Kosovo

1. State of Clinical Engineering (CE) - Health Technology Management (HTM) – Body of Practice (BOP)
Kosova it is at the initial phases of introduction and incorporation of Clinical Engineering and Health Technology Management as an integral part of its health care system, and the health care infrastructure.
Through the American College of Clinical Engineering (ACCE), training and mentorship has been offered on continuous basis through the Ministry of Health and the University Clinical Center of Kosova to key professionals employed by the respective institutions. However, it is believed that the Ministry of Health of Kosova should do much more to integrate CE, and HTM through specific policies and budgetary allocations, with specific focus on further training of present and future biomedical and clinical engineers.

2. How would you suggest to show the Value of and from having CE-HTM program.
I would suggest to gather and analyze the data for a quantitative assessment on specific CE and HTM activities and projects, as related to patient care, the number of patients offered services, the improvement of the quality of services as well as the time of rendering services. In this way, we will be able to demonstrate quantitatively the improvement of the overall health care services through specific CE and HTM programs and their applications in the hospitals.

3. Example of success stories where CE supported patient outcomes

4. CE Education program available (levels and content) – Body of Knowledge (BOK)
Unfortunately, the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering does not provide specific studies for CE at any level.

5. CE Association/Society and Credentialing/Certification program if available
This would be a great idea to pursue for the country of Kosova, that would result in organizational structures of clinical engineers.

6. CE major challenges (think of 3 subjects)
• Building the political will inside the Ministry of Health to support CE and HTM
• Increasing awareness among health care professionals on the necessity of incorporating CE and HTM as an integral part of the work in any hospital
• Increasing the interest of young engineers and engineering students for the field of CE and HTM.

7. What is the most important action you will support to increase CE recognition
Opening channels of communication between Kosova as a country and CE and HTM organizations in the western world, and initiating joint specific CE and HTM projects for the public hospitals in Kosova, that will have a direct impact in patient care. That will significantly increase CE recognition both among health care professionals and government officials, as well as among the general population.

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