

# The Future of Internal Medicine in Europe

**XXXI Congreso SEMI**

**II Congreso Ibérico de MI**

**VII Congreso de la Sociedad Asturiana de MI**

*Ramon Pujol*  
*President of EFIM*



# El nuevo entorno de los internistas

- Globalización
- Nuevos pacientes
- Cambios en los sistemas de salud
- Nueva tecnología
  - diagnóstica & terapéutica
  - de la comunicación
- Emergencia de nuevo conocimiento



# ¿ACABARÁN LOS ROBOTS CON LOS MÉDICOS?



EL PAÍS, jueves 17 de agosto de 2000

# ¿Cuándo finalizará el proyecto Europeo?



AVE, ¿con Francia ?



Sagrada Família, BCN

# Fortalezas de la Medicina Interna

ADAPTABILIDAD



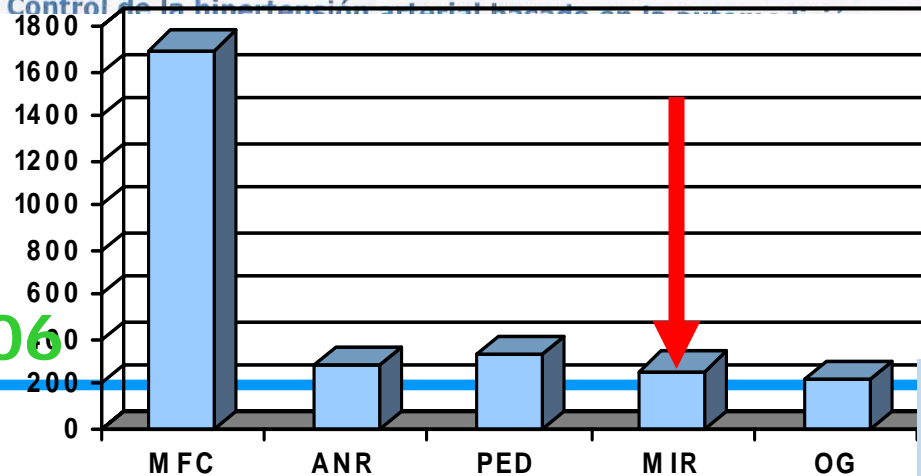
VERSATILIDAD

## 2. Alternativas a la hospitalización convencional en medicina interna

Miquel Torres Salinas, Josep A Capdevila Morel, Pedro Armario García, Santiago Montull Morer. grupo de trabajo de los Servicios de Medicina Interna de los Hospitales de Cataluña.

Med Clin (Barc). 2005;124:620-6.

