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UEMS - EBS - Section of Surgery - Division of Breast Surgery

Message from the President



Dear Colleagues

On behalf of the [Division of Breast Surgery](#) of UEMS I welcome you to our winter Newsletter.

Accreditation of Breast Surgeons through the UEMS-EBSQ exams is offering a pan-European recognition. Successful candidates, included in the list of "Fellows of European Board of Surgery" - **FEBS** - are holding a Certificate verifying their appropriate education and training as Breast Specialists according to European standards. This is critical to the quality of breast care provided all over Europe for the benefit of our patients.

The number of applications to sit the exam is growing continuously every year but, as you know, we had to postpone the EBSQ in Breast Surgery exams in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, respecting all of you who had prepared for the exam, we made a great effort to run a totally virtual exam during 2021.

A virtual oral exam was a new experience for all of us and it took a great effort of everyone in our team - exam board members, UEMS office, the new iCognitus platform staff and the examiners - to deliver a successful on line examination. I welcome our **57 new FEBS certification in Breast Surgery holders** in our family.

We are still experiencing difficult times due to the COVID-19 pandemic but, we will all continue delivering breast cancer services in the current challenging period and the Division of Breast Surgery will continue working towards promoting the highest standard of care in Breast Surgery across Europe. Therefore, we hereby announce the **UEMS - EBSQ in Breast Surgery 2022 exams** and we will work hard to deliver the same as always high quality examination.

With my best wishes to each one of you and your families to stay safe and healthy,

Kindest regards,

Christos Markopoulos, MD, PhD, FEBS

*Professor of Surgery - Medical School
National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
Head of the Exam Board*

Secretary's Report: The European Breast Exam



After the horrors of 2020 we all went into 2021 hoping for a better year where things would get back to normal. What a disappointment that the pandemic again destroyed our plans. Despite this, we were committed to delivering the 2021 breast exam after the total cancellation of 2020. We would like to thank the candidates for their patience whilst we established new systems to deliver a fully virtual exam. The process was not without problems but, on the day of the MCQ exam, the system worked beautifully and all candidates completed their exam.

We then had a period of uncertainty regarding whether we should attempt to hold the previously planned oral exam face to face in Athens in September. The D-variant put paid to these plans, we therefore took the difficult decision to delay the exam until November and develop a fully on line version of the oral exam. This was a huge challenge. The developer of the new system at

iCognitus, Nuno Santos, worked with us to develop, trial and refine the system, which we then tested with members of the EC and finally with the examiners. We had to prepare detailed instructions and we also had to develop multiple exam scenarios and academic papers instead of just 3 as usual. We also had to recruit additional examiners and unlike in a normal face to face exam where the examiners have an enjoyable few days with friends, we asked people to spend a whole weekend sitting in front of their laptops for 8 hours. Despite this, our examiner team were amazing and suffered through this without complaint. The final oral exam went very well. There were a few minor glitches - bad internet connections or too slow - but our contingency plans worked well and everyone who registered completed their exam.

So, for 2021 we had **81 candidates** sit for the MCQ of whom 17 failed (pass rate 79%), we had 69 candidates sit the oral exam of whom 57 passed (83%) giving us an **overall pass rate for the 2021 exam of 70%**.

The feedback for the MCQ from candidates was very positive with 88% stating that the MCQ system was easy to use and 96% that the MCQs were easy to understand. Support from the UEMS was rated good to excellent by 92%. Feedback about the oral was similarly excellent with 88% rating the online system as good or excellent and 92% rating the examiners as good or excellent.

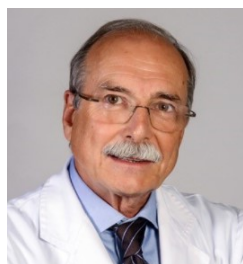
So for 2022 we plan to hold the MCQ fully virtually again. For the oral exam, 42% of candidates would prefer a face to face exam, 38% have no preferences and 21% would prefer a virtual exam. As with 2021 we will be constantly reviewing the COVID travel situation and it is likely we will try to run a face to face exam but with the option to hold virtual exam for some candidates where travel will be challenging. We will keep you posted and hope to see you all in Athens.

