

Is it possible to review and update the core competences and course contents for pharmacology in university programmes throughout Spain?

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The competences for pharmacology specified in the white books – Spanish reference guidelines – for the main bachelor degree programmes that include courses in pharmacology need to be updated. The information about the knowledge requirements in pharmacology that is published on university websites should also be reviewed, updated, and homogenized.

This presentation aims (a) to draw attention to the need to review and update the knowledge requirements and course content related to pharmacology in bachelor degree programmes at universities in Spain and (b) to propose a collaborative initiative to improve and homogenize the information universities provide about these requirements.

A series of working-group meetings will be scheduled during 2015 and 2016 to review and update the core competences in pharmacology (both general and specific for each degree programme) and the syllabus and course contents to ensure these requirements are met. This approach counts on the voluntary participation of professors and pharmacology professionals and the collaboration of scientific societies, universities, and research centres involved in pharmacology. The agreements reached and the proposals elaborated in each working-group meeting will be published and available to the public. Further working-group meetings will be scheduled at the meetings and additional professionals will be invited to participate.

This initiative could help improve the information available about the pharmacology knowledge requirements to be included in university websites and future white books. Together with other measures, these efforts should help improve the teaching and assessment of pharmacology in various degree programmes.

Keywords: bachelor programmes; competences; pharmacology; syllabuses; teaching; university.