## 3. Control de la hipertensión arterial tratada en...



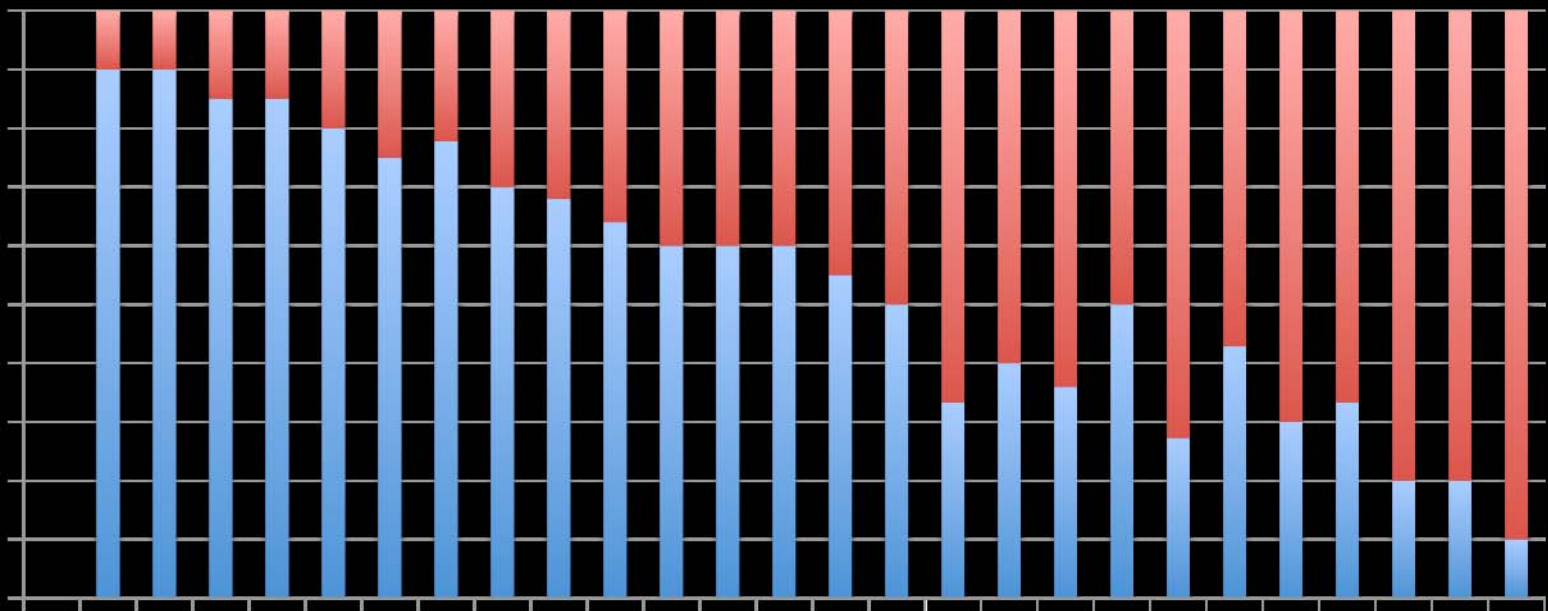
CANTIDAD

Plazas MIR 2006

# EFIM network

34 países, > 30.000 internistas

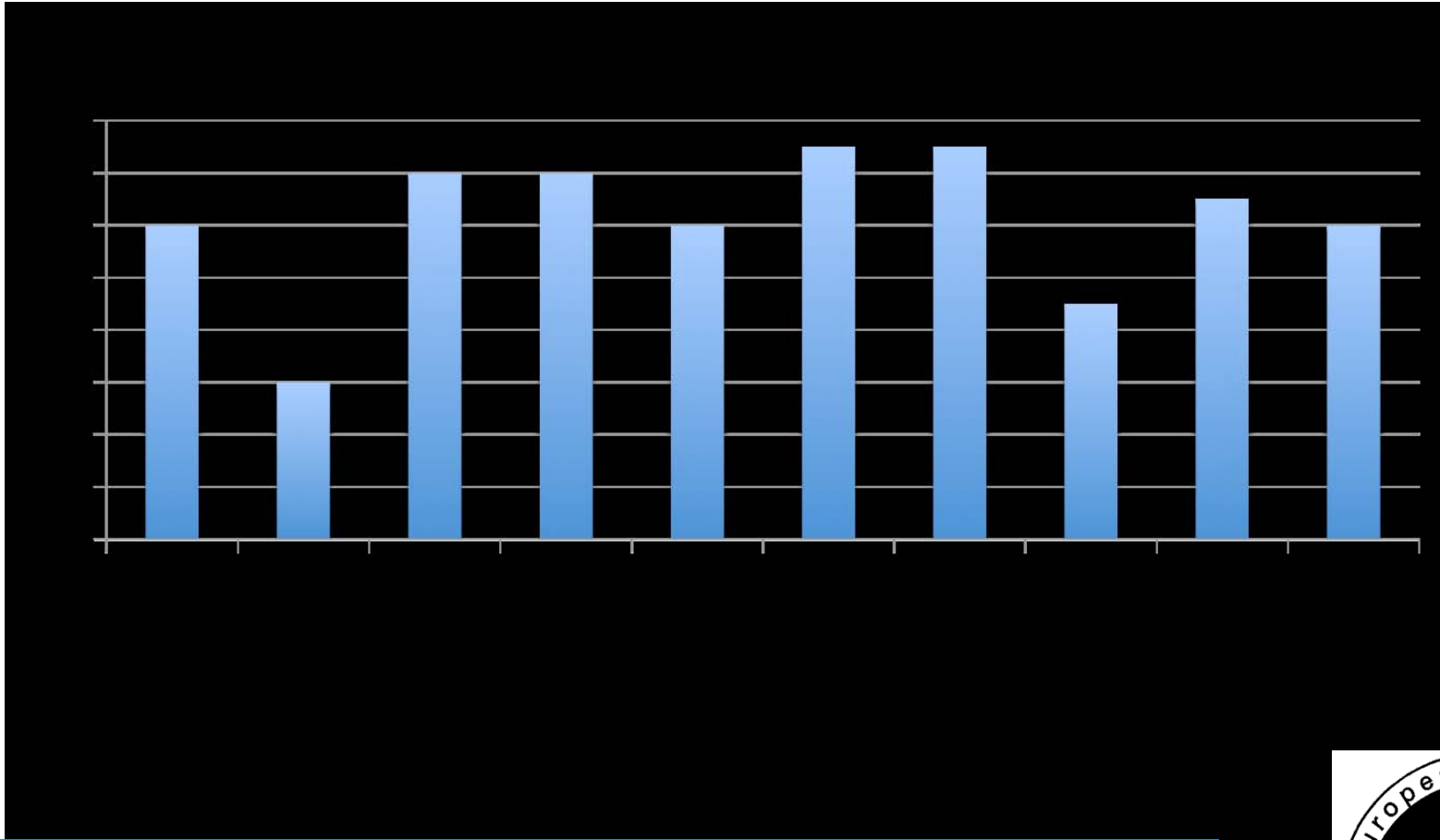




