

Postgraduate and continuing medical education in Switzerland

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Swiss Institute of Medical Education SIME

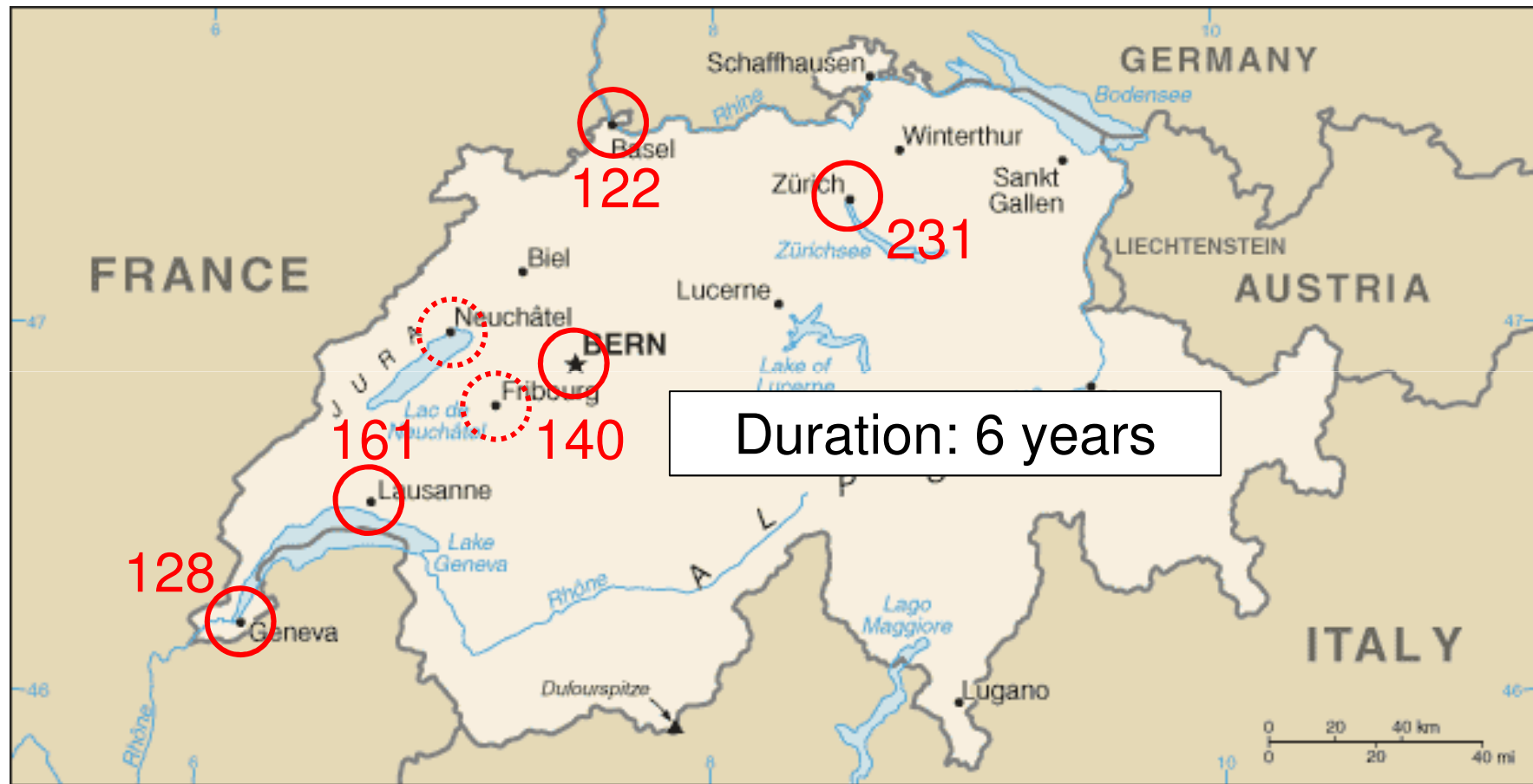
Overview

- Greetings from the Swiss Medical Association (short)
- Postgraduate training in Switzerland (moderately short)
- Continuing medical education in Switzerland (very short)
- Osler (surprisingly short)

Medical Education Switzerland

- Pregraduate Training
 - 5 Universities
 - Curriculum
 - 3 years Bachelor level
 - 3 years Master level > Federal Exam
(allows entrance to postgraduate training)
- Postgraduate Training
- Continuing Medical Education (CME/CPD)

