may result from such attacks, not only puts patients' right to privacy at a risk, but it could also have disastrous consequences on the care provided to them.

The CPME policy points out four key urgent measures to be undertaken in order to avoid the occurrence of such attacks. Solutions should be found both at European and national levels, by the relevant competent authorities and by doctors themselves to ensure that work environments are protected. The underlying necessary financial investments should however not take away from healthcare budgets and be made at the detriment of patient care.

The CPME policy condemning cyber-attacks: Better protection of critical IT infrastructures was adopted by the CPME Board on 31 October 2015. It is available here: [CPME 2015/091 FINAL](#) .

For further information, please contact:
[Constance Colin](#).



Cyber attack. image courtesy of Stuart Miles FreeDigitalPhotos.net

ON-GOING ATTACKS ON HEALTH WORKERS AND FACILITIES IN TURKEY



The Turkish Medical Association (TMA) is the organized voice of physicians in Turkey, under the constitutional guarantee (www.ttb.org.tr/en). The Turkish Medical Association is CPME Associate Member since 5 April 2014 (www.cpme.eu/member/members).

We are facing an environment of escalating armed conflict in the period that followed the general elections of 7 June 2015. Unfortunately, health workers and health facilities too have been targeted in this environment of conflict in the region of South-eastern Anatolia. During this period ambulances and health workers were hijacked or kept as hostage; health facilities and vehicles were targeted; and there were raids on hospitals and family health centres. Because of curfews health workers and patients could not reach health facilities. Women had to deliver at home while being so close to maternity services. Patients could not reach dialysis centres. There are reports that patients who could have been saved by appropriate health interventions lost their lives as a result of lack of access to health centres and workers.



In the same period Dr Abdullah Biroğul was killed by PKK militants. Eyüp Ergen, a nurse, was killed by security forces while on his way home according to eye witnesses. Ambulance driver Şeyhmuz Dursun was also shot dead while the ambulance was trapped in an armed clash while in a rescue operation.

The Turkish Medical Association gave [an account](#) of this situation in a report on the state of health services in the region and acts of violence against health workers and facilities.

The issue was taken up during the recent General Assembly meeting of the World Medical Association (WMA) and an [emergency statement was adopted](#) calling for urgent stop of such attacks on health services in Turkey. The resolution was endorsed on 31 October 2015 at the CPME General Assembly ([CPME 2015/109 FINAL](#)).



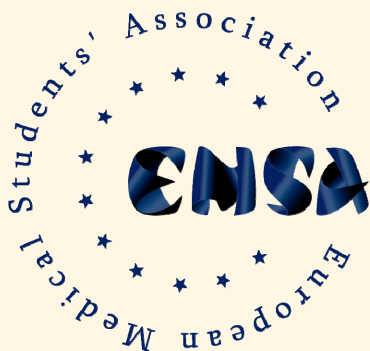
Attacks continued during 2 weeks that followed the adoption. On 21 October 2015 a bomb blast near a hospital in Şemdinli largely destroyed the building and all services other than emergency had to stop.

Two young doctors were on court trial on the charge of extending voluntary medical aid to injured persons who had to take refuge in a mosque after police violence during Gezi Park Protests in Istanbul in June 2013. On 25 October 2015 the court sentenced doctors to 10 months of imprisonment for “fouling a temple”.

At present attacks on the impartiality and independence of health workers and services are continuing together with efforts on the part of health workers to perform their profession and duties in line with relevant universal principles.

Dr Bayazit İlhan
President
Turkish Medical Association

EMSA: NEW ACTIVITY STRUCTURE AND TOPICS



The members of the European Medical Students' Association (EMSA) have restructured EMSA's European activities and selected three priority themes for the years 2016-2018: **1. sex and gender medicine, 2. refugee's health and 3. interprofessional collaboration in medical education.** EMSA will engage in these policies via European collaboration together with other healthcare students' associations and professional organisations. The EMSA students are honoured to welcome CPME President, Dr Katrín Fjeldsted, in the Advisory Board of the Gender and Sex Medicine Joint European Project. The EMSA Annual Report is available under [this link](#). You can find out more about EMSA on our website: <http://emsa-europe.eu>.

