Munich Congress: Another successful year for the EAACI exam

EAACI has held the European Examination in Allergology and Clinical Immunology annually since 2008. Many candidates and members of numerous national societies have already successfully passed the examination. The exam is based on questions from a pool prepared by the EAACI Exam Committee, EAACI Task Force members and other members from different European centres. The questions are carefully formulated and reviewed by an international board of experts in allergology and clinical immunology, together with the Institute of Medical Education (IML), University of Bern, Switzerland — a specialised, professional institution which also supervises the evaluation of the examination. The questions address topics on allergology and clinical immunology including allergens, dermatological, respiratory and pediatric allergy, anaphylaxis, venom hypersensitivity, and drug and food hypersensitivity. Furthermore, issues such as pregnancy and allergology, occupational allergies, eosinophilic disorders, mastocytosis, and CI-INH deficiency are covered. The exam also assesses knowledge of basic immunology and clinical immunology (auto-immunity and immune deficiency); it lasts three hours and is comprised of 120 multiple-choice questions, all in English.

This year, the examination was offered in two different tracks:
- The EAACI Knowledge Exam — consisting of 120 multiple-choice questions in allergology (70%) and basic/clinical immunology (30%), including a few pediatric questions with a focus on general allergology;
- The EAACI Pediatric Track Exam — offered for the first time in 2018 and in collaboration with the EAACI Pediatric Section, this track (addressed at colleagues with a pediatric background) consisted of 120 multiple-choice questions, of which 100 questions were based on allergology and basic/clinical immunology (similar to the EAACI Knowledge exam) and 20 were specialised pediatric questions.

The 11th EAACI/UEMS Examination in Allergology and Clinical Immunology took place during the EAACI Annual Congress in Munich, on Saturday 26 May. This year we received a record-breaking 76 applications (68 EAACI members and 8 non-members) with applicants coming from 15 European and 12 non-European countries (including Brazil, Egypt, India, Kuwait, Malaysia, Qatar and South Africa). The greatest number of applicants came from Spain (23%), Switzerland (18%) and Germany (6%). From the original 76 applicants, 64 registered and 62 took the exam, 48 taking the Basic EAACI Knowledge Test and 14 taking the EAACI Pediatric Test; 15 applicants were granted UEMS support.

The continuous success of the exam is largely due to the enthusiasm, time and commitment of the members of the EAACI Exam Committee. We thank all those who have so actively contributed to the exam over the years and welcome all colleagues who would be willing to contribute in the future.

Musa Khaitov
EAACI Exam Committee Chair