



# EUROPEAN BOARD OF CARDIOVASCULAR PERFUSION



The European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion was founded in 1991 in order to unite European perfusionists in their desire for equality of standards in both training and professional status.



For this purpose, a democratic organization with representatives from the perfusion societies of all European countries which, at that time were members of the European Community (EC) or the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) was initiated.



Supporting organizations of the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion include the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS), the European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery (ESCS) and the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Anaesthesiologists (EACTA).



## Goals:

The objectives of the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion are to:  
Establish, monitor and maintain equality of standards in education and training in practice of perfusion and related studies for the benefit of the public.



## Goals:

Set out Essentials and Guidelines by which training programmes will be accredited by the Board and where such programmes will lead to qualifications recognized by all societies in Europe.



### Goals:

Develop an advanced level of education and training programme to train the trainers in perfusion and thereby qualify the trainers to teach perfusion skills.

Establish a common perfusionists certification programme in Europe and thereby permit greater mobility of labour with recognition of professional competence.



### Goals:

Issue an European Certificate of competence in Perfusion to certify that the bearer has satisfied the Board by examination that the required standard of competence has been attained.

Liaise with the European Commission to legalize these objectives through the appropriate health department.



The European Board meets twice a year in order to discuss and define the rules to reach the objectives set above.

Officially, the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion is represented by the chairman, the general secretary, and the treasurer.

In addition, there is a certification committee and an accreditation committee which form the academic committee of the board.



The certification committee is in charge of matters regarding the certification of the individual perfusionist whereas the accreditation committee leads in matters regarding accreditation of perfusion schools and training centres.

Several important steps have been accomplished since the foundation of the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion.



A number of documents have been produced, including *Essentials and Guidelines*, an *Examination Guide*, *Sample Questions* for examination candidates, etc.

The full text of these documents can be obtained from the general secretary.



Written examinations from the European Certificate in Cardiovascular Perfusion have been organized under the auspices of the Board, with significant participation throughout Europe.



These written examinations were completed by additional oral and practical examinations for those candidates who have successfully passed the written examinations.



In 1996 the first written exams were given.

Until then it was possible to obtain the certificate by a Grandperson clause for perfusionist who had performed solely a minimum of 100 clinical perfusions in Europe, and had been practicing clinical perfusion for at least 2 years.



## Organization:

The Board has an Academic Committee,  
which is based on two sub-committees:  
The Accreditation Sub-committee and the  
Certification Sub-committee.



*Members of the Academic Committee are:*

- The Chairman of the Board*
- The General Secretary of the Board*
- The Treasurer of the Board*
- The Chairman of each sub-committee*
- One member of each sub-committee holding a academic appointment in his institution*
- One representative from the Liaison Committee of the European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery and the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery*
- The representative from the European Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthesiologists*



## Accreditation manual

Institutes seeking the European Board's accreditation for their education and training programmes in clinical perfusion sciences can use this manual. This Document is intended to encourage an ongoing summative and formative evaluation process and as an accompaniment to the Essentials and Guidelines. The Manual will provide the opportunity for training institutions to carry out summative-evaluation of their programme as well as conducting formative tasks and assessment activities in preparation for the Site Visit.



## The Essentials and Guidelines

They are designed to give guidance to institutions seeking the European Board's accreditation for their education and training programmes in perfusion sciences. There will inevitably be a variety of standards in training programmes within a single country, and from country to country.



## The Essentials and Guidelines

The objective of the Essentials and Guidelines is not to set a maximum level for programs to attain, but to set the minimum criteria, recommended by the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion (EBCP) in consultation with all the below listed institutions.



These criteria must be achieved by the institution, i.e. the school of perfusion, hospital or university where the programme is being offered, before the EBCP will grant accreditation. A list of accredited programmes is published for prospective students, employers and the public.



## Definitions:

For the purposes of this document, the term 'Perfusion' means pumping blood through the whole body, and 'Perfusionist' means a person who operates a heart/lung machine for cardiopulmonary bypass and uses related techniques.



## Site-visit party:

Representatives of the Academic Committee, which includes members from the Accreditation Sub-committee and the Certification Sub-committee of the EBCP, will form the site-visit party.



