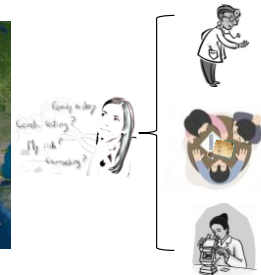


Current international state of the profession, workforce and training status: Spain



Spanish context



Absence of **regulation**, absence of **training** programs

Advances since 2008



Master in Genetic Counseling



EBMG, genetic nurses and genetic counselors division



SEAGen (Spanish Society of Genetic Counseling)

Master in Genetic Counseling

- **First promotion:** started in 2008
- **Training programs:** 1 (UPF, Barcelona)
- **Frequency:** Every two years (no overlapping)
- **Duration:** Two years (120 ECTS credits)
- **Number of graduates accepted:** 10-12

Master in Genetic Counseling

- Laboratory experience, clinical placements, collaboration with FEDER (1st school year)
- 6 months of clinical **placements** (2nd school year)
- **Research project** in genetic counseling (2nd school year)
- Problem based learning (PBL) (50% of theoretical content)
 - Real case scenarios
 - Group discussion and resolution
 - Integrated approach
 - Tutorized sessions
 - Oral presentation or role-playing

Master in Genetic Counseling: consolidation

- **EBMG** accreditation
- Approved by the **Catalan Government** (PhD, grants)
- Highly **competitive** access (1/5 students accepted)
- Students from the first promotions incorporated as teachers

EBMG (genetic nurses and genetic counselors division)

Evaluation and approval of the Master by the EBMG (renewal May 2016)

9 Spanish genetic counselors certified by the EBMG

Spanish Society of Genetic Counseling

Activities

- General Assembly for Members
- Annual Scientific Meeting
- Work groups
- Diffusion and dissemination
- Preparation of documentation
- Collaborations with other associations and societies
- Seminars

Spanish Society of Genetic Counseling

60 members

Challenges

- Genetic counseling included as a **health service** in the Spanish Public Health System since 2015 BUT...
 - specific education** is not formally accredited
 - the profession is not recognized among the **sanitary professions** (not hired as genetic counselors)
 - difficulties to find a job and a **regulated professional career**
 - Insufficient number** of genetic counselors, precarious contracts

Main achievements

9 Spanish genetic counselors certified by the EBMG

Thank you for your attention!