Lynda Wyld, PhD, FRCS, FEBS
*Professor of Surgical Oncology
University of Sheffield - UK*



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
 EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS
 Section of Surgery & European Board of Surgery

Message
 from the Executives



Dear friends of the Breast Surgery Division;

I would like to take the opportunity offered by Prof Christos Markopoulos in his Newsletter, to send you my warmest greetings and best wishes for the New Year.

The new Executive Committee of the Section of Surgery started its activity after the elections last February. Although beginnings are always difficult, now, thanks to all of you, we have an important financial and administrative stability in the Section. I am aware that this year, 2021, has been complicated for each of us, preventing face-to-face meetings and forcing us to carry out most of the scientific activities online. However, thanks to the new platform, iCognitus, it has been possible to restart the online exams in most of the Divisions of the Section of Surgery.

The Division of Breast Surgery has done an outstanding job and has more than fulfilled the objectives it had set itself. This gives us all the greatest satisfaction, as it clearly demonstrates that the accreditation of knowledge in Europe, in the different disciplines, is not a theoretical exercise but a practical reality. As a European, I like to feel part of this forward-looking family, which aims at quality control in the different branches of surgery for the benefit of patients and our own satisfaction.

So far the Section consists of 10 divisions and 6 working groups. In the near future we want to restart the activity of the working group on Bariatric Surgery, and to set up two other working groups with the collaboration of all divisions: a working group to develop a continuing medical education program, and another working group on humanitarian surgery in developing countries.

If the pandemic allows it, there will be a meeting of the Section of Surgery in the Spring, and we are all looking forward to face to face communication in the near future.

We would like to thank you for your efforts with the Division of Breast Surgery and are looking forward to further fruitful and a prosperous cooperation in 2022.

Best regards,

Daniel Casanova, MD, PhD, FACS, FEBT
 President of the **UEMS Section of Surgery**



**Dear Christos,
 Dear Members of the UEMS Division of Breast Surgery;**

You are obviously aware that during the early part of 2021, the European Board of Surgery, which I am honoured to preside, became involved in the reorganisation as well as the infusion of trust and stability in the various strata of the Surgery Section and Board, in synergy with the rest of the Executive. This unenviable process was neither easy nor smooth, principally because of lack of available data and manpower instability in the Brussels Office. Thankfully, we have left this period behind. One also needs to appreciate the many positive things that took place in 2021, including Examinations, regular online meetings, networking, participation in the work of other UEMS bodies, the new IT Platform and Website (also through the efforts of iCognitus, Sebastian Roka, Isabelle, Ibrahim Edhemovic, and those Webmasters who collaborated), etc., from which it is justified to feel considerable satisfaction. May the memory of the past serve as a springboard for augmented enthusiasm and commitment in the future.

We are steadfast with regard to the objectives for the European Board of Surgery (EBS), which are:

- Promote the interests of each medical specialty.
- Ultimately, the wellbeing of the patient must be central to our plans and actions.
- Define and assure European Medical Standards, at the highest level, in each medical specialty: Offer advice and tangible help with the formalisation of European Training Requirements (ETRs) for each Specialty and continued participation in the work of other UEMS bodies. The highest possible Medical Standards refer to Training Programmes, Formative and Summative Assessments, as well as Recognition of Qualifications.
- Management by consensus, leading to **Trust**, from up-down and bottom-up. This requires the highest degree of transparency, accountability, audit, awareness of the common good and good will.

With this in mind, EBS was re-organised in three Focus Groups:

<i>Focus Groups</i>		
European Training Requirements (ETRs) focus group	Assessments/ Exams focus group	Recognition of Qualifications focus group
<i>Coordinator</i>	<i>Coordinator</i>	<i>Coordinator</i>
<i>Members</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Members</i>

A concerted effort is needed to attain wider EBSQ recognition, without sacrificing standards. We have gone some way, but we need to improve considerably on this. To achieve this aim, we need engagement and participation from our base, i.e., National delegates and representatives of Divisions and

Arthur Felice, MD, MSc, FEBS, FRCS Ed.
 President of the **European Board of Surgery**

EBSQ Examination in Breast Surgery 2022

Part A: MCQs / web-based Written examination

The written exam will take place on the **24th of June 2022**.

