



Swedish Society for Emergency Medicine

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Specialty Status

Emergency medicine (EM) is a supra-specialty since 2006/2008. The Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare (Socialstyrelsen) decided in 2012 that EM becomes a primary specialty. The legal stature will be implemented 1 January 2015.

Swedish Society for EM

The Swedish Society for EM (SWESEM) was founded in 1999, initially affiliated to the Swedish Society for Internal Medicine, and since 2002 as an independent society.

We currently have 277 members.

SWESEM's initial focus has been on developing a curriculum, specialist training and establishing the primary specialty. Now that EM has been recognized as a primary specialty we can focus on developing the specialty as such which includes continuing education, EM organization academic EM.

Swedish Emergency Medicine Talks, SWEETs 2014, our annual national meeting in EM was successful. It is the first meeting which SWESEM has organized independently of a local organizer. Also, we used SWESEM's social media, and local representatives to create interest before the meeting.

Emergency Department Organization

Only one emergency department (ED) can be said to have established an EM ED organizational structure, while there are a handful in different transitional phases. Difficulties in transitioning from traditional ED organizational structures to the EM are substantial.

Undergraduate and Post graduate Education/ Training

Only one medical school has EM as a mandatory course in the curriculum, but all have EM as part of other courses and as electives. It is however likely that this will change over the next coming years.

Sweden lacks central accreditation of training centers and mandatory specialist exams. SWESEM, as mentioned above, has prioritized the development of a specialist exam in EM. There are approximately 100 specialists in EM in Sweden today.

There are three full professors and three associate professors in EM in Sweden. Research in EM is in its infancy, but on its way forward in Sweden.