Cortesia de Runolfour Parlsson



# Sub-Specialties with Internal Medicine



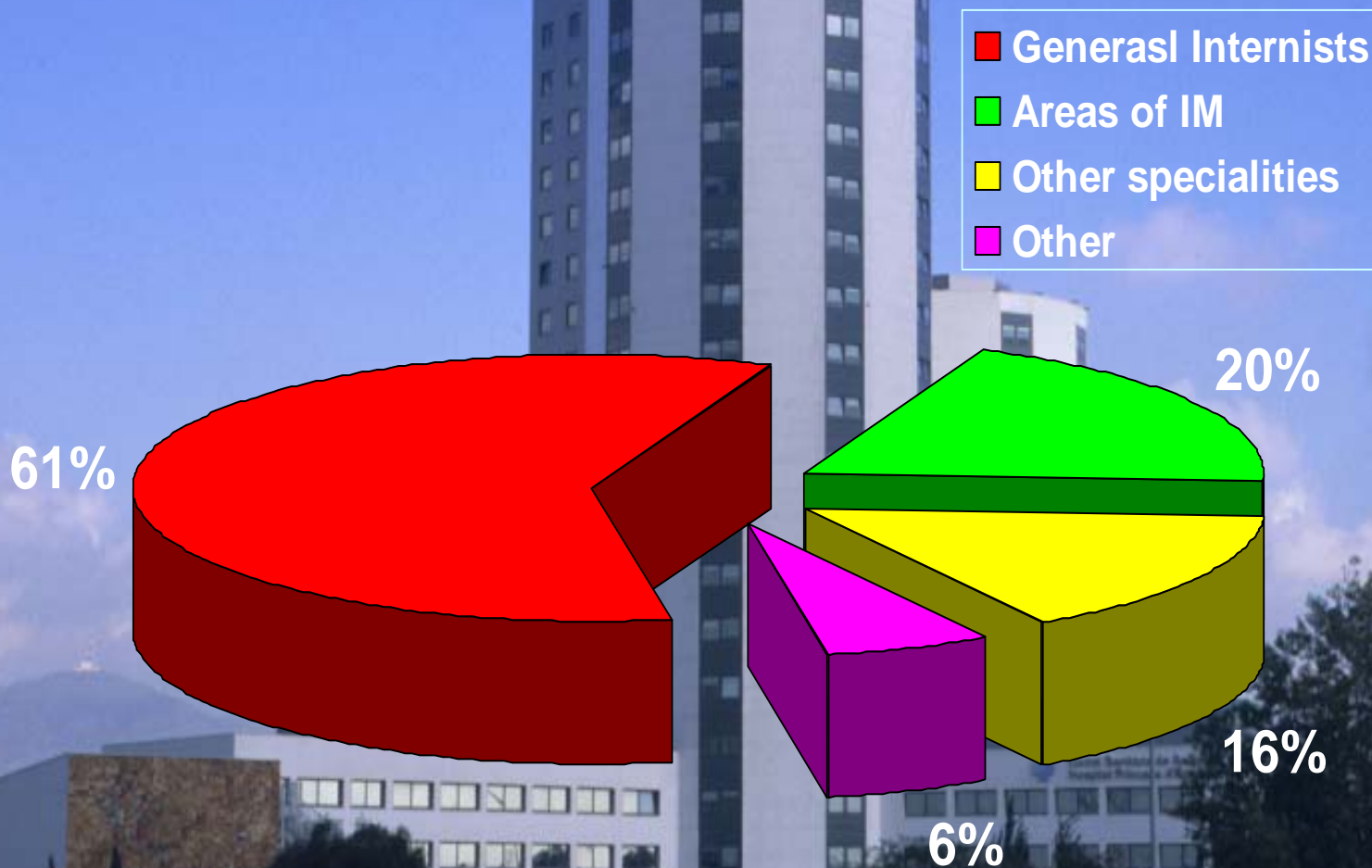
Other: angiology, allergy, infectious diseases, intensive care, geriatrics

