

# WONCA News

An International Forum for Family Doctors



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### WONCA GLOBAL SPONSORS:



**FROM THE WONCA PRESIDENT:****GFD – A ONE-STOP SITE FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS**

One of my family medicine trainees said to me the other day, "I find the Wonca Website ([www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com)) one of my most popular sources for medical information. As a busy practitioner I need a website that easily keeps me up-to-date on the latest journal articles relevant to my work, and also contains more in-depth information on specific topics when required. The Wonca GFD site does just that!"

What was particularly important for Eddie were the free Journal Alerts. Imagine obtaining a one-line summary of all the important journal articles relevant to family doctors in your email Inbox three days every week! With just a mouse click on the line that interests you, you could view an abstract or the complete article .... epidemiological, clinical, educational, health services research ... all for free! They are searched and reviewed personally by family physicians, so they are relevant, useful, important, up-to-date, topical and evidence-based! Enrol for Journal Alerts at the top of this screen.

In designing this website we have been very aware of the specific needs of practicing family doctors. Many do not have easy access to the web during their working hours, but when it is available, practitioners must be able to access the data quickly, and with little effort and using limited IT skills. This requires an easily searchable database of the nearly 4000 clinical reviews and critiqued journal items, clinical guidelines and evidence-based information available on the site.

The Wonca site also provides access to a repository of POEMs (Patient-Oriented Evidence that Matters), Disease and Travel Alerts, and eMedicine, which are suitable for all regions of the World. Wonca is particularly cognisant of the need to also provide appropriate health care information which is relevant to regions where resources are limited or scarce.

Wonca proposes to create an Online Educational Resource Centre, through which it will provide its own CME/CPD that will attract credit points. It is also hoped to have online courses and even College accredited programmes and diplomata.

Of course the site is also a portal to the many activities of Wonca the organisation, working parties on

quality improvement, classification and coding, research and many others; details of congresses; Council and Executive matters and its membership lists to mention a few!

If you have not already found our new site, please go to [www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com)

Enjoy the site!

**Bruce Sparks, M.D.**

President

World Organization of Family Doctors

**FROM THE CEO'S DESK:****WE THANK OUR FIRST WONCA GFD GLOBAL SPONSORS**

I sincerely hope that by now you would have found the new Homepage of the Wonca Website ([www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com)) attractive, friendly and convenient to use and navigate. We have plans to further improve the Homepage and other sections of the Wonca Website. These will become possible as Wonca and the Website begin to receive financial support in the form of unrestricted grants for the work that Wonca is doing.

You will have noticed on this new Homepage the logos of four pharmaceutical multinationals (Altana Pharma, AstraZeneca and Boehringer Ingelheim) who were the first to become Wonca Global Sponsors for this year. These sponsorships will be unrestricted grants in support of Wonca's Global Mission.

In appreciation for the support these multinationals are giving to Wonca, they have in turn been offered certain working privileges with Wonca that will recognize them as Global Sponsors and friends of Wonca.

These Global Sponsors will enjoy the following :

1. Sponsors will be acknowledged at appropriate Wonca events like World and Regional Conferences and will be invited to participate in, and attend openings, banquets and other official and ceremonial Wonca meetings as special guests.
2. Sponsors will have special communication access to the Wonca CEO and other leaders to identify special global opportunities relating to Wonca activities.

3. They will have the privilege of introductions and contacts as Global Sponsors to all Wonca Member Organizations for the purpose of determining mutually beneficial collaborations and other opportunities that may exist in the country or region.
4. Each year there will be an opportunity for a Global Sponsor to select and sponsor, in conjunction with Wonca, a speaker of global standing on a topic related to 'The Future of Family Medicine' at a Wonca meeting to be organized through the Host Organizing Committee and Wonca World Secretariat. This may in the form of dedicated plenary sessions or evening satellite symposia.
5. Every issue of *Wonca News* will carry acknowledgements of the Wonca Global Sponsors.
6. Wonca Global Sponsors will be acknowledged on the Homepage of the Wonca Worldwide Website ([www.globalfamilydoctor.com](http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com)) with a rollover and link to the corresponding company website through an appropriate intervening page.
7. Wonca Global Sponsors will be acknowledged in the Journal Alerts of Global Family Doctor. These Journal Alerts are currently being sent directly by e-mail three times a week to over 4000 recipients worldwide and the subscribing numbers are increasing each day.

With these incentives, Wonca hopes that it will continue to receive greater support for its global mission from the pharmaceutical and other medical related companies in the years ahead.

The past triennium has seen Wonca grow not only in its geographical spread but also in its collaborations with other medical NGOs and the WHO. These have demanded increasing degrees of financial commitments on the part of Wonca to fulfill its role in these collaborations and to service the new Member Organisations.

The limited funds available to Wonca have been one of the key factors restricting its growth and extent of collaboration with others.

It is through these mutually beneficial and ethical sponsorships by the pharmaceutical and medical related industries of Wonca activities that more can be done to realize the Global Objectives and Mission of our Organisation.

**Dr Alfred Loh**  
Chief Executive Officer  
World Organization of Family Doctors

## FROM THE EDITOR:

### PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

Family Medicine and the family doctor play a central role in health systems by providing relevant, quality and affordable health care services to meet people's needs. Promoting excellence in education, practice and research helps the family doctor to enhance health systems. This issue of *Wonca News* features an inspiring array of such examples.

Feature articles describe Wonca's efforts to improve primary care treatment of respiratory conditions as well as family medicine accreditation, certification and continuing medical education in the Iberoamerica region. This issue also reports on regional meetings already held to enhance primary care research in Europe and the Asia-Pacific, as well as those broader regional meetings planned in Kyoto, Japan and the island of Kos, Greece during 2005. Similarly, this issue reports on national educational meetings already hosted, such as the Malta College, or being publicized in our list of meetings for the family doctor.

As Bruce Sparks describes in his Presidents Column, the family doctor may find an impressive and ever-growing list of relevant resources on Wonca's newly enhanced website, [www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com) (GFD). Articles by Wonca Publication's Chair, Geoff Martin, and Medical Editor, Wes Fabb, GFD provides the family doctor with additional details about GFD's resources. Alfred Loh, in his CEO's Column, thanks our global sponsors who have supported GFD.

Wonca's Committee's, Working Parties, Special Interest Groups and Task Forces, as well as 100 member organizations are most welcome to send me articles describing how you promote education, practice and research and, thereby, enhance the role of the family doctor in health systems. Today, we family doctors can find many relevant resources through Wonca to enhance their value in health systems throughout the world. I hope that we all recognize and take pride in Wonca's commitment to promote excellence in education, practice and research throughout the world.