Medical schools: diplomas in 2012 (All six medical schools are public)



○ Full medical school ○ Pre-clinical studies only

Swiss Federal Law on Medical Professions (MedBG)

- Governs the fundamental principles of basic, specialty and continuing medical training and the practicing of medical professions
 - 43 Swiss specialist titles; duration
 - Objectives of specialist training
 - Procedural issues
- Accreditation : «suitable organization»
 - **ONE** organization = FMH → **SIME**
 - Outsourcing of responsibility for execution and financing
 - Supervision and control in the hands of the Confederation

Split up of FMH (2009)

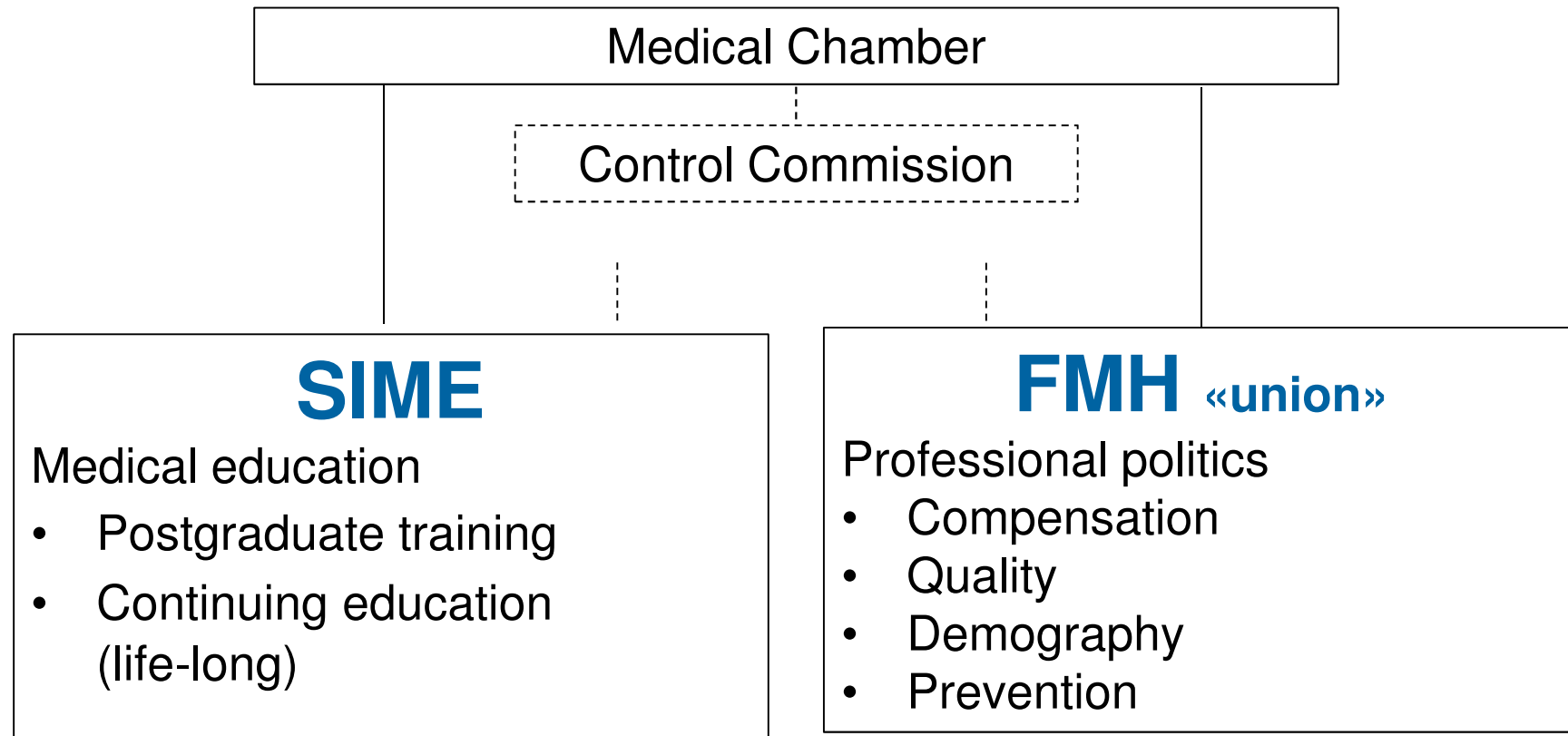
(FMH = Foederatio Medicorum Helveticorum)