Cortesia de Runolfour Parlsson





# Residents of BELLVITGE Hospital 1976-2006 = 119



**Hospitals:** 91 (85%), 42 en 1<sup>st</sup> o 2<sup>nd</sup> level

# Is it possible to define an homogeneous internist ?

- We will try to define the European internist
  - EFIM project \*
- We will discuss different possible models
  - American (North-European model)
  - Southern model
  - British (including acute care physicians)

*\* Kramer MH et al. Internal Medicine in Europe: How to cope with the future ?. An official EFIM strategy document. EJIM 2010;*



# Construyendo el futuro (perspectiva EFIM)

- En la atención clínica
- En la formación de especialistas
- En la investigación
- En la gestión clínica







**Holistic view**

# Leaders in specific situations

“Internist must define their portfolio”

- Primary care (personal doctor or linkage with hospital)
- Community hospital (driving the admission process easily, specialists act as consultants)
- High-tech hospital (“advocates of the patient”)



# Leaders in specific situations

“Internist must define their portfolio”

- Continuity of care and specific skills
  - Skilled in acute care & chronic/palliative care
  - Willingness to be in touch with other colleagues
  - Difficult diagnosis/rare disorders
- Specific settings
  - Acute care physicians
  - Consultants in surgical areas
  - Consultants in nursing homes



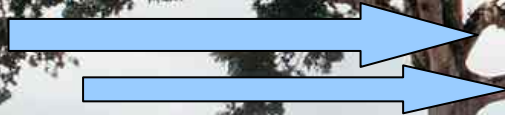
# Future medical specialisation

“Internists will foster the concept of experts over the concept of specialists”

