

# European Academy of Andrology (EAA)-European Society of Andrological Urology (ESAU) (European Association of Urology) Joint Educational Curriculum for Clinical Andrology Training in Europe: The Sub-speciality in Andrology

**Aim:** to educate specialists in Endocrinology and Urology in all areas of Andrology at the highest level.

**Definition:** The education in Andrology deals with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment (medical and surgical) and rehabilitation of:

- **male fertility problems** (including male contraception);
- **male sexual dysfunctions** (including erectile dysfunction, disturbances of desire, arousal, ejaculatory and orgasmic dysfunctions);
- **male endocrine dysfunctions** (including disorders of sexual development and hypogonadism, from puberty to senescence; and
- **andrological aspects of**
  - **genital tract infections and inflammations**
  - **cancers**

**Method:** the new curriculum aims to deliver comprehensive training in clinical andrology for medical specialists from different backgrounds. A credits system allows flexible training to be achieved upon completion of a core basic Andrology education.

**Duration:** 18 months.

**Credits:** Credits can be obtained from case contacts and approved courses following the principle of the Credit Point System outlined in the Sorbonne (25/05/98) and Bologna (19/06/99) declarations.

Specifically, credits are obtained from two different sources:

1. supervised clinical training undertaken in EAA and ESAU-EAU accredited centers certified for andrological education.
2. congresses meetings and courses with special educational aims relevant to Andrology. Individual congress/meeting must be previously approved by the Educational Committees of EAA and ESAU with precise indication of number of credits, macro-areas, and topics to be accrued.

**Target:** Achieving a total of 90 credits is required before a trainee can enrol for the exit examination in Clinical Andrology for subspecialty accreditation (see later). A trainee may apply for retrospective accreditation on account of relevant previous training undertaken during his/her original specialization (in endocrinology or urology in reputable centres of

excellence) for up to a maximum of 30 credits (or up to 6 months). At the beginning of training, each trainee should apply, with documented evidence of their previous experience to the EAA/ESAU Education/Examination committee which will scrutinise and, if satisfactory, approve the application for retrospective accreditation.

**Curriculum:** The trainee is required to obtain practical experience in managing andrological cases supervised in one or more approved andrological centre(s).

Training is divided into 4+1 macro-areas of andrological practice, with different weightings in term of credits.

The recommended balance between the 4 macro-areas is:

- A. andrological aspects of male endocrine dysfunctions (20 credits)
- B. male sexual dysfunctions (15 credits)
- C. male fertility disturbances (30 credits)
- D. andrological aspects of male genital tract infections, inflammations and genital cancers (15 credits)
- E. flexible tracks (10 credits)

Furthermore, a flexible 5 credits (maximum) may be transferrable between the 4 macro-areas A-D is permissible.

Out of a total of 90 credits, at least 72 credits (80%) must be achieved by clinical case management. A maximum of 18 (20%) only can be achieved by attending congresses/meetings/courses.

The credits are computed as:

1 credit = direct clinical contact of 5 new cases

1 credit = congress/meeting/course attendance of 25 hours.

## **A. ANDROLOGICAL ASPECTS OF MALE ENDOCRINE DYSFUNCTIONS (20 CREDITS WITH 16 CREDITS OBTAINED FROM CLINICAL CASES)**

1. **Male development** (5 credits)
  - a. Sexual differentiation and development, including abnormalities, of male genital and reproductive systems (2)
  - b. Psychosexual development including gender identity and sexual orientation (1)
  - c. Premature and delayed puberty (2)
  
2. **Male endocrinology** (15 credits)

- a. Hypogonadism (primary and secondary) and related endocrine diseases (9)
- b. Gynaecomastia (1)
- c. Aging male (5)

**B. MALE SEXUAL DYSFUNCTIONS (15 CREDITS, WITH 14 CREDITS OBTAINED FROM CLINICAL CASES)**

- a. Desire disorders (4)
- b. Erectile dysfunction (10)
- c. Ejaculatory and orgasmic disorders (6)

**C. MALE FERTILITY DISTURBANCES (30 CREDITS, WITH 28 CREDITS OBTAINED FROM CLINICAL CASES)**

1. **Counselling of infertile patients/couples** (5 credits)
2. **Diagnosis of infertility** (11 credits)
  - a. semen analysis including semen preparations (5)
  - b. human genetic counselling (2)
  - c. sonographic investigations of the male genital tract (2)
  - d. testicular biopsy and histology (2)
3. **Techniques for sperm retrieval** (10 credits)
4. **Special problems in Andrology** (4 credits)
  - a. cryopreservation of spermatozoa and testicular tissues (2)
  - b. ethics in andrology (1)
  - c. male contraception (1)

**D. ANDROLOGICAL ASPECTS OF MALE GENITAL TRACT INFECTIONS, INFLAMMATIONS AND GENITAL CANCERS (15 CREDITS, WITH 14 CREDITS OBTAINED FROM CLINICAL CASES)**

- a. Male genital tract cancers (5)
- b. Chronic pelvic pain syndrome (3)
- c. Penile disorders (3)
- d. Sexually transmitted diseases (3)
- e. Drug abuse (1)

**E. FLEXIBLE TRACKS (10 CREDITS)**

Ten credits can be added on the basis of individual interests of the trainee:

- a. Clinical and basic research
- b. Andrological surgery including microsurgery and penile surgery
- c. Psychosexology

**Examination:** At the completion of training, the trainee must sit an exit examination, the EAA/ESAU Clinical Andrology Examination. Trainees must provide documented evidence of clinical training and certificate of courses attended to be eligible for sitting the annual Examination. (see separate document for more details)

**Certification:** Trainees will be awarded the certificate of subspeciality in Clinical Andrology after achieving 90 credits in training and passing the EAA/ESAU Clinical Andrology Examination.