SIME:
«Clean education»



FMH:
«Politics and money»

FMH and SIME



Organizational structure of SIME

Management (n=5)

President, 3 vice-presidents, executive director

SIME Committee (n=19)


Delegates representing major societies, universities, the government, etc.; guests
Decides on the majority of matters

Plenary (n=56)

Delegates representing all medical specialty societies, government, etc.; guests
Right of referendum, minority of direct decisions

Management SIME

President



W. Bauer

Representation of SIME,
Coordination of Projects

Vice President



J.P. Keller

Training Centers

Vice President



H.R. Koelz

Postgraduate Training
Programs, Continuous
Education

Vice President



R. Stolz

e-Projects

Director



Ch. Hänggeli

Operational Management,
Staff, Legal issues



Committee SIME

Ex-officio Members:

SGAM
Th. Rosemann

SGC
B. Muff

SGGG
P. Hohlfeld

SGIM
J. Pfisterer

SGP
Ch. Rudin

SGPP
D. Georgescu

VLSS
HU. Würsten

VSAO
M.-C. Desax

VSAO
R. Tandjung

Medical Faculties:

Basel
R. Bingisser

Bern
I. Baumgartner

Geneva
J.-F. Balavoine

Lausanne
Th. Bischoff

Zurich
R. Wüthrich

Members Elected by the Plenum:

SGKPT
M. Kondo
Oestreicher

SGAR
T. Cassina

SGDV
J. Hafner

SGPath
G. Cathomas

SGPneu
S. Stöhr

Permanent Guests:

BAG
C. Gasser

BAG
O. Glardon

**Collège des
Doyens**
K. Grätz

H+
R. Ziegler

GDK
E. Mariéthoz

IML
Ch. Beyeler

MEBEKO
H. Hoppeler

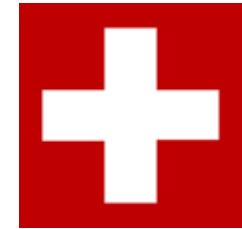
MEBEKO
Ch. Kuhn

MEBEKO
V. Schreiber

Tasks of SIME: bestow titles

44 specialist titles + (general practitioner)

e.g. general internist/surgeon/forensic medicine



34 sub-specialties

e.g. ophthalmic surgery/neonatology/pediatric radiology



31 proficiency certificates

e.g. acupuncture/homeopathy/manual medicine/sports medicine





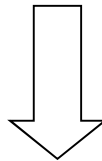
EU Convention on the Free Movement of Persons

Bilateral contracts → Free Movement of Persons

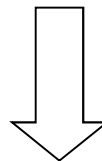
- Domestic treatment of EU citizens in Switzerland and of Swiss citizens in the EU
- Reciprocal recognition of diplomas
- EU Guideline 2005/36