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## FEATURE STORIES

### WONCA CONTRIBUTES TO GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR LUNG DISEASE

As Wonca's representative to the Global initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD), I attended their 28 - 29 January 2005 meeting in Rome. The aim of GOLD is to raise awareness of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and promote state of the art diagnosis, treatment and management. In the past, GOLD has developed a guideline that is translated in many languages. Last year a specification of the GOLD guideline for primary care has been published: the International Primary Care Airways Guidelines. This also includes the asthma (GINA) and allergy (ARIA) initiatives and is based on respiratory symptoms.

GOLD has a science and dissemination committee. The main focus of dissemination is the World COPD, which will be held in November, 2005. GOLD has established a network of (mainly respiratory medicine based) national organizers. Through Wonca they have to be introduced to both FP/GP contacts in primary care and our Wonca member organizations. Wonca has been seen as an organizational structure in which COPD awareness can be attained within a national health care structure. This will help bring the focus a bit away from the one day world awareness day towards translation of evidenced-based guidelines into daily health care.

The Wonca world and regional conferences were seen as a useful forum to build primary care - secondary care collaboration on awareness and state-of-the-art management. I have promoted the

possibilities of respiratory symposia during the upcoming Wonca Regional Conferences in Kos, Bangkok, Florence, Buenos Aires and Singapore.

The science committee is preparing a review of the current guideline on the basis of new evidence. A major decision was taken to invite primary care membership of the science committee. In the words of the new chair of this committee, GOLD has been paternalistic about primary care by only inviting it to the dissemination part of the activities. Currently, Professor Thys van der Molen and I from primary care are members of the GOLD executive and we have proposed that one of us will move from dissemination to science.

The bylaws for GOLD have been adopted. The bylaws recognize that important organizations have a formal representation in GOLD, including Wonca. I represent Wonca as a full member on the GOLD executive committee. Each executive member is appointed for a term of 4 years, with the possibility of a second term.

Wonca and its family doctors have an important role to play in GOLD and other such chronic disease initiatives around the world.

**Professor Chris van Weel, FRCGP**  
Wonca President Elect  
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### Ibero Americana-CIMF Promotes 'Margarita Declaration'

Family Medicine began in Ibero America with the first residency training program in Mexico in 1971. Argentina (1972) and Bolivia (1976) followed. The 1978 Declaration of

Alma-Ata, promoting 'Health for All', inspired family medicine training in Spain (1978) and Venezuela (1979), followed by the Dominican Republic (1981), Chile (1982), Colombia and Cuba (1984), Ecuador (1987), Uruguay (1996) and 1997 (Peru). By the early 21st century, Family Medicine was spreading rapidly throughout Central and South America.

In May, 2002, leaders from 17 countries gathered in Seville, Spain in the 'First Ibero American Summit of Family Medicine' to review the status of family medicine development in the region. Their vision of Family Medicine's central role in health care system improvement was synthesized in the "Declaration of Seville".

Following the "Summit of Seville", it became clear that countries wishing to develop and enhance family medicine in the region would benefit from some guidance. As a result, leadership from the Seville Summit organized with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the WHO's regional office, the "First Ibero American Conference of Experts on the Certification and Accreditation in Family Medicine". Meeting in Margarita Island, Venezuela, over 30 experts from 20 countries in the region began offered proposals that they hoped would serve as a guide for countries wishing to establish Family Medicine certification, residency training and continuing medical education (CME) standards in Ibero America.

From July to October, 2003, the experts intensively worked to elaborate the initial recommendations into a series of technical documents which were published by Wonca Iberoamericana-CIMF and PAHO. The experts summarized the 10 major recommendations organized within the three major sections of certification, residency training and

CME into what has become known as “The Declaration of Margarita”.

The Declaration of Margarita calls for each country to establish a minimum set of requirements concerning the accreditation of family medicine residency training programs. Furthermore, recommendations call for each country to establish a “National Inter-institutional Committee of Medical Residencies”. The Committee would serve to regulate and help standardize family medicine residency training. In addition, this Committee would be responsible for regulating the other medical specialties existing in each country.

The Declaration of Margarita calls for each country to establish certification and recertification standards for family medicine specialists, as well as for the other medical specialties. The recommendations recognize that such standards should be adapted by each country given the competencies of family doctors in caring for patients, their families and community and the organization of health care services. Finally, the Declaration of Margarita includes recommendations to develop CME programs that help family doctors maintain the abilities and skills in family medicine.

As Wonca's newest region, Iberoamericana-CIMF serves to lead, coordinate and support family medicine development among our member countries. We continue to look to the “Seville Summit” and the Declaration of Margarita to provide us with the vision and guidance to expand and enhance family medicine training, certification and CME throughout the region.

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### Dr Javier Dominguez del Olmo

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(Editor's note:

Those interested in reviewing the “Declaration of Margarita” and its set of technical documents may download a PDF file from Iberoamericana-CIMF at:  
[http://www.cimfw.org/bn\\_admin/include/images/pdf/Doc\\_Tec\\_Ing\\_.pdf](http://www.cimfw.org/bn_admin/include/images/pdf/Doc_Tec_Ing_.pdf)

### Wonca World Council Issues ‘Call for Humanity’

The Wonca World Council, meeting in Orlando during October 2004, reaffirmed its principle duty to care for all people, its strident opposition to human torture and genocide, and called upon all nations of the world to respect the human rights of men, women and children.

In response to concerns raised during the June 2004 Wonca Region Europe meeting in Amsterdam about recent reports of human torture and genocide in many countries, then President Michael Boland subsequently issued a Wonca Executive approved, “Presidential Statement on the Victims of Torture”.

During the Wonca World Council meeting, Dr Bruno Kissling, representing the Swiss Society of General Medicine, applauded the Wonca Presidential Statement and recommended that the World Council issue its own ‘Call for Humanity’ against the use of human torture and genocide. Wonca World Council discussions acknowledged similar, appropriately worded resolutions by the United Nations, World Medical Association and the

American Academy of Family Physicians, on the subject.

Subsequently, the Wonca World Council reaffirmed its opposition to human torture and genocide and issued a ‘call for humanity’. The wording of the final resolution is as follows:

“This assembly of the World Organization of Family Doctors, meeting in Orlando, from 13 – 18 October 2004:

1. noting that human rights of individuals and groups globally are often neglected and infringed for political reasons and the concept of humanity is ignored;
2. being conscious that the shocking examples made evident through the international media may only partially reflect the true extent of this deplorable practice;
3. being conscious, too, that human torture and genocide is practiced in many countries by state structures, political or terrorist groups and deeply concerned about the increasing trend of destructive and inhumane behaviour and feeling that silence on the matter could be construed as support or approval of this reprehensible practice;
4. noting further that physicians are sometimes involved in such activities

Declares that Wonca World following its principal duty to care for people regardless of age, sex or any other personal characteristic) detests these inhuman ideologies and activities and calls on all nations to respect the human rights which apply to all men and women and children of the world.”

