

Swiss Society of Emergency Medicine (SGNOR / SSMUS) Report 2010

In 2010 the Board of the SGNOR was able to issue 360 of its members with the new Swiss Certificate of Emergency Medicine. This number is surprisingly high and demonstrates the keen interest of many Swiss physicians to obtain a certificate in Emergency Medicine.

In 2009, the new training in Emergency Medicine was implemented in ten Emergency Departments across Switzerland. In November 2011 the first exams in Emergency Medicine will be held in Zurich. They will be organised in two parts, a theoretical oral examination (30 minutes) and two practical tests designed to demonstrate knowledge and practical skills.

Our current focus is on ultrasound. We are convinced that soon the majority of emergency physicians will use ultrasound on a daily basis as a tool for assessing emergency patients. A special SGNOR task force is collaborating with the Swiss Society of Medical Ultrasound to create a new certificate in Emergency Ultrasound. SGNOR has support in this project from the Swiss Societies of Surgery, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care. We hope the task force will achieve this challenging goal in the next two years.

Our Society is prospering and growing yearly. With approximately 700 members, the SGNOR is the 9th largest Swiss Medical Society. We feel the respect of the other societies and the SGNOR is a favoured partner for national congresses - as 2010 with the Swiss Society of Surgery and in 2011 with the Swiss Society of Intensive Care. The SGNOR established Emergency Medicine as a fully recognised medical specialty in Switzerland.

Ulrich Buergi
SGNOR President