Applications open on the **1st of January 2022** through the DBS web-pages.

The deadline for receipt of applications for the written exam is the **30th April 2022**.

What will you need?

- A room where you can be alone for about 3 hours
- A PC or laptop with a camera and audio and good internet speed
- Recent version of Google Chrome or Safari (mac users)
- A photographic ID



Part B: the Oral examination

We hope that we will be able to run the 2022 oral exam face-to-face. If not, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will organize a virtual or hybrid exam again.

The oral exam is scheduled to be in **Athens (GR), on 1st & 2nd of October, 2022**.

Candidates will be notified if they have passed the written exam and are eligible to take the oral exam within 1 week of sitting the written exam and **MUST register** and **pay** to sit the oral exam before **10th of July 2022**. There is a limit of the number of candidates who can be accepted for the oral exam; preference will be given according to date of application for the exam, so late applicants will be passed on to the exam of the following year.

Applications must be submitted via the online application tool on:

<http://www.uemssurg.org/divisions/breast-surgery/ebsq-examination>



EBSQ in Breast Surgery Examination 2021

"a totally web-based exam"



The web-based "written" exam

- continuous supervision
- e-methods to avoid cheating

1 **Log in**

Username

Password

SIGN IN

2 **IDENTIFICATION CARD**

ID 189234567

NAME SURNAME

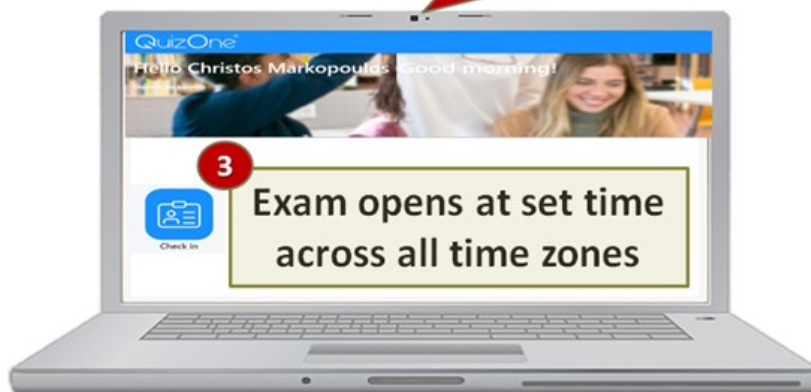
1234 MAIN STREET

CITY, 97890

John Doe

SEX HGT HAIR EYES

HGT WGT



Important requirements!

- Strong internet connection
- Latest update version of your browser

The virtual "oral" exam

MyOSCE Room

uemssurg.quiz.one/myosce/myosce-room/54DDCA43-5891-4A10-894D-19A88FESB4BF

QuizOne

Alayah Hatfield

Quality Assurance Monitor or a trainee examiner

Zoom In Zoom Out Reset

Scenario A:

61 years old married woman, from the Philippines. She is mother of 2 children, 29 and 26 years old, post-menopausal since the age of 52 and never had HRT. She has no personal medical history, no family history of breast or ovarian cancer. She never had a screening mammogram or clinical breast examination.

Question 1: What would do next?

