



Podiatry EUROPE
To advance podiatry in Europe through
education, advocacy, and strategic alliances

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To whom it may concern

The European Council of Podiatrists (ECP), is the committee of International Federation of Podiatrists, responsible for promoting the interests and general awareness of the podiatry profession to the European Commission, Parliament, and Council.

Therefore, under its actions to strengthen and promote Podiatry in whole Europe, the ECP fully supports the formation of Podiatry in Romania, knowing that Dra. Norina Alinta Gavan, PhD, Honorary President of the Association for Podiatry is already working to achieve that goal.

Podiatry is defined as that profession of health sciences concerned with the research, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of deformities, pathologies and injuries of the foot and associated structures - in relation with the body as well as manifestations of systemic diseases - by all appropriate systems and technology's using scientific and professional specialised knowledge, and like most health sciences has undergone major transformations over the last years, in the academic, professional as well as in its social aspect.

Therefore, the Podiatrist is the specialist, which diagnoses and treats the different conditions, deformations and foot diseases, through of palliative, orthopaedic, physical, pharmacological and sometimes surgical treatments, which are specific to their specialty, training and expertise.

Despite the variability of the educational programs in the different European countries, which establishes the requirements for the verification of official qualifications that enable the practice of the Podiatric profession, podiatrists have a specific knowledge and skillset with direct positive effects to Public Health .

The fields in which podiatry develops its professional activities are Biomechanics and orthotic therapies, Treatments and wound care and in some cases Podiatric surgery and focussing in specific care to paediatric and geriatric patients. Nowadays, podiatrists are involved in almost every area of health, such as (professional) sports activities and playing a crucial role in the multidisciplinary team around the diabetic patient and in prevention of lower limb injuries. One of the most important professional activities developed by Podiatry is the care given to diabetic patients, achieving a significant increase of the quality of life of those patients and reducing the complications related to diabetes such as amputations, working together with other medical specialists as Endocrinologists and Vascular Surgeons.

Related to professional competencies, in the most advanced countries, podiatrists are authorized to direct and operate medical diagnostic imaging such as Rx Scan, ultrasound and prescription equipment, monitoring such as Magnetic Resonances, Bone Gammagraphy, Analytical, Biopsy and Electromyography, and being authorized to use autonomously that installations within the limits of the professional expertise corresponding to their academic title. In the same way and regarding the pharmacological treatments, the podiatrist is legally qualified to carry out and prescribe medical drugs, of course, within its fields of professional activity.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Carlos Verges Salas
Chair of the European Council of Podiatrists
of the International Federation of Podiatrists – Fédération Internationale des Podologues