Legal bases

Medical Professions Act and orders



SIME Specialist Training Regulations



45 Postgraduate training programmes
(SIME / specialised associations)



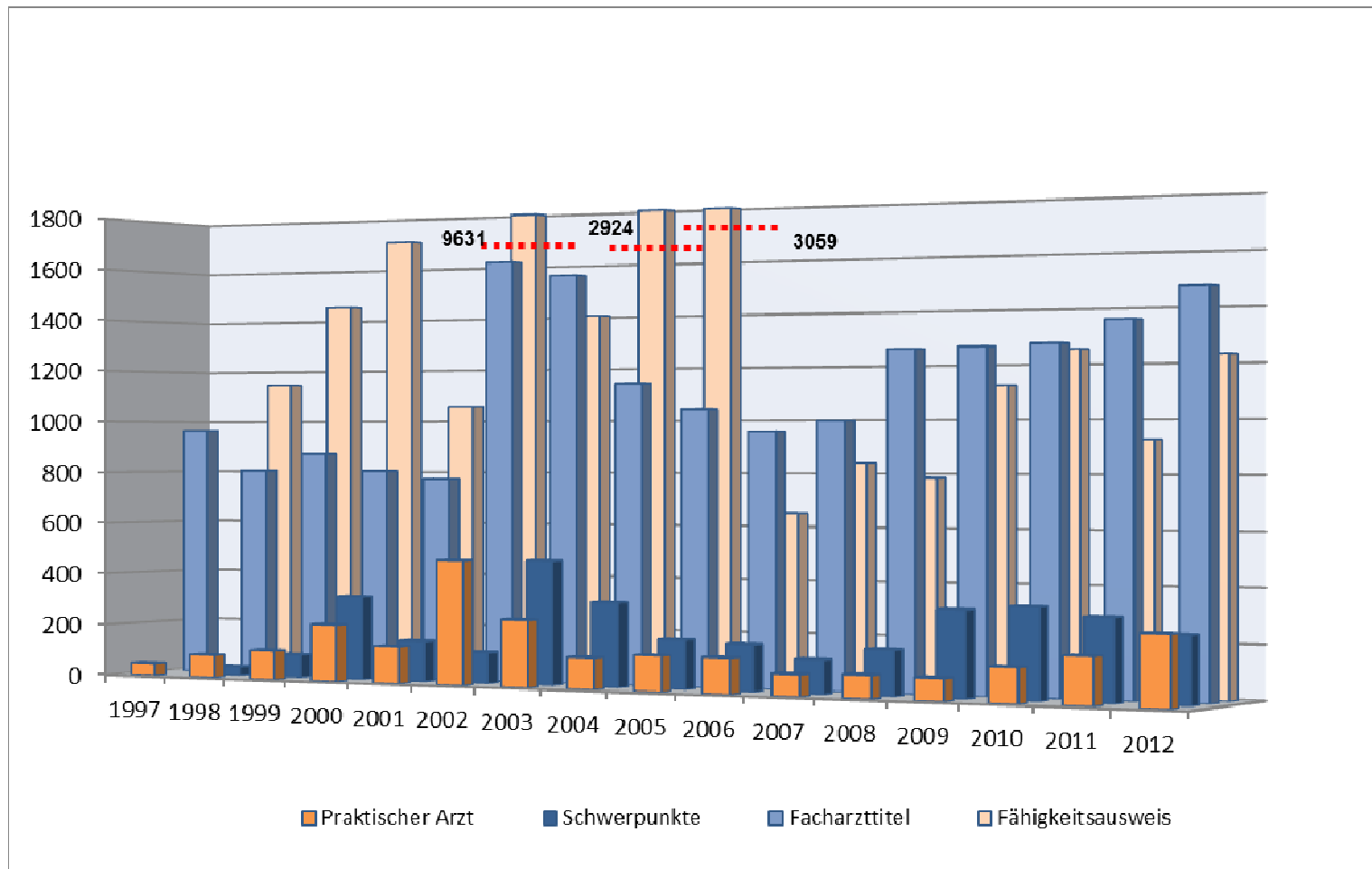
Postgraduate training programmes

- Govern the detailed conditions for obtaining one of the 43 postgraduate titles:
 - Duration of specific postgraduate training (3-6 y)
 - eventually non-specific postgraduate training
 - Change of training centers
 - Research
 - Logbook
 - Content of study material
- Govern all the criteria for the recognition of postgraduate-training centers

Instruments for measuring quality of medical specialist training:

- Accreditation every seventh year (last time in 2011)
Were goals of the law attained (conditions/recommendations)?
- Formative evaluation:
 - (e-)Logbook
 - Workplace-based assessments (Mini-CEX, DOPS)
- Summative evaluation:
 - Medical specialist examination
- On-site visits (100/y, specialty expert, independent, trainee)
- Annual survey among assistant physicians (67% return)

Titles granted 1997 - 2012



Responsibilities of SIME

- 1 Enact and revise Specialist Training Regulations
- 100 Revise/update/implement specialist training programs (medical specialist titles, sub-specialties, proficiency certificates)
- 10'000 Assistant physicians
- 1'500 Title applications/y
- 1'000 Inquiries from foreign physicians
- 1'500 Specialist training facilities (hospitals/clinics)
- 1'000 Physician practices with teaching function
- 100 Visitations/y
- 300 Office holders/commission members

Competences of SIME

- SIME is the organ of the FMH competent for the medical postgraduate training and continuing education
 - Specialist training regulations:
 - Creation and annulment*
 - Revisions
 - Deciding on questions of interpretation of training regulations
 - Electing delegates representing SIME in:
 - Titles Commission (TK)
 - Postgraduate Training Centers Commission (WBK)
 - Commission for Objections concerning TK/WBK decisions