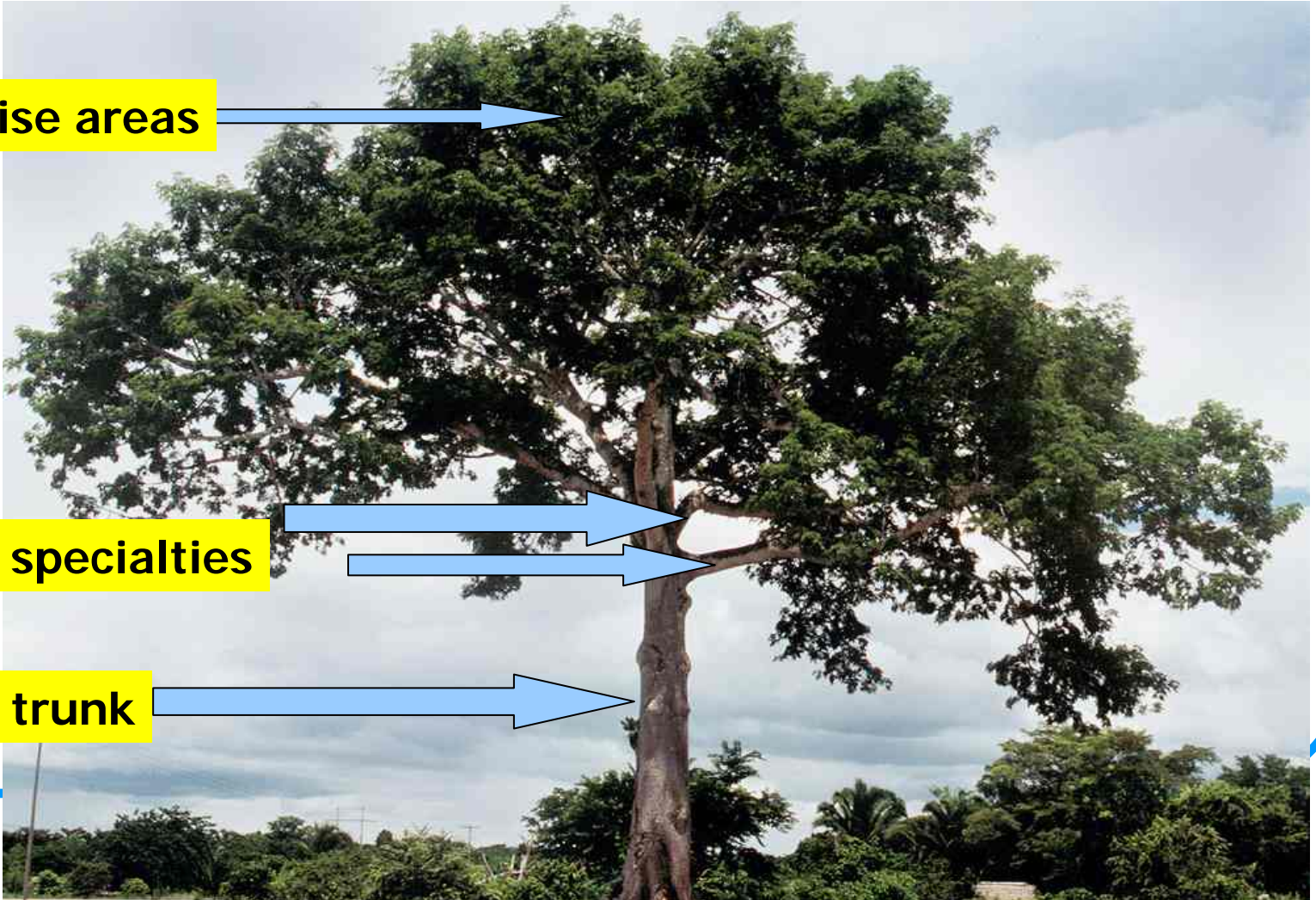
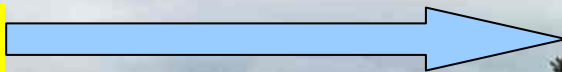
Expertise areas



Medical specialties



Medical trunk





# Specialisation (A) vs expertise (B)

	A	B
Professional competence	+++	+++
Efficiency in health care system	+	+++
Versatility in professional development	+	+++
Organisation of postgraduate programmes	++	+++
Teaching students in clinical skills	+	+++
Citizen's opinion	++	+++



# Professionalism

“Internists will contribute to a new profession for a new society”

- A deal with:
  - professional competence
  - honesty with patients
  - confidentiality
  - excellent patient-doctor relationships
  - quality assurance
  - efficiency
  - new medical knowledge
  - declare conflicts of interest
  - accountability
  - access to health care

| PERSPECTIVE

## Medical Professionalism in the New Millennium: A Physician Charter 15 Months Later

Linda Blank; Harry Kimball, MD; Walter McDonald, MD; and Jaime Merino, MD, for the ABIM Foundation, ACP Foundation, and European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM)\*

*Ann Intern Med.* 2003;138:839-841.



