

February 20, 2014

Dear ESPRM delegates,

As you may recall, during our last meeting in Tartu, we introduced you to the Leonardo Da Vinci Teaching of Innovation Project- **"Biomechanics4Rehab Project"** that was approved by the European Union. This Project is focused in providing training for PRM-Specialists in biomechanical assessment methodologies to improve the rehabilitation process of patients by implementing New Technologies in the following areas: Joint range of Motion, muscle strength, body balance, walk, etc.

The Project will start its development from the present date and will continue for the next two years. So, during this period it is necessary to share ideas between bio-engineers and rehabilitation physicians in order to develop and carry out an on-line course of almost 50 hours (200 pages) that will start at the end of the two year period. That course will be offered to PRM-specialists only.

The Project partners are, besides ESPRM: The Biomechanics Institute of Valencia (BIV) (Spain), The Politecnico Di Milano (POLIMI), (Italy), the Mustafa Kermal University of Hatay (Turkey) which is the Project Coordinator, the Hitit University of Turkey, as well as the Spanish Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (SERMEF).

The role of ESPRM in the Leonardo Da Vinci project is to provide advice and consultancy in the categories stated bellow.

- 1- The constitution of a PRM experts group, in order to make a needs analysis among European PRM Physicians,
- 2- Participation in the index definition, participation in the training methodology definition, training content advising,
- 3- Validation of the training contents and dissemination of the course along Europe.

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For all these reasons it is necessary to form a group of PRM-specialists, experts in these issues (biomechanics assessment and diagnostic) and who will offer their experience to establish the topics for the course as well as to supervise its contents, program and teaching model. This represents an important step and a first necessity, therefore the priority rests in establishing this group as soon as possible.

Enrique Varela <u>evarelah@enf.ucm.es</u> will be the liaison-officer between ESPRM and the Project, so we would ask you to spread this information among your National Society and communicate to Enrique any information about PRM colleagues in your Countries who are interested in integrating to this expert group.

As ESPRM president I strongly believe the development of this Project will be beneficial for our Specialty in the long run, and as a result disabled patients will benefit greatly from it. Therefore, I urge you to take it into great consideration.

Sincerely

Prof. Xanthi Michail

President of ESPRM

Prof. Elena Ilieva

General Secretary of ESPRM

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