For further information, please contact:

[Jannis Papazoglou](#)
 CPME Intern / EMSA Permanent Officer
 EMSA President

PATIENT REGISTRIES' INITIATIVE — FINAL CONFERENCE



The final event of the Cross-border PATient REGistries INiTiative (PARENT) Joint action took place on 22-23 October in Valencia. The PARENT Joint action aims to bridge the gap of poorly accessible health data for research, by facilitating cross-border cooperation between EU Member States and developing comparable and interoperable patient registries. The Joint Action developed two important tools: the Registry of Registries (RoR), a web service aimed at rationalizing the use of registries, and the Methodological Guidelines, aimed to guide developers of registries willing to put in place or improve a registry. Further information on PARENT: <http://patientregistries.eu/parent>.

For further information, please contact:
[Constance Colin](#).



EU Institutional News

10 November 2015	Working Party on Public Health Council Meeting in Brussels, Belgium. More Information can be found here .
17 November 2015	The Intervention Research On Health Literacy among the Ageing population (IROHLA) is hosting a conference in Brussels (Belgium) titled "Towards Sustainable Health Systems". Please find the registration and agenda here .
23 November 2015	EMA-EUnetHTA meeting at the Danish Health and Medicines Authority (DHMA) premises in Copenhagen, Denmark. You can find the link to the event here .
1 December 2015	STOA Workshop "Innovative ICT for Healthcare" in the European Parliament in Brussels (EP Room ASP 5E2) with the Lead STOA panel member Ms Eva Kaili. Please find more information here .
7-8 December 2015	The Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO) meeting in Brussels (Belgium). You can find more information here .



CPME Meetings 2016-2017 SAVE THE DATES!

8-9 April 2016

18-19 November 2016

7-8 April 2017

CPME NEWS

On 17-19 November, CPME Secretary General Birgit Beger will be speaking at the 3rd "European Health Literacy Conference and Final IROHLA conference" (see further information [here](#)).

On 18 November, CPME President Dr Katrín Fjeldsted will deliver a speech during the "Global Transparency Congress for Life Sciences" organised by [CBI](#) in Munich, Germany. For the agenda and more information please follow [this](#) link.

On 25 November, CPME President Dr Katrín Fjeldsted will attend and speak at the European Patients Forum Regional Advocacy Seminar in Lund (Sweden) regarding national level cooperation with patients' associations. Please find more information [here](#).

On 27 November, CPME President Dr Katrín Fjeldsted and CPME Secretary General, Ms Birgit Beger will be attending the European Council of Medical Orders (CEOM) plenary meeting in San Remo, Italy. Please find more information [here](#).

On 27-28 November, CPME President-elect Dr Jacques de Haller will be attending the meeting of the European working group of practitioners and specialists in free practice (EANA) in Paris, France. The agenda of the meeting can be found [here](#).



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CPME Mission Statement

The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) represents national medical associations across Europe. We are committed to contributing the medical profession's point of view to EU and European policy-making through pro-active cooperation on a wide range of health and healthcare related issues.

- *We believe the best possible quality of health and access to healthcare should be a reality for everyone. To achieve this, CPME promotes the highest level of medical training and practice, the safe mobility of physicians and patients, lawful and supportive working conditions for physicians and the provision of evidence-based, ethical and equitable healthcare services. We offer support to those working towards these objectives whenever needed.*
- *We see the patient-doctor relationship as fundamental in achieving these objectives and are committed to ensuring its trust and confidentiality are protected while the relationship evolves with healthcare systems. Patient safety and quality of care are central to our policies.*
- *We strongly advocate a 'health in all policies' approach to encourage cross-sectoral awareness for and action on the determinants of health, to prevent disease and promote good health across society.*

CPME's policies are shaped through the expertise provided by our membership of national medical associations, representing physicians across all medical specialties all over Europe and creating a dialogue between the national and European dimensions of health and healthcare.

