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Teo-pc Pilot Study - Trainees' Experiences and Opinions Regarding the UEMS Psychiatric Competencies in Their National Training Programmes

A. Giurgiuca¹, K. Holmes², S. Tomori³, M. Pinto Da Costa⁴, R. Silva⁵, F. Baessler⁶, M. Hurmuz⁷, S. Studineanu⁸, M. Farrugia⁹

¹Psychiatry, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania ; ²Psychiatry, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust, Birmingham, United Kingdom ; ³Psychiatry, Tirana University Hospital Center "Mother Teresa", Tirana, Albania ; ⁴Psychiatry, Hospital de Magalhães Lemos Porto Portugal, Porto, Portugal ; ⁵Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health of the Local Health Unit of Guarda, Guarda, Portugal ; ⁶Psychiatry, LVR clinics University of Duesseldorf, Duesseldorf, Germany ; ⁷Psychiatry, University of Medicine and Pharmacy Targu-Mures, Targu-Mures, Romania ; ⁸Psychiatry, Fondation de Nant Departement of Adult Psychiatry, Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland ; ⁹Psychiatry, Mount Carmel Hospital, Attard, Malta

Introduction: Psychiatric training in the European Union is undergoing a process of harmonization of national curricula in order to establish a common postgraduate training framework. The Research Group of the European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT) is conducting a multi-national study on psychiatry education of trainees among the European countries in regard to the *Union Européenne Des Médecins Spécialistes* (UEMS) 2009 competencies framework.

Objectives: The aims are to raise awareness on these competencies, compile data on trainees' experience of their training and assessment methods, opinions on level of confidence, and on relevance of these competencies.

Methods: This study surveyed trainees from 15 EFPT countries using a questionnaire developed specifically for this research.

Results: Psychiatric training in Europe differs significantly regarding length, with a training duration ranging from 4 to 8 years. Only 26,7% of the trainees were well acquainted with the UEMS competencies and trainees from only 8 countries declared to have a competency based national training curriculum. These results reveal that trainees have different experiences and opinions on competencies and assessment methods depending on their country of residence.

Discussions: A limitation of the results may be that our respondents are the EFPT representatives' and probably have better knowledge on the educational issues.

Conclusions: The combined quantitative and qualitative outlook on national training programmes from the trainees point of view enhances our understanding and perspective of the dynamic processes of psychiatric education in Europe. Data obtained from this research study contributes to the efforts to unify psychiatric training curricula.