# Research

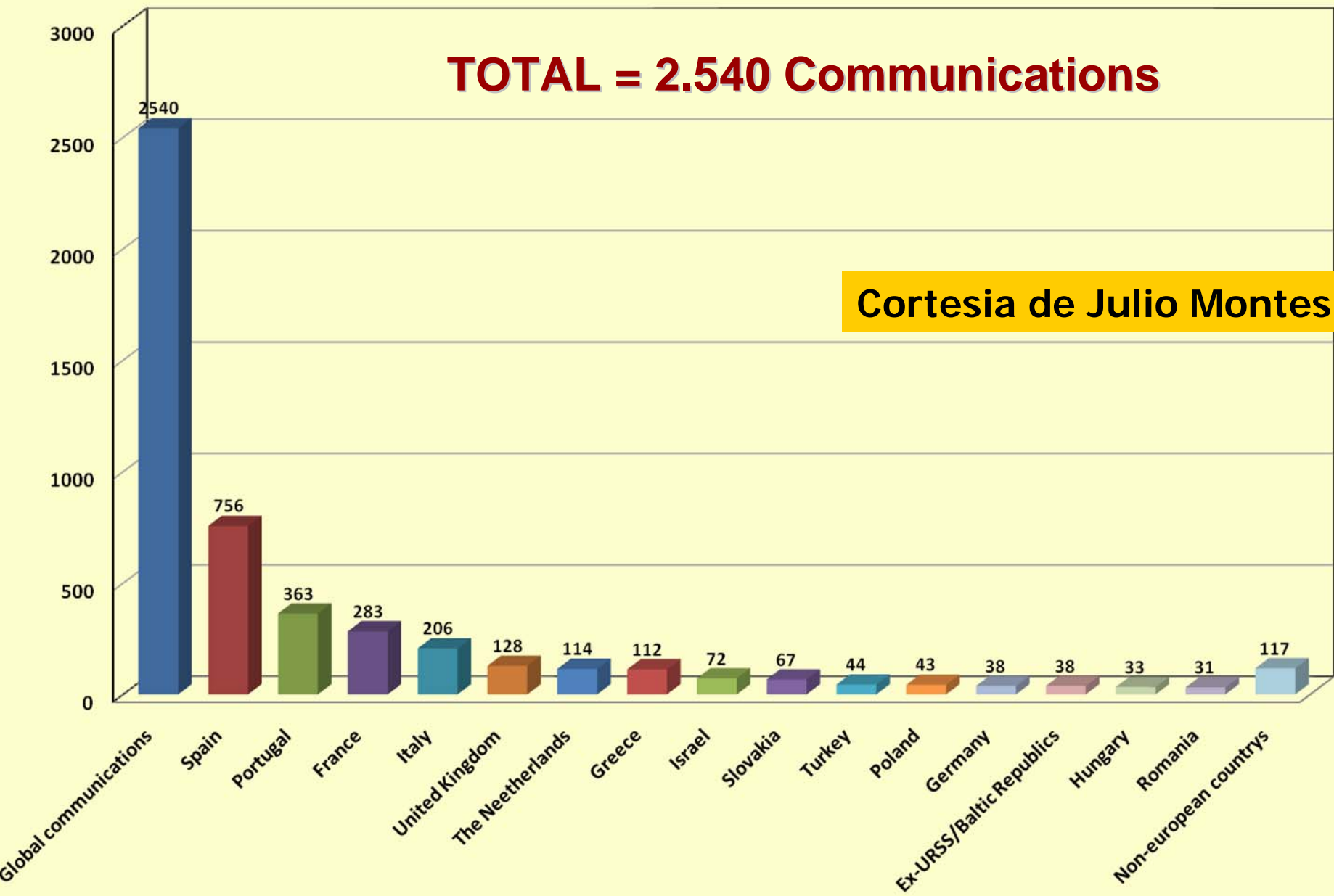
“Europe must be competitive in translational research”

- Working groups applying for European resources (learning from SEMI)
- Increasing Foundation funds
- Identifying research leaders in each group
- Publishing in EJIM\*
- Collaborating with other specialties

\* Combinar con RCE



**Fig. 1. Absolute number of communications to the seven EFIM Congress  
(Case reports were excluded)**



**EFIM goals in 4 years:**

- **EFIM will be the European authority in internal medicine**
- **EFIM will be a brand (such as ACP)**
- **Educational courses will be developed**
- **Communication will be optimized**



- **Four main tracks**
  - **Scientific**
  - **Educational**
  - **Professional**
  - **Political/administrative**



