



Swiss Centre for Applied Human Toxicology
Schweizerisches Zentrum für Angewandte Humantoxikologie
Centre Suisse de Toxicologie Humaine Appliquée
Centro Svizzero di Tossicologia Umana Applicata

Survey of training programs under the European Registered Toxicologist (ERT) scheme

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Background



- **New guidelines for registration finally approved by EUROTOX Business Council in June 2012**
 - Advancing harmonization of the national registration procedures
 - Provision of appropriate training opportunities to all ERT candidates
 - Promotion and facilitation of the establishment of collaborative training schemes
- **Education and Registration Subcommittees**
 - Keep records of curricula / course programs and modules recognized or accredited for ERT registration by national societies/registers
 - Approve (or re-approve) courses for accreditation at the EUROTOX level

Survey of ERT-related educational activities



▪ Purpose

- To establish a list of all courses and modules accredited by national toxicological societies and/or registers for national and ERT registration
- Make this information available on the EUROTOX website

▪ Method

- A survey form was sent to contact persons for all 16 national registers within EUROTOX at the beginning of January 2012

▪ Countries

- Austria AT
- Belgium BE
- Bulgaria BG
- Finland FI
- France FR
- Germany DE
- Greece EL
- Ireland IE
- Italy IT
- Netherlands NE
- Norway NO
- Poland PL
- Spain ES
- Switzerland CH
- Turkey TR
- UK UK

8 Nov 2012

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3

Response rate



Countries contacted **16** **(100%)**

Questionnaire completed **16** **(100%)**

Details of the courses can be found at

http://www.eurotox.com/sub/eurotox.com/images/docs/ert_courses.html

8 Nov 2012

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4

Overview (n = 16 countries)



Accreditation of training programmes (n = 16)

Yes	12	AT, BE, BG, FI, DE, IE, IT, NL, PL, CH, TR, UK
No	2	FR, EL ^a
Not stated	2	ES, NO ^b

^a Greece is currently evaluating its educational programmes

^b Various university courses at master level throughout the academic year at different universities

Language of courses (n = 14)

English (complete)	6	AT, IE, IT, NL, CH, UK
English (part)	4	BG, FI, DE, NO
Local language	2	BE, TR
No information	2	PL, ES

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5

Type of course (n = 14 countries)



Full-time, whole curriculum	6	BE, DE, IT, CH, TR ^a , UK
Full-time, part of the curriculum	1	IE
Full-time, content not known	1	FI
Modular, whole curriculum	8	AT, DE, PL ^b , CH, IT ^c , NL, TR ^c , UK
Modular, part of the curriculum	6	BE, BG, FI, ES, NO, UK

^a Turkey requires PhD in Toxicology for registration

^b Details not known, but Polish register recognises course developed by WCDKM

^c Courses accompanying PhD programme

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6

Course details (n = 14 countries)



Full-time, university degree

BSc, 4 years	1	IE
MSc or equivalent, 1 year	3	IE, IT, UK
MSc or equivalent, 2 years	5	BE, DE, CH, UK, FI
MSc or equivalent, 3 years (1+2)	1	TR

Modular, whole ERT curriculum, university degree

MSc or equivalent, 2+ years	3	AT, CH, UK
PhD, 2+ years	2	IT, TR

Modular, whole ERT curriculum, other certification

Certification by national register or other national body	3	NL, DE, PL
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Modular, part of the ERT curriculum

University certificate	5	BG, ES, FI, NO, UK
Certification by nat. tox. society	2	BE, BG

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7

Conclusions



- **Most national registers accredit / recognize educational courses for the purpose of registration**
- **The majority of courses are university-based and offer**
 - Either an academic qualification (MSc, PhD)
 - Or certification of individual modules
- **Most registers state that they will recognize other courses on a case-by-case basis**
- **Opportunities for trainees to participate in different training programmes exist, however, they are currently limited by**
 - Variable course contents
 - Credit transfer issues
 - Language barriers

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8