* Subject to the powers of the Medical Chamber and Swiss Federal Office of Public Health

Requirements: The example of surgery

- Total duration 6 years
- At least 4 years of surgery (2 years in a university or A years)
- Maximum of 2 years of special surgical disciplines
- Maximum of 2 years of scientific activities
- Logbook (defined interventions)

Training Program in General Internal Medicine

- Corresponds to a merger of two former training programs: General Medicine and Internal Medicine.
- Allows training based largely on individual choice across the entire spectrum, from **family practitioner** in a remote and isolated location in the Swiss Alps to **internist at a university hospital**.
- Part of the program (first 2 to 3 years) compulsory for training in former sub-specialties of internal medicine (cardiology, pulmonology, oncology, gastroenterology, nephrology, etc.) – but most sub-specialists still have completed the entire range of training in internal medicine.

Training Program in General Internal Medicine

| | | Basisweiterbildung: - 3 Jahre AIM - mind. 2 Jahre stationäre AIM (Kategorie A – D; inkl. 3 Monate Notfallstation) - mind. 6 Monate ambulante AIM (Kategorie I – IV) - mind. 1 Jahr Kategorie A oder I | | | Aufbauweiterbildung: - neben AIM stehen 31 Fachgebiete zur Auswahl gemäss Liste in Ziffer 2.3 des WBP - die als Beispiele aufgeführten Fachgebiete illustrieren die Vielzahl der Möglichkeiten - Perioden: in der Regel 6 bis 12 Monate | | |
|--|------------|---|---------|--|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | 1. Jahr | 2. Jahr | 3. Jahr | 4. Jahr | 5. Jahr | |
| <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Haus- arzt</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Spital- internist</div> </div> | Beispiel 1 | Stationäre AIM Kat. A – D | | Praxisassistentz Kat. III (2x6 oder 1x12 Monate) | Chirurgie und/oder Orthopädie/Traumat. | ORL und/oder Dermatologie | |
| | Beispiel 2 | Stationäre AIM Kat. A – D | | Med. Poliklinik Kat. I – II | Praxis- assistentz Kat. III | Gynäkologie und/oder Pädiatrie | Psychiatrie und/oder Neurologie |
| | Beispiel 3 | Stationäre AIM Kat. A – D | | Med. Poliklinik Kat. I – II | | Kardiologie und/oder Nephrologie | Infektiologie und/oder Pneumologie |
| | Beispiel 4 | Stationäre AIM Kat. A – D | | Med. Poliklinik Kat. I – II | Stationäre AIM Kat. A – D | | Intensiv- medizin |

Continuing medical education

- MedBG 2007: continuing medical education (CME) is a professional obligation under the law.
- CME regulations:
 - 80 credits (\approx hours) per year
 - 30 self-study (not checked)
 - 25 specific CME (defined by specialist society)
 - 25 general CME
- → CME programs for all medical specialist titles
- CME certificate for FMH members

80 hours
per year

Self-study
30 Credits

- Proof not required
- Automatically credited

**General
Continuing
Education**
25 Credits

- Proof required
- Additional continuing education as a specialist
- Non-specialist continuing education recognized by
 - another specialist society
 - a cantonal medical society
 - Swiss Institute for Medical Education/Swiss Medical Association
 - ASA, VAOS, SVHA, SANTH or SMPG in the field of complementary medicine

**Specific
Continuing
Education**
25 Credits

- Proof required
- Defined and structured according to the specialty-specific continuing education program of a specialist society (specialist title)

Sir William Osler (I):

- Beware of words – they are dangerous things. They change colour like the chameleon, and they return like a boomerang.
- Believe nothing that you see in the newspapers – they have done more to create dissatisfaction than all other agencies. If you see anything in them that you know is true, begin to doubt it at once.
- Medicine is a science of uncertainty and an art of probability.

Sir William Osler (II):

... and a touch of «Arbeitsmedizin»:

- It is always valuable to note the occupation of a patient. It may point to the diagnosis of the disease. The fact that a man with anomalous symptoms and a cutaneous eruption is a *wool sorter* may give the diagnosis of anthrax. Glanders is associated with *workers in stables* ... When a man with extreme pallor says he is a *painter*, this fact at once points to lead poisoning as the cause. The same with *taylors* as there is lead in the thread they use.