

TRAINING OF CYPRIOTS IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

As Cyprus does not have a University Medical School which offers training in any speciality YET, all of our medical physicians and surgeons get their speciality qualification after passing the necessary exams placed by university authorities abroad . In the country they had their training, therefore the curriculum is that of the country training.

In Greece: The speciality training can be completed either at the university's affiliated hospitals or at any other hospital which is approved by these Universities and the Government's authorities but, the final exams must be carried out by the universities and their supervising authority –Governmental.

A small number of orthopaedic trainees have their training in Cyprus, and that is recognised as equal to the training followed in any of Greece's (recognised for such training) hospitals. The trainees however, must sit for their final exams together with their colleagues who have been trained in Greece. The exams are carried out by 3 directors of different orthopaedic surgery Departments with at least one of them to be a professor of orthopaedic surgery.

This way the trainees are granted the Speciality title in Orthopaedic Surgery from the Greek Authorities.

All those who were trained elsewhere than Greece, they are gaining their Speciality title from the authorities of the country in which they were trained.

All titles of the Orthopaedic Surgery Speciality (as any other medical speciality title), either granted by Greece or by any other country – European or not - must be recognised and approved by the Cyprus Government, so as the now specialist can be added in the SPECIALISTS REGISTRY

This recognition is achieved by an independent from the health ministry body, called THE CYPRUS MEDICAL BOARD. This Board follows regulations and laws passed by the parliament.

NO REGULATION EXISTS FOR THE RE-QUALIFICATION and/or RE-VALIDATION and/or RE-CERTIFICATION OF ANY MEDICAL SPECIALITY IN CYPRUS.

TRAINING CURRICULUM :

Training in Greece and, consequently in Cyprus, lasts for a total of 6 years.

Trainees must follow a one-year training in General Surgery at the start of their training, a one-year training in Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery, one 6-months period of training in Neurosurgery or AngioSurgery and one 6-months period of training in Plastic/Reconstructive surgery – not during their last year of training. The General Orthopaedic Surgery training lasts 3 years.

Trainees are obliged to hold a record of their operative procedures (minor or major, trauma or elective) that they do (as surgeons and/or as first assistants) during their training, which is inspected and signed by their Department's director.

The training of the trainees either in Greece or in Cyprus depends entirely up to their Department's Director, although there are guidelines for the training that can be followed if wished to.

We look forward to the establishment of a pan European curriculum