## Re-accreditation:

The Accreditation Sub-committee will periodically visit all Institutions holding the EBCP's Accreditation for the purpose of re-accrediting the programme. Any programme no longer meeting the required minimum criteria will lose its accreditation. The institution may appeal against any such decision, or re-apply for accreditation.



## Examinations

The European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion invites applications for Board examinations, to be held in all European Full Member countries in November of each year. These examinations are supported by the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery, the European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery and the European Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthesiologists, for the award of the European Certificate in Cardiovascular Perfusion (ECCP).



Deadline for application: 30 June of each year.

Applicants wishing to sit the Board's examination must meet the following criteria:

- a. Applicants must have graduated from a perfusion training programme at an institution which has successfully applied for accreditation from the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion.



- b. Applicants must have practised clinical perfusion for a minimum of two years in a Full Member country by the deadline of 30 June of each year. (The training period is included in this time).
- c. Applicants must be currently practising clinical perfusionists.



- d. Applicants must complete and have signed the attestation statement by the Clinical Supervisor of their training programme which certifies that:
- i. the applicant has, as the primary perfusionist, conducted a minimum of 100 clinical perfusions and is now competent to practise unsupervised.
  - ii. the applicant is fully versed and is competent in the avoidance and the management of perfusion accidents.
  - iii. the applicant can set up and operate a wide range of commonly used equipment for cardiopulmonary bypass.



e. A completed EBCP Logbook, current training programme logbook, or national logbook must accompany the candidate's application. All logbook entries must include the date and description of each performed procedure. All logbooks must be signed by the training programme director or the clinical supervisor.



f. All candidates who successfully complete the Written Examination must also successfully complete a Practical and Oral Examination. These examinations may be completed at the training programme prior to graduation or, if having previously graduated, where the candidate is presently employed.



In the later case, the exam must be organised with the aid of the national Delegate to the EBCP, while an EBCP Observer is required to be present at the exam. Practical and Oral Examination Forms are available through the EBCP. The ECCP will be awarded upon successful completion of all three examinations.

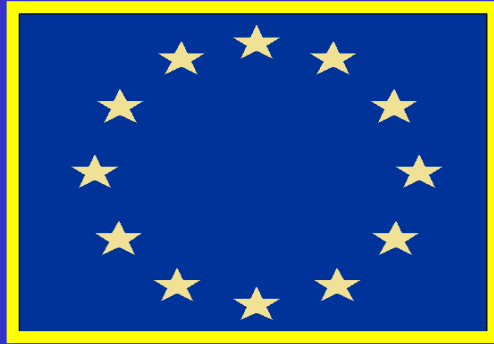


When the application form and fee have been accepted by the Board, the applicant will be sent an information packet which contains:

- The simplified examination syllabus
  - A selection of sample questions, which are similar to the examination questions.
  - Practical and Oral Examination Forms



There is an appeals procedure for those who do not meet the full criteria to take the examination and feel they have special circumstances. It is stressed that appeals, which must be made in writing to the General Secretary of the Board at the above address, will be carefully scrutinised.



## Certification Registry of the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion

The Certification Registry of the European Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion (EBCP) lists all holders of the European Certificate in Cardiovascular Perfusion (ECCP) whose certificate are currently valid, either through recent EBCP examination or re-certification.



The general European public has a legitimate right to know how and to what extent European cardiovascular perfusionists holding the awarded ECCP keep themselves professionally updated with respect to knowledge and continued practical experience.



Furthermore, employing hospitals that assume the special duties of facilitating post-graduate employee education and maintaining quality improvement of medical practice under ISO 9000 standards have privileged access to EBCP confirmation of the validity of their employee's European Certificate.



While some perfusionists may presently be in the process of examination, re-certification, or may have changed country of employment, the following list may not be entirely complete.

Additionally, for personal reasons, some individuals have asked that their names not appear in this list.

The EBCP recommends that any institution seeking and not finding the name of a presently employed perfusionist contact the EBCP General Secretary directly for specific information.



EBCP General Secretary:

Kirk Graves

Department Cardiovascular Surgery

Cardiovascular Perfusion

City Hospital Triemli Zürich

Birmensdorferstrasse 497

8063 Zürich

Switzerland

Fax: 00 41 1 466 2745

Email: [gravesebcp@gmx.ch](mailto:gravesebcp@gmx.ch)