




Hospital Universitario Fundación Alcorcón (ES)

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Type of organisation:

SME School University Public Authority
 Training No Profit NGO

Fields of action :

SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Description of the organisation

University Hospital Alcorcón Foundation (Hospital Universitario Fundación Alcorcón-HUFA) is a public health non-profit institution belonging to the Madrid Health Service of the Ministry of Health of the Community of Madrid. Located in the southern part of the Community of Madrid, whose mission is the delivery of health care specialized, efficient and accessible, to improve or maintain the health of citizens, integrating in the same teaching and research activities. The Hospital was founded in 1997 in the Spanish National Health System, although its operational management is contracted out to a private company, and is exempt from many of the rules normally imposed on state-owned hospitals. The hospital was allowed to negotiate its own contract with workers. The governance of the hospital includes local government, trade unions, health workers and community groups.

This Alcorcón model of governance has been considered by the British Health Secretary Alan Milburn in 2001 an example to inspire the reform of NHS in UK. The Alcorcón hospital's board of ministry and town council representatives contracted a private team to manage the service and the government of hospital and reach its own wage, productivity and working time agreements with doctors, nurses and other health workers.

The hospital has 500 beds and more than 39 medical specialties, in 2013 the total amount of inpatients was 16.561 and 381.284 outpatients, emergency services assisted 93.797 patients. A total amount of 257 postgraduate students concluded in 2015 their residency at HUFA, and the clinical teaching of medical students at the public University Rey Juan Carlos is performed in the hospital.

In October 2014, the hospital was reported to be treating the first case in Spain of Ebola virus disease under strict biosecurity precautions.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

COST ACTION: Disaster Bioethics European Cooperation in Science and Technology. Member Committee – European Commission 2013-2017. Member committee representing Spain in a multi-centric project involving 26 European countries. Founded by European Commission. IS1201. Mental health research group on humanitarian disaster.

ERASMUS PLUS: Palliative Care MOOC: Massive open online courses with videos for palliative clinical field and intercultural and multilingual medical communication. European Commission. Key Action: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices. Action: Strategic Partnership. 2014-2017. Number 2014-1-RO01-KA203-002940

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

HUFA team was involved in previous European research project focused on teaching innovation. An example the Med&Lang project <http://www.medlang.eu/>, the COST Action Bioethics Disaster <http://disasterbioethics.eu/>, and they are involved in the development of an integrated curriculum for medical students in bioethics.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

HUFA will develop empirical research in Spain, collecting data among lecturer, residents, and will have an active role to implement all the work package.

Reasons of involvement in the project

Teaching innovation and soft skills learning are matter of interest for HUFA and its teaching tradition. SoftisPed could add new expertise to hospital teaching activity.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Benjamín Herreros is an internist and holds a master's degree in Science History from Universidad Complutense de Madrid, master's degree in Bioethics from Universidad Complutense de Madrid and an international master's degree in Health Law from Universidad Europea. He works for the internal medicine unit of the Alcorcón Foundation University Teaching Hospital, specializing in cardiovascular risk. He has been a visiting scholar in several international universities and institutions in United States, and is the director of the Instituto de Ética Clínica Francisco Vallés – Universidad Europea institute. He is a Medical Humanities and Bioethics professor in the medical specialties department (Departamento de Especialidades Médicas) of the Universidad Europea de Madrid university, and is an adjunct lecturer of the Health Law and Toxicology department (Departamento de Legislación Sanitaria y Toxicología) of the UCM Medical School. He is the chairman of the Ethics Committee for Health Care of the Alcorcón Foundation University Teaching Hospital, coordinator of the working group on Bioethics of the Spanish Society of Internal Medicine and member of the Committee for Bioethics and Health Law of ASISA.

Emanuele Valenti is the deputy director of the Instituto de Ética Clínica Francisco Vallés – Universidad Europea. He is

a Lecturer in the Clinical and Pharmacy Departments of the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences at the Universidad Europea, where he is lecturing in the courses of medical humanities and legal medicine to medical students, bioethics, social and legal aspects of biotechnology to biotechnology students, ethics and pharmaceutical law to pharmacy students. After a degree in Philosophy at the Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy, he had a master's degree in Bioethics and a Ph.D in Medical Humanities at the Medical School of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, mentored by Prof. Diego Gracia. On 2008-2009 he was a Research Scholar in the Center For Bioethics of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, US, and on 2010 at the Center for Mental Health Research, Medical School of the University of Massachusetts, Worcester, US. On 2010 he worked as Research Fellow at the Centro di Bioetica Clinica e Governance della Salute Ca' Granda, Ospedale Policlinico di Milano, Italy.

Since 2012 he is a Visiting Research Fellow at the Center for Social and Community Psychiatry WHO Collaborating Center for Mental Health Services Development, at Queen Mary University of London, United Kingdom. He is currently Spain Member Committee in the COST Action IS2101 Bioethics Disaster and manager of the project Massive open online courses with videos for palliative clinical field and intercultural and multilingual medical communication funded by European Commission through the program ERASMUS +: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices. Action: Strategic Partnership. 2014-2017. Number 2014-1-RO01-KA203-002940. He is involved in research activity about medical ethics education as Spain representative in the Cambridge Consortium. His research interests are focused on mental health: ethical issues of mental health care, formal and informal coercion, mental health carers involvement and befriending; disaster medicine: coercion in disaster, gender-based violence in refugees and internally displaced people, vulnerability and research ethics in disaster and palliative care: ethical issues of end of life care.