

Urological training in Lithuania

European tour of residencies



Robertas Adomaitis
NCO of Lithuania
Vilnius (LT)

Statistics

Population	3.44 million
Licensed urologists	150
Urologists actually working in Lithuania	110 (approx.)
Urology residents	20

In order to be granted a residency (official term for higher medical training in Lithuania) in urology in Lithuania, the candidate must fulfill several criteria. One of the criteria is the possession of a medical diploma which is recognized in Lithuania or the European Union (EU). In Lithuania medical studies take six years. In addition, the candidate must have an internship certificate or an equivalent of the same training abroad. The internship consists of a training rotation in general surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics-gynecology. In Lithuania all medical graduates of a particular year are assigned internship posts, mostly in regional hospitals, with the rotation programme taking about 11 months, from August to June of the following year. There are two universities in Lithuania which organise the higher medical training, the Vilnius University and the Kaunas Medical University. The number of residency posts in each speciality is defined by the government.

All candidates for all positions of higher medical training participate in a competition which is conducted using a computed electronic system. All candidates are offered residency posts according to

examination marks and the list of personal preferences. In addition, compulsory speciality interviews are organised for candidates to Kaunas Medical University. Most residency positions are filled in the beginning of July after the competition. Residency is considered as part of educational studies in Lithuania and is funded by the government. All residents receive the same monthly stipend of 850 LIT (€250).

Each year, around four to six new residents enter urological training in Lithuania (in both Vilnius and Kaunas). Urological training lasts for five years, which combines both organised and well-structured rotation trainings (see table).

The first two years are dedicated to basic surgical training and diagnostic disciplines. The last three years include specialised courses in the urological department.

Year	Programme	Duration (months)
I	General surgery	5
	Laparoscopic surgery	4
	Angiosurgery	2
II	Gynecology	3
	Pediatric surgery	2
	Oncology	2
	Radiology*	2
	Anesthesiology*	2
III	Pathology*	2
	General urology	6
	Nephrology	2
IV	Pediatric urology	3
	Urological emergency	4
	Oncourology	4
V	Urological surgery	3
	Endourology	2
	Renal transplantation and hemodialysis	2
	Andrology	2
	Reconstructive urological surgery	5

*) Two courses out of three, depending on the personal interest of the resident

Table 1: Residency programme

In the urological training programme (the last three years), the requirements for the theoretical training are well defined. Although there are no exact numbers on how many surgical procedures have to be performed by the resident, it is required that residents should be competent to perform certain procedures by themselves. Residents must keep records of their surgical activities, and a trainee undergoes evaluation after each course by a clinical tutor.

After five years of urological training the resident

must pass a final theoretical exam to receive a certificate of completion of the urological training. In Lithuania one must apply for the license of urologist in order to have the right to practise. The license will be issued by the competent authority upon presentation of the certificate of urological training. The license is renewed every five years provided the medical specialist has been practising at least three out of five years and has attended at least 200 hours of training activities in five years. A urology license issued in Lithuania is recognised in other EU countries.



Test your knowledge!

The EBU offers you the possibility to test your knowledge by answering three MCQs. For this issue, October 2006, the questions are:

- Exfoliative urinary cytology is most accurate in the diagnosis of which type of bladder carcinoma:
 - CIS.
 - Adenocarcinoma.
 - Squamous carcinoma.
 - Low grade transitional cell carcinoma.
- Which of the following drugs is not a selective blocker of alpha-1 receptors of the prostate and the bladder neck?
 - Prazosin.
 - Alfuzosin.
 - Terazosin.
 - Phenoxybenzamine.
- After a blunt renal injury nonvisualization of the kidney on an intravenous urogram should be investigated further by:
 - MRI.
 - Arteriography.
 - Ultrasonography.
 - Renal isotope scanning.

Please visit the EBU website for the answers:
www.ebu.com - Other - Study material



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