



**Fédération Européenne  
des Médecins Salariés**  
European Federation  
of Salaried Doctors

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## FEMS Autumn GA 2020 - Italian Report

Since our last report, no significant changes have occurred.

Below, some points:

- On the 24th of September, the law to protect healthcare professionals has become effective. Physical or verbal violence against professionals working for the healthcare system (both public and private) will be punished by up to 16 years in prison and by a fine of 5000 euros. A National Observatory has been established, formed by representatives of all healthcare professional involved.
- Italian government decided that our doctors are not going to be rewarded for their contributions to COVID pandemic by mean of a national provision, because regional agreements will take care of it.
- At the beginning of September, 66638 wannabe doctors carried out the test to enter the Faculty of Medicine. Available seats are just 13072 so 1 out of 5 will begin this course of study.
- In the meantime, the number of financed PGT contracts for this year have been determined and its amount is pair to 13400 plus 1000 contracts funded by Regions and 1600 contracts for GPs. 26000 doctors are expected to take part to the national exam. Even if the gap between medical graduates and training contracts is not still satisfied, this is a better result in comparison with previous years. Specializations that have been more involved during Covid pandemic have got more contracts (intensive care medicine, microbiology, pneumologists and so on).
- On the 14th of September, after more than 6 months of closure, the schools have reopened in 13/20 Regions!! In the remaining, they are expected to open on September 24, also because local elections are scheduled on September 20. If a student shows Covid-like signs or symptoms (so everything except fractures and cardiological events), pediatricians and health local services could ask for a nasopharyngeal swab. There is some worries about an overcrowding of patients in Emergency Department, asking to be tested in a shorter time than what health local services could offer.

During last months, italian political agenda has been focused on the control and the reduction of Covid pandemic and on economical issues most of all caused by the prolonged lockdown but, even if, the most part of politicians have announced big investments in the public healthcare sector, nowadays, we don't have any improvement or any plan regarding personnel and salaries.

Testing and tracing is working at full capacity. In last weeks, 100000 swab have been carried out revealing about 1000 positive persons a day, most of all without any symptoms.

Just to show an idea of current Italian situation, below some data. On the 14Th of September, we had:

- Covid infected 39187
- Home quarantine 36868
- Hospitalized patients 2122
- Intensive care beds 197

So far, 6 millions of serological tests have been performed and 10 millions of nasopharyngeal swabs have been collected. Currently quarantine period is meant to be as long as 14 days.

Finally, overall number of deaths is equal to 35694.