## WONCA REGIONAL NEWS

### RESEARCH NETWORK DEVELOPMENT HIGH PRIORITY IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

The Academy of Family Physicians Malaysia (AFPM) organized a successful Asia-Pacific Research Network Development workshop in Awana Hotel, Genting Highland, Malaysia from 25th to 27th February 2005. This Asia-Pacific Region workshop, as well as the previous research meeting in Phuket, Thailand (July 2004), was stimulated by the immense need for primary care research so eloquently presented in the WONCA Kingston Conference<sup>1</sup> (March 2003). A few Malaysian delegates who participated in the Phuket meeting managed to attract other like-minded primary care colleagues to form the Malaysian Primary Care Research Group (MPCRG) as a special interest group within the AFPM. The Awana meeting was the third research meeting organized by MPCRG in conjunction with the AFPM.

The workshop's Organizing Committee and facilitators included Associate Professor CL Teng (chair), Dr CJ Ng (co-chair), Dr Zailinawati, Associate Professor EM Khoo, Dr Sherina Mohd Sidik, Dr SF Tong, Dr Kamil Mohd Ariff, Associate Professor Nurjahan Mohd Ibrahim, and Dr Nik Sherina Haidi Hanafi. The Organizing Committee was supported by: Dr MK Rajakumar, Adjunct Professor Dato' Dr Thuraiappah, Professor YC Chia, Professor LG Goh, Professor Chris van Weel, and Professor John Arokiasamy. Funding support was provided by Pfizer, MSD, Sonofi-Aventis, Norvatis, Bayer and MMA Foundation.

The choice of venue was the cool hill resort of Genting Highland, a short driving distance from Kuala Lumpur, the capital city of Malaysia. In spite of the short notice, we had attracted 61 participants, 11 of whom came from 7 other countries. The Welcome Dinner on the 25th February provided a great opportunity for participants to renew old ties and forge new friendships.

The second day (26th Feb) was devoted entirely to biostatistics – a problematic area for many primary care researchers. The participants found the relearning of biostatistics can be rather painless - the lectures on basic biostatistics by Prof John Arokiasamy (Melaka-Manipal Medical College) had succeeded in explaining very clearly some difficult statistical concepts. They had enjoyed tremendously the small group practical exercises using SPSS (courtesy of SPSS Malaysia) and

real research data (courtesy of Dr Kamil Mohd Ariff), with the assistance of experienced facilitators.

The third day (27th Feb) had two themes. The first part focused on research network issues (chaired by Dr Zailina and Dr Ng). The lecture "Practice-based Research Networks: Problems, Barriers, Solutions" by Prof Chris van Weel, gave examples of how research networks in the developed countries have made significant contributions. This was followed by four Country Reports: Malaysia (Dr Zailina), Singapore (Assoc Prof LG Goh), Taiwan (Assoc Prof Feng Hwa Lu) and New Zealand (Assoc Prof Ngaire Kerse); and report from the WONCA Asia-Pacific Research Steering Group (Dr Ng CJ). These reports updated the participants on the progress made in relation to primary care research in the national and regional level and identified possible ways to strengthen collaboration in future.



Group photograph of Organizing Committee and speakers  
Front row (left to right): Ngaire Kerse, LG Goh, Chris van Weel, CL Teng, DM Thuraiappah, JT Arokiasamy, Zailinawati AH. Back row (left to right): Nurjahan MI, CJ Ng, SF Tong, FH Lu, EM Khoo, Sherina MS



Small group biostatistics practical exercise  
Foreground: Prof LG Goh and Dr CJ Ng coaching Dr Gun, a participant

The second part focused on medical writing (chaired by Assoc Prof EM Khoo). The lecture by Prof LG Goh "Medical Writing: Why are manuscripts rejected?" gave many useful tips to the budding medical writers. This was followed by a panel discussion where views from experienced researchers and members of editorial boards (Prof Chris van Weel, Prof John Arokiasamy, Prof LG Goh, Assoc Prof Ngaire Kerse, and Assoc Prof CL Teng) were shared with the delegates.

At the end of this workshop, the participants had given positive feedback that many useful lessons in the research process were gained. The success of this workshop boosted the confidence of the Organizing Committee a great deal and made us seriously considering organizing future workshops. However, the problem with funding and the sustainability of regional meeting focusing only on research are issues that should be deliberated further.

1. van Weel C, Rosser WW (ed). Improving Health Globally and the Need for Primary Care Research: Report of the Wonca Kingston Conference. Ann Fam Med 2004;2(Suppl)

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## EGPRN Sets General Practice Research Priorities in Europe

The European General Practice Research Network (EGPRN), the core research network of WONCA Europe, decided a few years ago to work on a General Practice Research Agenda closely collaborating with the WONCA Executive Board and Council. To that purpose this network organized a brainstorming session during its 2002 autumn meeting in Bled, Slovenia, with the aim of exploring the views of active European general practice researchers on needs and priorities as well as barriers for GP research in Europe.

An article, published in the October issue 2004 of *Family Practice*, reports on the findings of that EGPRN workshop. A total of 43 persons (19 female) from 18 European countries replied to an invitation to attend a brief workshop. The participants formed seven groups to discuss the following questions; (1) what major topics or content do you think should be included in a research agenda in general practice in your country?; and (2) What are the barriers to adequate implementation of general practice research in your country?

Based upon the participant discussions, the "research content" was categorized into seven groups according to research domain (health services research, public health, clinical issues, specific research questions, specific research methods, quality improvement and educational research). The "barriers to research" were categorized into five groups (health care system politics, academic infrastructure, research training and research networks). Research on clinical

issues and diagnostic tools was mentioned most often as an important priority. A general consensus emerged on the need for research on education and teaching. Six groups mentioned both priorities. Insufficient financial resources were found to be the commonest obstacle to effective general practice research (mentioned by 6 groups). Three groups mentioned the need for a proper electronic medical record as a key priority.

The findings of this study could be used as a starting point for national checklists of content, and conditions of general practice research. EGPRN is planning to make an inventory of the scientific expertise, orientation, research strategies and agendas of departments and institutes of general practice across Europe.

**Professor Christos Lionis**  
 EGPRN Vice President  
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(Editor's note: For further information, please read, C. Lionis, HEJH Stoffers, E. Hummers - Pradier, F. Griffiths, D. Rotar - Pavlic, JJ Rethans. Setting priorities and identifying for general practice research in Europe. Results from an EGPRN meeting. *Family Practice* 2004; 21:587-593)

## Register Now for the May 2005 Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Japan

The Organizing Committee and the Japanese Academy of Primary Care Physicians are both pleased and honored to be hosting the World Organization of Family Doctors WONCA Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2005 from May 27 to 31, 2005, in Kyoto, Japan. The theme of

the conference will be "General Practice /Family Practice-As a Global Standard."

In the 21st century, the number of qualified family physicians and general practitioners capable of diagnosing illness synthetically has increased worldwide. This development has increased the need for the adoption of global standards for family physicians and general practitioners. Consequently, the scientific program of the conference will deal with education and training, research, quality assurance, and more efficient use of funds in order to meet this requirement according to the principles of primary care – specifically, "comprehensiveness", "communication" and "coordination."

By engaging in discussions and exchanges of information at the conference, participants will be able to acquire the latest information and knowledge as well as new skills. As a result, they will be able to contribute significantly to solutions to various medical issues in their home countries. This will clearly promote health and social welfare not only in the Asia Pacific Region, but worldwide.

The conference site will be the Kyoto International Conference Hall, one of Japan's most reputable conference centers. Host to numerous scientific meetings throughout its history, the hall is situated on an attractive site convenient to the center of Kyoto. May is a particularly pleasant time of year in Kyoto, as the city is suffused with emerging greenery during the spring season. Kyoto is also renowned for its illustrious history. From 794 to 1868, the city reigned as Japan's capital and home to the Imperial Court. The city embodies a wealth of traditional art, architecture and crafts that have been carefully preserved in more than 1,600 Buddhist temples and 270 Shinto shrines. Participants will be able to take advantage of Kyoto's many cultural properties in addition to enjoying the stimulating scientific program.

To learn more about the Asia Pacific Regional Conference and to register online, please visit our web site at <http://www.wonca2005.jp/>. Additional contact information is available in this issue under "Global Meetings for the Family Doctor".

We pledge to do our utmost, together with the members of the Japanese Academy of Primary Care Physicians, to ensure the conference is fruitful and productive for all. We look forward to welcoming you to Kyoto in May 2005.



Tsukasa Tsuda, M.D., Ph.D.  
Chairperson  
Host Organizing Committee



Makoto Komatsu, M.D.  
Honorary Chairperson  
Host Organizing Committee

## **The Greek Island of Kos to Host September 2005 Europe Regional Conference**

It is an honour and a privilege to invite you to the 11th Conference of the European Society of General Practice/Family Medicine-WONCA Region Europe, which will be held in Greece from the 3rd to the 7th of September 2005.

The overall theme of the Conference has been determined to be "From Hippocrates to the Human Genome: The Past, Present and Future of General Practice/Family Medicine."

It is time to reexamine the Hippocratic principles, taking into consideration the large and recent scientific breakthroughs and to test, in terms of time endurance, our classical values in order to reassure them. As far as Greece is concerned, the country that has invented Family Medicine in the past, it will have the chance to reinvent it once more in the Conference, as well as to reform any basic principles while monitoring the evolution of General Practice along with its challenges. We believe that the concept of Family Medicine is a classical one. Nevertheless, we strongly feel that it is our duty to argue on our belief and to prove that our specialty is the actual core of Medicine itself; to such an extent is , that the later cannot evolve as a science in the absence of the former.



Bodossakis Merkouris  
HOC Chairman

The Conference will be organized in the island Kos, the birthplace of Hippocrates. Kos is a place where antiquity and modern civilisation find themselves in unison. The island of Kos is situated in the southeastern region of the Aegean Sea and is the third largest (295 sq. m.) of the Dodecanese Islands. Kos is an island of magnificent beauty also described as the jewel of the Greek Islands. Besides its breath taking golden sandy beaches, Kos is also full of ancient monuments, remnants from its glorious past. Kos is the site of the famous Hippocrates' Plane tree, where the father of modern Medicine used to teach and practice medicine. This is considered to be the oldest tree in Europe. It is also home to the Asclepion of Kos, a temple dedicated to the Asclepios, the god protector of health in ancient Greece. The island's mild climate, among the finest in the Mediterranean, is the primary reason for the island's abundant green and other physical charms. No wonder that people call it "the garden of the Aegean".

To learn more about the 2005 European Regional Conference and to register online, please visit our web site at <http://www.woncaeurope2005.org/>. Additional contact information is available in this issue under "Global Meetings for the Family Doctor".

We are waiting to welcome you to our beautiful country so that we could offer our hospitality, always under the gaze of Zeus, protector of guests according to the ancient Greek tradition.

#### **Bodossakis-Prodromos R.Merkouris**

Chairman, Host Organizing Committee  
Greek Association of General Practitioners

## **HEALTH AND HEALTH SYSTEM NEWS**

### **WHO LAUNCHES GLOBAL COMMISSION ON SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH**

The WHO has launched an international commission to address the profound inequity in peoples' health within and between countries that arises from the circumstances in which people live and work. Social determinants of health include poverty, social exclusion, inappropriate housing, shortcomings in safeguarding early childhood development, unsafe employment conditions, and lack of quality health systems. The three year Commission on Social Determinants of Health, comprising leading global experts on health, education, housing and economics, will recommend the best ways to address health's social determinants and break the "poverty equals ill-health" cycle.

"Social standing plays a big part in whether people will live to be 40 or 80, whether they will be treated for a curable disease, and whether their children survive their fifth birthday. People should not die young because they are poor. This commission will assist countries, no matter how rich or poor, to implement strategies that will help people who are poor and marginalized live longer, healthier lives," said WHO Director General Lee at the official launch in Santiago, Chile. "This effectively places the needs of the disadvantaged first on the health agenda in the 21st century."

Social determinants are intrinsically linked to inequities in health. They help to explain why poor and marginalized people get sick and die sooner than people in better social positions. They are a significant reason behind the world's vast difference in average life expectancy, which ranges from 34 years in Sierra Leone (lowest in the world) to 81.9 in Japan (highest in the world). Social determinants also account for the majority of health inequities within countries. In Indonesia, under-five mortality is nearly four times higher in the poorest fifth of the population than in the richest fifth. In England and Wales, the latest data shows a 7.4 year gap in life expectancy between men in professional occupations and men in unskilled manual occupations (1997-1999 figures).

Some countries-such as Chile, Sweden, and the United Kingdom – are already advancing innovative health programmes that address social determinants through a comprehensive inter-sectoral approach. For instance, social welfare programmes with benefits conditional on children's school attendance, regular medical check-ups, and other health-promoting actions are helping to reverse the "poverty equals ill-health" trend. Health inequity assessments resulting in the declaration of "health action zones" and health promotion campaigns targeting disadvantaged people are also safeguarding the health of vulnerable groups.

The Commission will identify the successful strategies now underway in countries. Whereas, to date, the greatest progress in tackling social determinants has occurred in high-income countries, the Commission will focus especially on identifying and promoting policies applicable in developing countries, where the adverse health effects of social

determinants are greatest. Overcoming these social barriers represents a prime opportunity to reduce global health inequalities and ensure that health gains are sustainable over time.

The Commission will focus the attention of the world's top experts and researchers on specific social determinants such as urban settings, social exclusion, and employment conditions. These "Knowledge Networks" will push the limits of current information to better define the links between social determinants and health, particularly in developing countries.

The Commission on Social Determinants of Health will work with national authorities to incorporate social determinants approaches into efforts to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs recognize the interdependence of health and other social conditions, and present an opportunity to promote health policies that tackle the social roots of unfair and avoidable human suffering.

Further information on the Commission may be found on the WHO website at:  
[www.who.int/social\\_determinants/en/](http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en/)

## **Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Becomes International Law**

On February 27, 2005, the world's first public health treaty, the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), became law in 40 countries. The treaty represents the first coordinated global effort to reduce tobacco use, which is the world's leading preventable cause of death. It requires countries that have ratified it to implement scientifically proven measures to reduce tobacco use and its terrible toll in health, lives and money.

Tobacco is truly a global problem. Some five million people die from tobacco-caused diseases each year. If current trends continue, this figure will rise to 10 million per year by the year 2030, with 70 percent of those deaths occurring in developing countries. Just as infectious diseases know no political boundaries, leaving individual countries incapable of effectively containing them, the tobacco epidemic also requires international cooperation if it is to be controlled.

The objective of the FCTC is "to protect present and future generations from the devastating health, social, environmental and economic consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke." This legally binding treaty gives nations powerful new tools

to protect the health of their citizens from the tobacco industry's deceptions and slick marketing.

The treaty commits countries to:

- Ban all tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship (with an exception for nations with constitutional constraints).
- Place large, graphic health warnings on cigarette packs.
- Implement measures to protect non-smokers from secondhand smoke.
- Increase the price of tobacco products, which reduces smoking among both youth and adults.
- Combat cigarette smuggling.
- Regulate the content of tobacco products.

The FCTC has already contributed to a huge change in public perceptions about tobacco and the necessity of passing and enforcing strong laws and regulations to control its use. In addition to the specific benefits of the Convention, the process leading to the passage of the FCTC has already:

- Given new impetus to efforts to enact or strengthen national legislation and action to control the harm caused by tobacco.
- Helped mobilize national and global technical and financial support for tobacco control.
- Brought new ministries, including those dealing with foreign affairs and finance, more deeply into the tobacco control effort.
- Mobilized non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other members of civil society in support of stronger tobacco control.
- Raised public awareness of marketing tactics used by multinational tobacco companies.

Signaling strong international support for the treaty, 167 nations have signed the FCTC and, as of February 27th, 57 countries have ratified it. It is imperative that countries who sign the treaty then ratify and begin implementing the treaty domestically and internationally. If widely ratified and effectively implemented, the FCTC will be a fundamental turning point in reducing tobacco use and its devastating consequences around the world. An up-to-date list showing the present status of signature/ratification can be found online at [www.globalink.org](http://www.globalink.org)

In order to support the development of a strong FCTC and combat tobacco industry disinformation, an alliance of non-governmental organizations from around the world has been formed. Now comprising more than 200 groups from more than 90 countries, the Framework Convention Alliance (FCA) is playing a key role in educating policymakers and strengthening cooperation across borders.

## MEMBER AND ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

### MEET PROFESSOR MICHAEL KIDD: WONCA EXECUTIVE MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Michael Kidd, elected to the Wonca Executive as Member-at-Large during the 2004 Wonca World Council Meeting in Orlando, Florida, USA, is Professor of General Practice and Head of the Discipline of General Practice at The University of Sydney in Australia. He works as a general practitioner in the inner-city suburb of Darlinghurst in Sydney. He is the current President of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

His major clinical interests are in the management of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C in general practice and primary health care. He is a past chair of the Australian Government's National HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee.



Professor Michael Kidd,  
Wonca Executive Member-at-Large

Professor Kidd has a Doctorate of Medicine in Medical Education. His research and education interests include the use of information technology to improve patient care in general practice, the development of computer-based medical education, and the use of the Internet in health education.

He is the author of the chapters on "The computer in the consultation" and "HIV/AIDS in primary care" in the recently published Oxford Textbook of Primary Medical Care.

In addition to serving as Member-at-Large with the Wonca Executive, Professor Kidd is also the convenor of the Informatics Working Party of WONCA.

### Malta College of Family Doctors Holds General Practice Teacher's Course

Following Malta's accession to the European Union on 1st May 2004, EU Directive 93/16 obliges the introduction of Specialist Vocational Training in Family Medicine in Malta. As a member of the Specialist Accreditation Committee within the Ministry of Health,

the Malta College of Family Doctors (MCFD) is responsible for the development of a Specialist Training Programme in Family Medicine. In preparation for this programme, the MCFD, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP), organised its second 'International Course for Teachers of General Practice'.

An introductory module was held on 24 April 2004 at the Forum Hotel, St Andrew's, Malta. This was tutored and organised by Dr Doreen Cassar and Dr Mario R Sammut, with the support of Dr Philip Sciortino and Dr Pierre Mallia, all four of whom had completed previous Teachers' Courses. During this orientation one-day workshop, participants were introduced to educational concepts (learning requisites and styles) and reflective practice. They completed a reflective diary on how they felt and responded to the orientation day.

The second and third modules of the course took place on the 17-21 May 2004 at the Forum Hotel, St Andrew's, and on the 18-22 October 2004 at the Dolmen Resort Hotel, Qawra, Malta. Professor Rosslynne Freeman and Dr Marek Jezierski from the RCGP assisted Drs. Cassar, Sammut, Sciortino, and Mallia in teaching these modules.

The second module covered learning cycles, one-to-one teaching, small group teaching, and formative and summative assessment. The third module focused on curriculum design for the GP training year; the preparation of a 10-minute teaching presentation; the recording of a video consultation; the preparation of a 5-minute presentation on something read that prompted further thought and reflection; the holding of large and small group meetings. The highlight of this final module was an afternoon of tutorials with medical students where each participant had the chance to experience one-to-one counselling with a student.



A commemorative group photo, taken at the end of the MCFD-RCGP Teachers' Course 2004, of the participants with the tutors Prof. Rosslynne Freeman (back row, fifth from right) and Dr Marek Jezierski (front row, fourth from right) and the co-tutors Dr Doreen Cassar (front row, third from left) and Dr Mario R Sammut (back row, second from left).

