

## European Definition of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

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Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) is an independent medical specialty concerned with the promotion of physical and cognitive functioning, activities (including behaviour), participation (including quality of life) and modifying personal and environmental factors. It is thus responsible for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation management of people with disabling medical conditions and comorbidity across all ages.

Specialists in PRM have a holistic approach to people with acute and chronic conditions, examples of which are musculo-skeletal and neurological disorders, amputations, pelvic organ dysfunction, cardio-respiratory insufficiency and the disability due to chronic pain and cancer.

PRM specialists work in various facilities from acute care units to community settings. They use specific diagnostic assessment tools and carry out treatments including pharmacological, physical, technical, educational and vocational interventions. Because of their comprehensive training, they are best placed to be responsible for the activities of multi-professional teams in order to achieve optimal outcomes.

*Validated in Antalya (October 2003)*

## D8908 TER European Resolution

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"In all integrated Rehabilitation Teams the responsibility for diagnosis and treatment can only belong to a medical practitioner competent in Rehabilitation. He or she alone can take responsibility for modifying the prescribed or alter its administration, taking account of the advice and suggestions proposed by the other members of the team, through their professional relationship with the patient, at the regular team meetings. In all cases, the final decision and responsibility rest entirely with the competent medical practitioner in medical charge."

*Approved unanimously by the executive committee of the UEMS, in BRUSSELS the 28 April 1989*

*Approved by the General Assembly of the "Standing committee of European Doctors" in 1990*

"Teaching of disability issues should be strongly suggested for the curriculum of medical education".

*Resolution proposed by the European Board of PRM and accepted by the UEMS Council.*



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## PRM Section & Board of UEMS

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ORGANIZATION  
STRUCTURE  
MISSION  
ACTIVITIES

## PRM Section & Board of UEMS

The Section and the Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine represent specialists in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine within the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS).

### Executive Committee of the PRM Section of UEMS

**President:** Alain Delarque  
**Vice-President:** Xanthi Michail  
**Secretary General:** Nicolas Christodoulou  
**Deputy Secretary:** Georges de Korvin  
**Treasurer:** Martinus Terburg  
**Deputy Treasurer:** Fernando Parada-Pereira  
**Past-President:** Anthony Ward

### Board and Committee for Education

**President:** Xanthi Michail  
**Vice-President:** Franco Franchignoni  
**Past-President:** Guy Vanderstraeten

### Committee for Clinical Affairs

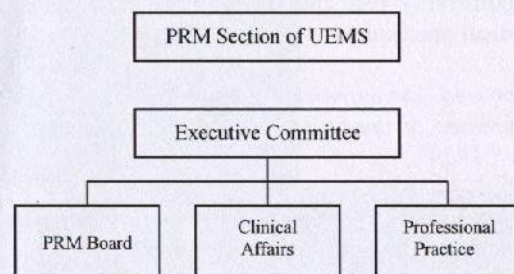
**Chairperson:** Georges de Korvin

### Committee for Professional Practice

**Chairperson:** Christoph Gutenbrunner

**Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine** is recognized as a full specialty in all the member countries of the UEMS PRM Section. In this population of 500.000.000 inhabitants, more than 15.000 specialists in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine practice. More than 1500 trainees are getting ready for practicing our specialty.

The activities of the UEMS PRM Section are organized under the supervision of three main committees:



**The European Board of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine** is a Working Group (Committee) of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Section of the Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (U.E.M.S., European Union of Medical Specialists). It was founded by a separate statute in 1991. The main activities of the Board are:

- Harmonization of PRM training in Europe
- Certification of PRM specialists (by examination and equivalence)
- Certification of PRM trainers
- Certification/Recertification of PRM training sites
- Continuing Medical Education (CME/CPD) and Recertification of PRM Specialists
- Accreditation of European congresses and Teaching Programs

**New website:** [www.euro-prm.org](http://www.euro-prm.org)

The aim of this website is to provide updated information, usefull resources and online registration procedures through a user-friendly interface.

For your convenience information regarding Board has been grouped in thematic categories. These categories are easily accessible by clicking on the relevant submenus located under "PRM Board" in main menu area.

In case you are a PRM trainee do not hesitate to enter the website and register online. Registration for PRM trainees is free!