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**Strengthening Capacities for Higher Education
of Pain Medicine in Western Balkan Countries
(HEPMP)**



ITALIAN MASTER'S DEGREE IN PAIN AND PALLIATIVE MEDICINE COORDINATION

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PAIN MANAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE

Pain management at the University of Florence was initiated in 1970 and has gradually expanded since then.

The School of Medicine is the academic body responsible for the training, assessment, practice and continuing professional development of specialist medical practitioners in the management of pain. It supports a multi-disciplinary approach to pain management informed by evidence-based practice and research.

The Pain Management Unit of Careggi Hospital in Florence offers a comprehensive range of services for patients dealing with acute or chronic pain problems. The team includes anesthesiologists, neurologists, surgeons, psychologists, physical and occupational therapists, and nurse practitioners,

All working together in a supportive, compassionate environment to address your specific pain and to design a treatment plan tailored specifically to your needs.

Each year, the Pain Management Unit of Careggi Hospital provides care for more than 3.500 outpatients with acute, chronic, and cancer pain problems.

Pathways and professional organization of Pain Medicine in Italy

- Our chronic and acute patients are treated on the “Hub and Spoke model” which provide different levels of complex assistance.
- The outpatient center SPOKE is responsible for making provision for diagnostic, therapeutic, pharmacological, instrumental and surgical interventions differently integrated to reduce pain and disability of assisted persons in outpatient center. At the hospital centre (HUB) remains high complexity interventions on an outpatient basis, hospitalization and day hospital or alternative conditions provided by the Regional Authorities.

The Italian Law 38/2010 to guarantee the access to palliative and pain treatments

- "Measures to ensure access to palliative care and pain therapy"; this law represents a unique example of legislation in the Italian and European panorama.
- This law, one of the first in Europe, protects at art. 1 "the right of citizens to have access to palliative care and pain therapy," and detects three networks of treatment dedicated to palliative care, pain therapy and pediatric patient.

Pain centre and General Practitioners

- The three levels (Hub, Spoke and Regional authorities) are in direct contact, and interact in the diagnostic, therapeutic and rehabilitation pathway necessary to the patient, with a first triage performed by a general practitioner who, after listening to the patient, can send him towards the most proper structure to meet his needs.
- This model ensures the continuity of care of the patient from the hospital to their home, including in such network the whole set of health care facilities and identifying professionals dedicated to supply palliative care and pain control at all stages of the disease and for any type of patient.

Palliative and Pain Medicine Project PPMP (Tempus, 2007/2009)

- WP1 - Croatian and Serbian Trainees Selection
- WP2 - PPMP innovative course in the engaged Palliative Care Higher Education Institutions
- WP3 - Practical placements in Italy and France
- WP4 - eLearning International Dialogue Platform

PAIN MANAGEMENT TEACHING IN ITALY

- Five Italian's University offer the Master of High Level training in Pain Medicine;
- Six Italian's University offer the Master of High Level training in Palliative Medicine;
- More than 100 students graduating every year in Italian countries at Master in Pain Medicine.

POSTGRADUATE.1

The Elective Course in Pain Management

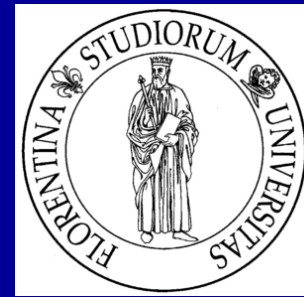


The elective Course about Pain Management provide to:

- . appreciate the complex and multi-dimensional nature of chronic pain;
- . develop the interpersonal and communication skills in the settings of complex chronic pain diseases;
- . know how functioning in a multidisciplinary team setting;
- . evaluate patients with an acute and chronic pain;
- . learn non-invasive and invasive pain therapies, including non pharmacological approaches.

POSTGRADUATE.2

The MSc Degree in Pain Management



Is an inter-professional programme intended for health care professionals who want to specialise in the field of pain.

This annual course begins by introducing you to the multifaceted nature of caring for patients who have pain.

Approximately 20 places are offered each year and the majority of students are self-funded, though some obtain awards from trusts.

The course is divided into a set of themed sections in which material is presented in a blend of short lectures, practical case studies, directed readings. Through a solid understanding of the biological, psychological and social concepts that drive and maintain pain, students will explore the nature of pain, its effect and treatments.

STANDARDS and GUIDELINES for quality assurance in the italian *MSc Degree in Pain Management*

The Standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the Italian MSc degree in pain management were adopted by the Ministers responsible in 2015 following a proposal prepared by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) in co-operation with the European Students' Union (ESU), the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE) and the European University Association (EUA).

Since 2015, considerable progress has been made in quality assurance such as qualification frameworks, recognition and the promotion of the use of learning outcomes, all these contributing to a paradigm shift towards student-centred learning and teaching.

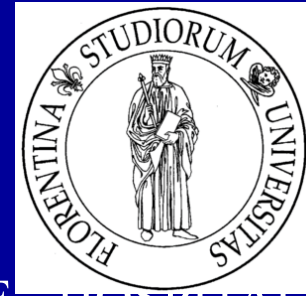
The revision included several consultation rounds involving both the key stakeholder organisations and ministries. The many comments, proposals and recommendations received have been carefully analysed and taken very seriously by the Consultation Group. Moreover the proposal also reflects a consensus among all the organisations involved on how to take forward quality assurance in the European Postgraduate Education Area and, as such, provides a firm basis for successful implementation.

PAIN MEDICINE RESEARCH: CURRENT STUDIES



- . Spinal Cord Stimulation for **FBSS**- related chronic pain: an exploratory survey for the identification of screening predictors
- . **Non-drug** approaches work for chronic pain management
- . **Fibromyalgia** has a neural signature
- . Couple relationship in **women** with Fibromyalgia

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- . A POSSIBLE PAIN MANAGEMENT CARE MODEL IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT