
Standardising Cardiac Educational Training Throughout Europe



The European Society of Cardiology (ESC) recently launched a website to address the challenges of internationally harmonised medical education and certification. The dynamic new online education platform commissioned by the ESC and developed by Enforme Interactive, will provide consistent, standardised education and testing to its 75,000 members across 52 countries. European medical leaders are convinced that standardised medical training will result in a higher quality of care for cardiac patients across Europe.

ESC, the non-profit association founded in 1950, based in Sophia-Antipolis, France, is dedicated to reducing cardiovascular disease through physician education. "European healthcare leaders have grappled for years with the variance in medical training and certification among cardiologists that occurs from nation to nation," said Eric Delente, co-owner of Enforme Interactive, one of the largest providers of web technologies for medical and scientific associations in the U.S. "Our assignment was to develop a learning platform that would respond to the complex and multi-faceted educational and certification needs of ESC's international membership - yet designed in a manner that would be highly user friendly."

Delente and his team responded with the development of the ESC eLearning Platform, (ESCeL) which debuted at ESC's annual congress in August. The dynamic education portal provides for the training and certification needs across six cardiology subspecialties: acute cardiac care, echocardiography, heart failure, heart rhythm, percutaneous interventions, and prevention and rehabilitation.

ESCeL will provide cardiologists with the online coursework, study materials, and examinations required for international certification across Europe. The site will also allow physicians to demonstrate their practical clinical experiences and professional skills through online case logbooks and patient safety journals, another requirement for certification. These and other logged clinical experiences will then be reviewed and approved at the local, national and European levels using a sophisticated workflow approval management engine, developed by Enforme. The certification requirement is further enhanced with a journal of publications, research and teaching experience submitted by the ESC physician members that following certification can be shared with prospective employers as a standardised CV.

For more information, please visit: <http://learn.escardio.org>

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