MCFD President Dr Pierre Mallia presented certificates of successful course completion to the 14 participants: Drs. Jurgen Abela, Diana Balzan, Jason J Bonnici, Ron Borg, Anton Bugeja, Noel Caruana, Saviour Cilia, Josianne Cutajar, Patricia De Gabriele, Alessandra Falzon Camilleri, Mark Rosso, Daniel Sammut, Zaid Teebi and Andrew P Zammit.

**Mario R Sammut MD MScH DipHSc**

Secretary for Education  
Malta College of Family Doctors  
mrsammut@rocketmail.com

**Wonca's February Global Doctor of the Month is Dr Cynthia Haq**

Cynthia Haq is Professor of Family Medicine and Population Health Sciences, and Director of the Global Health Program at the University of Wisconsin (UW) Medical School. She received her M.D. at Indiana University, completed her residency training at the UW, and joined the faculty of Dartmouth Medical School before returning to Wisconsin. Early in her career she served as the medical director for a rural health center in Kasangati, Uganda, where she learned the importance of community based primary health care. Subsequently she served as a Fulbright Scholar at the Aga Khan University in Karachi, Pakistan, where she worked with Dr. John Bryant and colleagues to establish the first family medicine post-graduate training program in Pakistan. This program is now considered one of the leading family medicine training programs in South Asia.

At the UW, Dr. Haq served as the Director of Medical Student Education for the Department of Family Medicine from 1995 through 2003. She helped establish the state-wide, community based primary care clerkship involving a network of more than three hundred community based primary care physicians. The core curriculum for the clerkship is now entirely web-based. She directed an International Health Fellowship Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense involving four U.S. universities and eight universities in Africa, Asia and Latin America. She maintains an active full-scope family practice in Belleville, Wisconsin, a rural community family practice teaching site.

Dr. Haq served as a consultant to the World Health Organization and World Organization of Family Doctors, to coauthor the book, Improving Health Systems: the Contribution of Family Medicine, published in 2002. This book is being used to help nations and medical schools to strengthen their medical education and health systems based on a strong foundation of community based primary health care. Dr. Haq has also served as a consultant to medical schools and governments in the United States, Central and South America, Africa and Asia.

(Editor's Note; The "Global Family Doctor of the Month" Award is an award to encourage philanthropy among primary care practitioners and to honour doctors giving their time and expertise to their global colleagues and their patients. The award is given to doctors who are recognised by their colleagues as having contributed significantly to the community in which they work by way of their practice, community involvement, charity work or other humanitarian acts.

Each Award winner is given a letter of congratulations from the Wonca CEO, an award certificate and a complete office diagnostic set from Welch Allyn worth approximately \$400.

Submission Requirements include:

1. Title and Full Name of nominee.
2. Photo of nominee. The winner and his/her photo would be featured on Wonca's website [www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com)
3. Postal address of nominee.
4. Reasons for nomination for the Award.
5. Brief resume or CV of the nominee
6. Any other relevant information that would assist Wonca in the selection process.

Please submit nominations for this monthly Award to Dr Alfred Loh, CEO of Wonca at the Wonca Secretariat via email [admin@wonca.com.sg](mailto:admin@wonca.com.sg) for consideration)

## RESOURCES FOR THE FAMILY DOCTOR

### OUR 'NEW-LOOK' GLOBAL FAMILY DOCTOR - WONCA ONLINE

If you are a new visitor to our Wonca web, [www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com), please take the time to browse and learn something about our organization, our mission and what our website can do to help you. If you are a regular user, I hope you will find the website much easier to use and to navigate around. Global Family Doctor is now running on our own server and the site is being progressively redeveloped using the latest in programming technology to give you faster loading and easier navigation. You will notice the new navigation bar and menu design at the top and left of this new front page; the navigation bar will eventually be placed on all pages of the site.

All past and new items in Journal Watch and Clinical Reviews are now on a searchable database. Over 3,700 items, accumulated over three years, can be searched by date, period and category, and, later by keywords.

Once the site is settled in, we will begin the task of building a library of online educational materials, which I hope to source from our larger Member Organisations, mostly for the benefit of Family Physicians/General Practitioners in areas where CME is difficult or impossible to access. Our CEO, Dr Alfred Loh, has made good progress in gaining financial support from sponsors for this work and you will soon see the beginnings of the Wonca Online Educational Resource Centre. This will become an increasingly important part of Wonca's global mission to improve educational resources and opportunities for family doctors all over the world.

This front page will have space for news and announcements, as well as acknowledgement of our financial supporters.

Professor Wes Fabb has assumed the responsibility of Medical Editor of the website and our new webmaster is Alex Westcott. This is an exciting time for Wonca-Online and should provide the basis for an expanding range of options and services for our Individual Members as well as our Member Organisations. I would welcome your comments and suggestions – please send them to Alex at [webmaster@globalfamilydoctor.com](mailto:webmaster@globalfamilydoctor.com) or to me at [geoff.martin@bmpconsulting.com](mailto:geoff.martin@bmpconsulting.com)

#### Geoff Martin

Chair, Publications & Communications,  
Wonca – the World Organization of Family Doctors

### Keeping up-to-date Through GFD

Read Journal Watch and Clinical Reviews and stay up-to-date clinically in just a few minutes. How realistic is this claim?

We know that there are thousands of articles published each month in hundreds of medical journals. No-one could read them all – no-one could even scan the titles. So on the face of it, keeping-up looks impossible. That's what we've always believed.

But how many of these thousands of articles are relevant to family doctors? The answer, from our experience over the last three years, is 'not all that many'.

Global Family Doctor's small staff of family physicians scan the contents of each issue of over 100 online family medicine, general and specialist journals and medical news services – over 4,000 titles every month – looking for articles of interest to family doctors and relevant to their work. Our surprising discovery has been that of all these thousands of articles on clinical, epidemiological and health services research, and reviews of clinical conditions, only a small handful are relevant to family doctors – around 25 per week.

So if GFD users scan this handful of articles, keeping up is possible. But since busy clinicians themselves don't have the time to scan the journals to find the relevant articles, GFD staff do this on their behalf, and then prepare brief synopses for Journal Watch and Clinical Reviews.

Each item in Journal Watch is summarized into three paragraphs. The first indicates why the research was done, who did it and where, the research methods, the sample,

and the outcomes measured. The second paragraph gives the results. The third gives the conclusions, verbatim. The full citation is provided, with hyperlinks to the original article, as well as the ICPC classification of the article and the keywords that can be used for searching for it in the archives. The most important sentences are highlighted in red. The title of each item attempts to capture the 'bottom line'. For each Clinical Review there is a brief introduction, and a hyperlink to the full online review.

Three days each week – Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays – six or seven items in Journal Watch and two Clinical Reviews are posted on GFD – about 100 items per month. The titles are featured on the homepage, and notified via Journal Alerts, a free email alert service provided by Wonca. You can enroll at the top right corner of the Global Family Doctor homepage.

There is now a rich archive of almost 4,000 items, posted on GFD over the past three years. The most recent can be accessed from the 'buttons' on the homepage. When GFD's new search facility is ready, all past items will be searchable via date, ICPC classification and keywords.

So it is now possible to keep up-to-date clinically via Global Family Doctor - Wonca Online - <http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com>

We spend days scanning the journals, so you need take only minutes.

#### **Professor Wes Fabb**

Medical Editor, Global Family Doctor - Wonca Online

### **Preparing a Health Care Workforce for the 21st Century: The Challenge of Chronic Conditions**

This publication calls for the transformation of healthcare workforce training to better meet the needs of caring for patients with chronic conditions, predicated upon the rapid escalation in chronic health problems around the world. To provide effective care for chronic conditions, the skills of health professionals must be expanded to meet these new complexities.

The report, published in February 2005, presents a new, expanded training model, based on a set of core competencies that apply to all members of the workforce. This model has been endorsed by the World

Medical Association (WMA), International Council of Nurses (ICN), International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), European Respiratory Society (ERS), International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) and others.

Around the world, the rapidly shifting balance between acute and chronic health problems is placing new and different demands on the health care workforce. There is general consensus that to provide effective health care for chronic conditions, the skills of health professionals must be expanded to meet these new complexities. This expansion does not invalidate the need for existing competencies, such as the practice of evidence-based and ethical care. Rather, it underscores the growing need for new competencies to complement existing ones.

First, the workforce needs to organize care around the patient and provide a patient-centred approach. Second, providers need the communication skills that enable them to collaborate with others to improve outcomes for patients with chronic conditions. Third, the workforce needs skills to ensure that the safety and quality of patient care is continuously improved. Fourth, the workforce needs skills that assist them in monitoring patients across time, and using and sharing information through available technology. Finally, the workforce needs to consider patient care and the provider's role in that care from the broadest perspective, including population-based care, the multiple levels of the health care system and the care continuum.

These abilities and skills are reflected in five basic competencies that apply to all members of the workforce caring for patients with chronic health problems: 1) patient-centred care, 2) partnering, 3) quality improvement, 4) information and communication technology, and 5) public health perspective. Within the main body of this publication, each competency is described in detail and supplemented with diverse country examples of how it has been implemented...."

This publication was produced by the Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Cluster, Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion Department, of the World Health Organization.

This 65 page publication is available online as a PDF file at [www.who.int/chronic\\_conditions/resources/enworkforce\\_report.pdf](http://www.who.int/chronic_conditions/resources/enworkforce_report.pdf)

**WONCA CONFERENCE 2005 – 2010 AT A GLANCE**See Wonca Website [www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com](http://www.GlobalFamilyDoctor.com) for updates

**Information correct as at January 2005.**  
May be subject to change.

<b>2005</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Theme</b>
27 – 31 May	Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Kyoto JAPAN	Family Practice/ General Practice – As a Global Standard
3 – 7 Sept	European Regional Conference	Kos Island GREECE	From Hippocrates to the Human Genome: The Past, Present and Future of General Practice/Family Medicine
<b>2006</b>			
27 – 31 Aug	European Regional Conference	Florence ITALY	Towards Medical Renaissance: Between Biology and the Humanities
8 – 15 Sept	7th Rural Health Conference	Seattle Washington USA	Transforming Rural Practice Through Education
4 – 9 Nov	Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Bangkok THAILAND	Happy and Healthy Family
<b>2007</b>			
24 – 28 July	<b>18th WONCA World Conference</b>	SINGAPORE	<b>Human Genomics and its Impact on Family Physicians</b>
17 – 21 Oct	European Regional Conference	Paris FRANCE	Rethinking Primary Care in the European Context: A New Challenge for General Practice
<b>2008</b>			
Date to be confirmed	Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Melbourne AUSTRALIA	Theme to be confirmed
<b>2009</b>			
5 – 8 Jun	Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Hong Kong	Building Bridges
<b>2010</b>			
26 – 30 May	19 <sup>th</sup> WONCA World Conference	Cancun MEXICO	Millennium Development Goals: The Contribution of Family Medicine

**GLOBAL MEETINGS FOR THE FAMILY DOCTOR****WONCA WORLD AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALENDAR****Asia Pacific Regional Conference, Japan 2005**

Host : Japanese Academy of Primary Care Physicians  
 Theme : Family Practice/General Practice – As a Global Standard  
 Date : 27 – 31 May, 2005  
 Venue : Kyoto, Japan  
 Contact : The Japanese Academy of Primary Care Physicians  
           Tokyo Medical Association Bldg 302  
           2-5, Kandasurugadai Chiyoda-ku,  
           Tokyo 101-0062 Japan  
 Tel : 81 3 5281 9781  
 Fax : 81 3 5281 9780  
 Email : pc@primary-care.or.jp

**Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Kos Island 2005**

Host : Greek Association of General Practitioners  
 Theme : From Hippocrates to the Human Genome:  
           The Past, Present and Future of General Practice/  
           Family Medicine  
 Date : 3 – 7 September, 2005  
 Venue : Island of Kos, Greece  
 Contact : The Greek Association of GPs (Elegeia)  
           Mr. Raoul Merkouris  
           21, N.Kountourioti Str. (5th floor)  
           54625-Thessaloniki  
           Greece  
 Tel : 30 2310 550048, +30 2310 539995  
 Fax : 30 2310 539995  
 Email : elegeia@woncaeurope2005.org  
 Web : http://www.woncaeurope2005.org

**Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Florence 2006**

Host : CSERMEG  
 Theme : Towards Medical Renaissance  
 Date : 27 – 30 August, 2006  
 Venue : Florence, Italy  
 Contact : OICsrl  
           Viale Matteotti 7  
           50121 Florence, Italy  
 Tel : +39 0555 0351  
 Fax : +39 0555 001912  
 Email : wonca2006@oic.it  
 Web : http://www.woncaeurope2006.org

**Wonca 7<sup>th</sup> Rural Health Conference, Seattle-Anchorage 2006**

Host : Wonca Rural Health Working Party  
 Theme : Transforming Rural Practice Through Education  
 Date : 8 – 15 September, 2006  
 Venue : Sept 8 – 10 – Wonca Rural Conference  
           University of Washington campus  
           Sept 11-13, 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Advances in Family Practice  
           University of Washington campus  
           Sept 13 – 15, Post Conference

Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge  
 Anchorage, Alaska

**15<sup>th</sup> Wonca Asia Pacific Regional Conference, Bangkok 2006**

Host : General Practitioners/Family Physicians Assoc,  
 Thailand  
 College of Family Physicians, Singapore  
 Theme : Happy and Healthy Family  
 Date : November 5 – 9, 2006  
 Venue : Sofitel Central Plaza and Bangkok Convention  
 Centre  
 Contact : Dr Kachit Choopanya, Chairman,  
           Host Organizing Committee  
           10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Royal Golden Jubilee Building  
           2 Soi Soonvijai  
           New Petchaburi Road  
           Bangkok, Thailand 10320  
 Tel : 66(0) 2716 6651  
 Fax : 66(0) 2716 6651  
 Web : www.thaifammed.org

**18<sup>th</sup> Wonca World Conference, Singapore 2007**

Host : College of Family Physicians, Singapore  
 Theme : Human Genomics and its Impact on Family  
 Physicians  
 Date : 24 – 28 July, 2007  
 Venue : Singapore International Convention and  
 Exhibition Centre  
 Contact : Dr Tan See Leng, Chairman,  
           Host Organizing Committee  
           College of Family Physicians, Singapore  
           College of Medicine Building  
           16 College Road #10-02  
           Singapore 169854  
 Tel : 65 6223 0606  
 Fax : 65 6222 0204  
 Email : contact@cfps.org.sg  
 Web : www.wonca2007.com

**Wonca Europe Regional Conference, Paris, 2007**

Host : French National College of Teachers in General  
 Practice  
 Theme : Rethinking Primary Care in the European Context  
 Date : 17 – 21 October, 2007  
 Venue : Palais des Congres  
           Paris, France  
 Contact : French National College of Teachers in General  
 Practice  
           6 rue des 2 communes  
           94300 Vincennes  
 Tel : 33-153 669 180  
 Email : cnge@cnge.fr

Web : [www.cnge.fr](http://www.cnge.fr)

#### **19<sup>th</sup> Wonca World Conference, Cancun 2010**

Host : Mexican College of Family Medicine  
 Theme : Millennium Develop Goals:  
     The Contribution of Family Medicine  
 Date : 26 – 30 May, 2010  
 Venue : Cancun Conventions and Exhibition Center, Cancun  
     Mexico  
 Contact : Mexican College of Family Medicine  
     Anahuac #60  
     Colonia Roma Sur  
     06760 Mexico, D.F.  
 Tel : 52-55 5574  
 Fax : 52-55 5387  
 Email : [javier.dominguez@unfpa.org.mx](mailto:javier.dominguez@unfpa.org.mx)

#### **MEMBER ORGANIZATION AND RELATED MEETINGS**

##### **The Royal New Zealand College of General Practice Conference, Christchurch 2005**

Theme : New Horizons: Celebrate the Art of General Practice  
 Date : 14 – 16 July 2005  
 Venue : Christchurch Convention Centre  
 Contact : [www.rnzcgp.org.nz/conferences](http://www.rnzcgp.org.nz/conferences)

##### **14th Nordic Conference of General Practice, Stockholm 2005**

Host : Swedish Association of General Practice and  
     Family Medicine Centre  
 Theme : General Practice in a Changing World  
 Date : June 15 – 18, 2005  
 Venue : Hotel Rote Wand in Lech am Arlberg, Austria  
 Contact : Anne Thorell  
     Centre of Family Medicine  
 Phone : +46 (0)73-682 55 39  
 Email : [Anne.thorell@klinvet.ki.se](mailto:Anne.thorell@klinvet.ki.se)  
 Web : [www.allmanmedicin.nu/congress/menu.htm](http://www.allmanmedicin.nu/congress/menu.htm)

##### **The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Spring Symposium, Blackpool 2005**

Theme : General Practice for a Cosmopolitan Age  
 Date : 8-10 April 2005  
 Venue : Bournemouth, United Kingdom  
 Contact : Alison Sage  
     Wessex Faculty  
     Royal College of General Practitioners  
     Andover War Memorial Hospital  
     Charlton Road  
     Andover Hants SP10 3LB  
 Phone : 01264 355005  
 Fax : 01264 355115  
 Email : [spring2004wsx@rcgp.org.uk](mailto:spring2004wsx@rcgp.org.uk)  
 Web : [www.blackpool2005.com/](http://www.blackpool2005.com/)

##### **The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM)**

**38<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference, New Orleans 2005**  
 Date : 30 April – 4 May, 2005  
 Venue : New Orleans Marriot Hotel  
 Contact : Priscilla Noland  
     STFM

11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway  
 Leawood, KS, 66211-2672, USA

Tel : 1 800 274 2237, ext. 5410  
 Fax : 1 816 906 6096  
 Email : [assndfm@stfm.org](mailto:assndfm@stfm.org)  
 Web : <http://www.stfm.org>

##### **Association of Health Care Professionals (AHCP) 16<sup>th</sup> Conference, London 2005**

Theme : Advances in Family Medicine/General Practice  
 Date : 20 – 23 August, 2005  
 Venue : London, England, UK.  
 Contact : Secretariat,  
     AHCP  
     P. O Box 18265  
     London EC2A 3TT  
     England, UK  
 Tel : 44 20 7749 7243  
 Fax : 44 20 7739 8683  
 Email : [info@ahcp.org.uk](mailto:info@ahcp.org.uk)

##### **American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Annual Scientific Assembly, San Francisco 2005**

Date : 28 September – 2 October, 2005  
 Venue : San Francisco, California  
 Contact : AAFP  
     11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway  
     Leawood, Kansas 66211-2672, USA  
 Tel : 1 913 906 6000  
 Fax : 1 913 906 6075  
 Email : [international@aafp.org](mailto:international@aafp.org)  
 Web : <http://www.aafp.org>

##### **College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) Family Medicine Forum, Vancouver 2005**

Date : 8 – 11 December, 2005  
 Venue : Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada  
 Contact : Joanne Langevin, Meetings Manager  
     Cheryl Selig, Registration Coordinator  
     2630 Skymark Avenue, Mississauga,  
     Ontario, Canada L4W 5A4  
 Tel : 905 629 0900 / 1 800 387 6197  
 Fax : 905 629 0893  
 Email : [info@cfpc.ca](mailto:info@cfpc.ca)  
 Web : [www.cfpc.ca](http://www.cfpc.ca)

##### **13<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Smoking or Health, Washington, DC 2006**

Theme : Building Capacity for a Tobacco-Free World  
 Date : 12 – 15 July, 2006  
 Venue : Renaissance DC Hotel  
     Washington, D.C., USA  
 Contact : John Seffrin, PhD  
     Chief Executive Officer  
     American Cancer Society  
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