

## **e-MEDICINimage**

e-MEDICINimage is an European Union (Leonardo da Vinci) two year project funded to create a multilingual interactive electronic (e)-learning programme in Medical Parasitology and Medical Mycology for professionals (medical and allied health) who are involved routinely in these investigations in non-specialized clinical laboratories. The countries involved in creating this multilingual interactive e-learning programme are France, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the UK.

e-learning offers near instant solutions to continuing professional development, without the need to travel or be absent from work. Electronic responses to user questions and comments are rapid, standardized and can be stored for future use. The interactive nature of e-learning also offers the possibility of championing local mentoring.

Originally instigated at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (CHU) de Toulouse, France, within e-MEDICINimage are two e-learning programmes. They are PARASITim@ge (medical parasitology) and MYCOim@ge (medical mycology). Each is based on actual case presentations, diagnosis and treatment. A monthly newsletter is also proposed.

A minimum of 30 clinical laboratory recruits (all allied health profession levels and junior medical laboratory practice doctors) will be accepted into each year of the two year programme, free of charge. Charges will apply after this two year period.

In the UK, the language used for PARASITim@ge will be English. For each of the annual courses, 6 case presentations will be described, which averages out at one every two months. Each recruit will have to register for the programme and will have to complete the course. Each participant will be given a password which enables them to access the e-learning programme. Participants will read each case presentation in strict numerical order, and respond to a number of specific questions raised by each individual presentation. A series of images (8), meant to assist laboratory diagnosis for the specific disease presentation, will accompany each presentation.

Once the questions have been answered for a specific presentation, each participant's answers will be emailed to the UK tutor who will respond to each participant, encourage them to seek further knowledge and address any weaknesses identified.

**If you are interested in registering, please respond to Professor Huw Smith ([huw.smith@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:huw.smith@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)) by email as soon as possible.**

**All communication (registration, participation in the e-learning programme including responses to presentations and interactions with the tutor) will be electronic.**

PARASITim@ge and MYCOim@ge will be proposed for CPD / CME.

An insight into the commoner human parasitic infections can be found by visiting the Scottish Parasite Diagnostic Laboratory website <http://www.spdl.scot.nhs.uk/>

**A questionnaire will be sent to all participants by the end of the first session (during December 2010) in order to solicit their opinion on the e-learning programme (quality of the educational component, ease of use of the computer platform, efficacy of technical assistance, tutorship interaction). The questionnaire will have to be completed and returned within the specified time.**