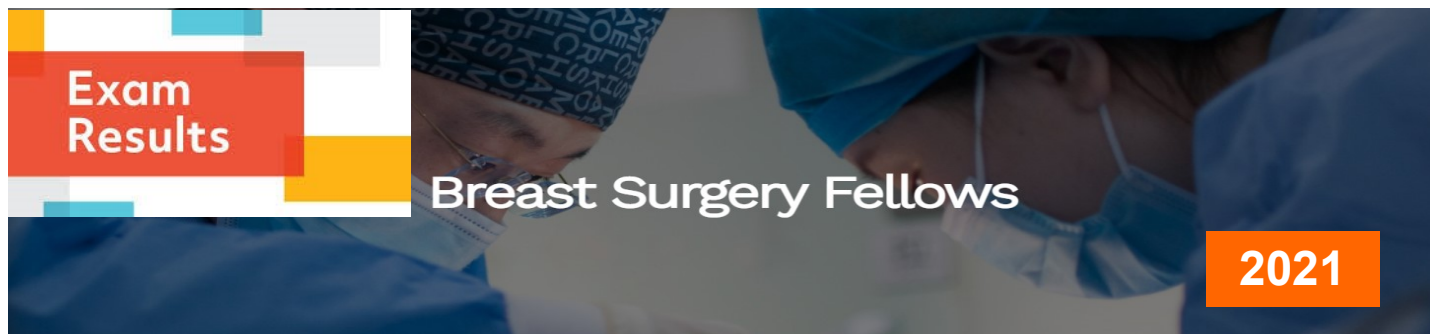
Examiner 1

Examiner 2

Candidate

Type here to search

ENG 17:44 12/11/2021



Online exam of 2021 - Successful Candidates

Urvashi Jain (UK) - *1st prize*

Asha Reddy (India) - *2nd prize*

Norah Scally (UK) - *2nd prize*

Sophocles Lanitis (Greece) - *3rd prize*

Linda Adwall (Sweden)

Sheraz Ahmed (Qatar)

Shaziya Hassan Ali (UK)

Zaid Al-Ishaq (UK)

Ahmed Al-Maksoud (Ireland)

Mohammed Al-share (Jordan)

Uzma Andaleeb (UK)

Hüseyin Özgür Aytaç (Turkey)

Sarah Barker (UK)

Serena Bertozzi (Italy)

Georgios Boutsikos (UK)

Ghassan El-fatih Ahmed Elamin (UK)

Ekrem Ferlengez (Turkey)

Hanna Fredholm (Sweden)

Izideen Hashlamoun (Palestine)

Foivos Irakleidis (UK)

Slavica Janeva (Sweden)

Mohammed Jouda (Ireland)

Vasileos Kalles (Greece)

Maryam Khan (UK)

Afsheen Javaid Khokher (Pakistan)

Karishma Kirti (India)

Maria Kouvaraki (Sweden)

Gultekin Kuçuk (Turkey)

Ai Chen Leong (Hungary)

Robert Maraz (Hungary)

Tadas Mikalauskas (Sweden)

Mahmoud Misbah (Egypt)

Sridevi Murali-Nanavati (India)

Muhammad Nadeem (UK)

Ruqayya Naheed Khan (Pakistan)

Petra Nasell (Sweden)

Ira Oikonomou (Sweden)

Rodrigo Oom (Portugal)

Georgia Paraskevakou (Greece)

Anastasia Peppe (Greece)

Frea Perdawood (UAE)

Ana Car Peterko (Croatia)

Claire Rutherford (UK)

Omema Saleem (Pakistan)

Stephanie Seidler (Switzerland)

Ebru Sen (Turkey)

Luca Seriau (Italy)

Elefterios Sfakianakis (UK)

Anukriti Sood (India)

Tin Sein (United Kingdom)

Rami Tabbakh (UK)

Saima Taj (UK)

Yee ling Tan (Malaysia)

Ashutosh Tondare (UK)

Nader Touqan (UK)

Maria Verroiotou (UK)

Åsa Wickberg (Sweden)





Examiners of the 2021 EBSQ examination in Breast Surgery

Agarwal	Sanjit	MacNeill	Fiona
Ahmed	Rosina	Masannat	Yazan
Alsaleh	Mervat	Naseem	Salma
Audisio	Riccardo	Omar	Omar
Catanuto	Giuseppe	Pereira	Jerome
Chan	Charlie	Raghavan	Vidya
Charalampoudis	Petros	Rubio	Isabel
Douvetzemis	Stergios	Sackey	Helena
El-Shinawi	Mohamed	Sandelin	Kerstin
Falk	Anna-karin	Smidt	Marjolein
Gulluoglu	Bahadir	Ugurlu	Umit
Karakatsanis	Andreas	Voiculescu	Stephan
Karanlik	Hassan	Warnberg	Fredrik
Khothari	Ashutosh	Wyld	Lynda
Kolacinska	Agnieszka	Youssef	Omar
Leidenius	Marjut	Zgajnar	Janez

We thank you all for your help; we could not run this project without you, especially this year when all was web-based and the oral exams for the first time in a new format and platform. However, each one of you accepted as always with pleasure to participate. We very much appreciate it!