- European health and educational authorities should be **approached**
- **Marketing** policy needed. Increase contacts with decision makers and pharmaceutical industry
- EFIM Congresses organized **together** with national societies (including scientific and organizational aspects)
- **Reinforce** the “EFIM brands”
  - ESIM (summer and winter)
  - EJIM
  - Young internists
- **Start** or re-start other activities
  - Research course (Paris)
  - Diploma of IM
  - New Working Groups
  - Exchange programme



Action points updated and new proposals:

- Increase visibility and communication with national societies (start visits to the National Societies)
- Increase contact with subspecialties (Infectious Diseases, Cardio, Haematology..)
- Create a panel workshop per year (Luzern 2010)
- Start a (high level) update course, 2011, 100 – 200 participants
- EJIM: Publish „duplo-editorials“ (1 general internist, 1 specialist)
- ESIM: Run a second school/year (Saas Fee, January 2011)
- Young internists: create an assembly, give structures
- Define the European Internist (s)



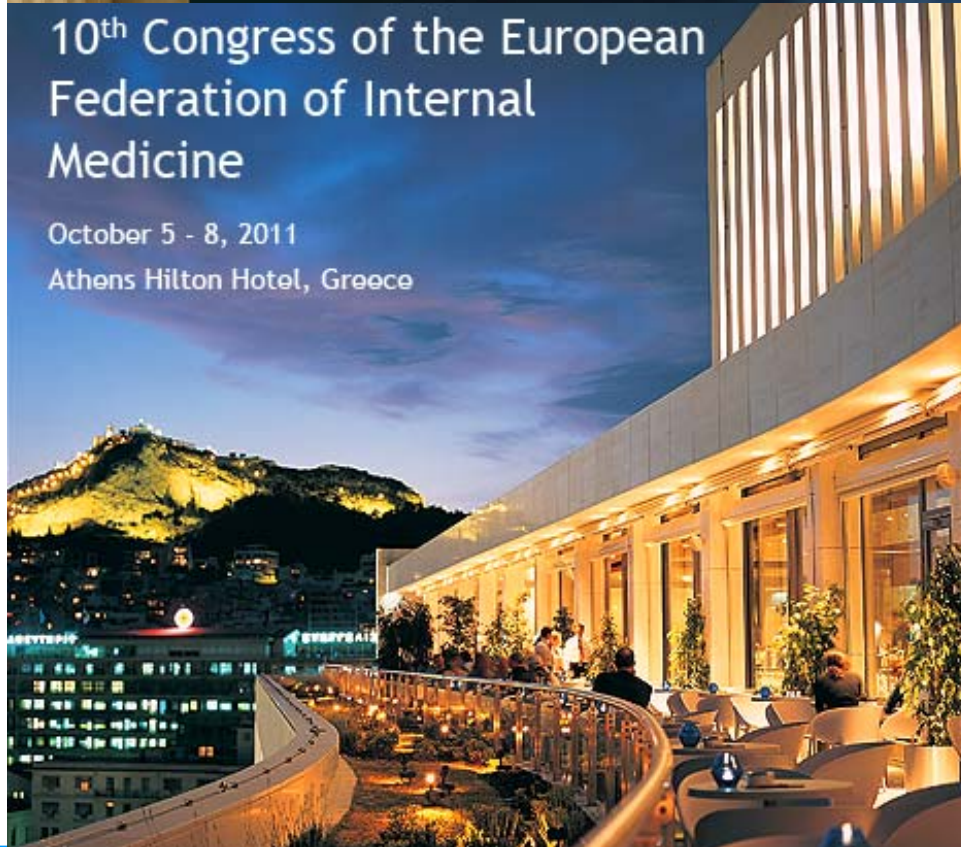


Action points update and new proposals:

- Definite fellowship programme (item 12)
- Awards policy (i.e: invite exceptional doctors for a lecture in EFIM Congresses,.....)
- Restructure and develop website
- Collaborative research projects (i.e ALCHIMIE), (item13)
- Identify experts to be included in EFIM working groups (i.e rare diseases, a new group)
- Administrative affairs (change the election procedure to the EC, a second Vice-President seems to be not necessary, financial contribution of National Societies to EFIM, secretariat support to EFIM president in BCN)



# EFIM Congresses. An opportunity to share projects.



[www. EFIM.org](http://www.EFIM.org)

# Confident about the future.....



**But, we need your support !**