*Thank
you*



Christos Markopoulos, Head of the Exam Board
Lynda Wyld, Secretary of the Exam Board

EBSQ exams - UEMS Division of Breast Surgery - Athens Course 2022



BREAST CANCER MANAGEMENT FOR SURGEONS COURSE

By UEMS Division of Breast Surgery

Dates and Registration to be announced



Aim of the course

The course offers delegates preparing for the **UEMS - European Board of Surgery Qualification (EBSQ) in Breast Surgery** a unique opportunity to discover the European Breast Surgery curriculum.

Main topics

- De-escalation and personalization of breast surgery: trends and evidence
- Management of familial gene carriers and risk assessment
- Current axillary management paradigms
- Oncoplastic conservation surgery: technique selection and outcomes
- Post mastectomy reconstruction: decision making in the context of techniques and oncology interactions

- Multi gene assays - MGAs in clinical decision making on systemic therapy
- Update on the recent results of Breast Oncology Trials
- MDT - Clinical and Academic Practice Session

Multiple Choice Quiz

- At the end of the course, participants will be asked to participate in an MCQ- quiz which will lead to a waiver of the EBSQ in Breast surgery exam fees for the best scored participants.
- A 15% reduction on the "Breast Cancer Management for Surgeons" Textbook (Springer 2018), official book of the exam, will be offered to all participants.

Target audience

- This one-day course is aimed at delegates preparing for their final certification exam including the Intercollegiate **FRCS Exam in General Surgery** and the **UEMS - European Board of Surgery Qualification (EBSQ) in Breast Surgery**.
- This is an **ESSO endorsed educational event**, granted auspices by the ESSO (The European Society of Surgical Oncology) educational and training committee.

Important notice

Format (*webinar or in person*)
Dates and Registration
to be announced



Yazan Masannat

MBBS, MRCSI, MRCSEd, DBRM,
FEBS, FRCSEd, MD
Consultant Oncoplastic Breast
Surgeon
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary



iBreastBook

All what you need to know about Oncoplastic Breast Surgery and Reconstruction
Designed and Edited by Yazan Masannat

<https://www.ibreastbook.com/>

these webinars are part of the iBreastBook project and are likely to be recorded and share on www.ibreastbook.com

Breast Surgery Webinar Series

In iBreastBook, we believe that knowledge is for sharing, we will be starting a series of online free webinars on Oncoplastic Breast Surgery and Breast Reconstruction supported by some great colleagues from many disciplines not only from the UK but from across the world. This is to share their knowledge and experience in many aspects in the management of breast cancer and shows their tips and tricks in breast surgery.

Yazan Masannat

ESSO Advanced Course on Breast Cancer - 2022



29th Sept - 1st Oct, 2022
Athens, Greece

Aim of the course

This highly interactive workshop is at the cutting edge of current concepts of surgical treatment of breast cancer.

It will focus on the evidence-based clinical practice and technical aspects of breast cancer surgery within a multidisciplinary approach.

Main topics

- Familial gene carriers - Risk assessment and management of healthy carriers and initial cancer management
- Oncoplastic techniques in breast preservation - planning and marking
- MRM, SSM, SRM, NSM - Technical considerations and pre-operative marking
- New methods in imaging

- Management of sentinel nodes positive patients
- Neo-adjuvant treatment in breast cancer (Symposium)
- Conventional breast pathology or gene profiles
- Young breast cancer patients - surgery, radiotherapy, systemic treatment
- Breast reconstruction (Symposium)
- Tailored treatment of high risk lesions (Symposium)
- Surgical treatment of local recurrences

Educational methods

- Video-based discussion sessions
- Case-based workshops
- Case studies
- Mock MDT with cases



Target audience

- Senior residents (last two years of specialization with clinical interest in breast cancer)
- Surgical oncologists
- Breast surgeons within 5 years after ending specialization residency
- Medical and radiation oncologists with 3-5 years of experience in the treatment of breast cancer patients

More Information

Coming soon on
ESSO web-pages

[ESSO Advanced Course
on Breast Cancer Surgery](#)



SENATURK
SENOLOJİ AKADEMİSİ

Education and innovation are vital for better and sustainable health care

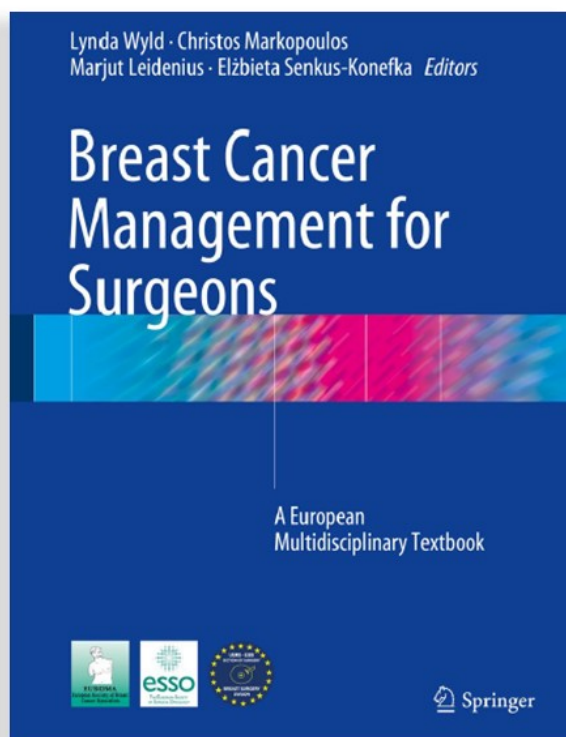
Information

<http://www.sena-turk.org/>

Mission

- *SENATURK's institutional missions are to develop teaching materials and programs for horizontal and perpendicular integrated education for breast health at every environment and step, to maintain infrastructure for learning, to give pre-service and in-training education to medical professionals, nurses, technicians and society, to determine regional quality indicators for training, research and breast health care service, to maintain, audit and benchmark the terms and performances for providing qualified health care, to design and conduct clinical and translational research, to give face-to-face or distant consultations to individuals or institutions as well as to develop software on all these services.*





 Springer © 2018

Breast Cancer Management for Surgeons

A European Multidisciplinary Textbook

Editors:

**Wyld, L., Markopoulos, C.,
Leidenius, M., Senkus-Konefka, E.**
(Eds.)

- Provides an evidence-based discussion, citing the most recent literature
- Closely linked to European practice guidelines (EUSOMA, St. Gallen, ESMO)
- Contains clinical algorithms for case management in each section
- Includes a selection of top European opinion leaders as section authors
- Published with the official approval of ESSO and EUSOMA
- Contains a selection of self-test MCQs
- Ideal reference book for the preparation of the EBSQ exam in Breast Surgery

This textbook provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the art knowledge of breast cancer management for the modern breast surgeon. It covers all aspects of multidisciplinary care including primary breast and axillary surgery, reconstruction and oncoplastic techniques, external beam radiotherapy and newer techniques such as tomotherapy, intraoperative radiotherapy and brachytherapy. In addition, systemic therapies including chemotherapy, the latest biological targeted therapies and endocrine therapies are covered. Readers can find out about other important aspects of breast cancer such as genetics, screening, imaging and long-term health among others. Chapters take the reader through the basics up to the highest levels of knowledge in an easy to understand format with management algorithms to aid clinical care, generous referencing of the best literature and figures and photographs to illustrate each section.

* Candidates who have applied and paid the fee for the exam are eligible for a 15% discount on the book and will be issued with a discount code which may be used to purchase the book from the publisher's (Springer) website

* Editor's remuneration payments and royalties are granted to the Division of Breast Surgery