

# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-1



➤ The European Society of General Practice/Family Medicine/WONCA Europe

The previous Executive Board



The current Executive Board

**WONCA Europe/ <http://www.woncaeurope.org>**

# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-2

**EGPRN**/<http://www.egprn.org>



Network organisation within WONCA Region Europe - EGPRN

EGPRN is a network organisation within  
WONCA Region Europe - EGPRN

**EGPRN Co-ordination Centre:** Mrs. Hanny Prick  
Department of General Practice, Universiteit Maastricht  
P.O. Box 616, NL 6200 MD Maastricht, The Netherlands.  
Phone: +31 43 380 2329, Fax: +31-43-3671458 E-mail: [hanny.prick@hag.umcn.nl](mailto:hanny.prick@hag.umcn.nl)  
Website: [www.egprn.org](http://www.egprn.org)

8<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

Copenhagen & Malmö - DENMARK/SWEDEN

RESEARCH INTO MEDICAL EDUCATION

RESEARCH METHODS COURSE

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

CONFERENCE WITH

THEME PAPERS

FREE-STANDING PAPERS

POSTERS

ONE SLIDE-FIVE MINUTES PRESENTATIONS



The first EGPRN and EURACT  
joint meeting in Copenhagen

Second announcement of the next EGPRN-meeting  
in collaboration with EURACT

Place: **The Panum Institute**  
Blegdamsvej 3  
2200 Copenhagen N (Nørrebro)- Denmark



# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-3

EURACT/<http://www.euract.org>

EURACT  
European Academy of Teachers in General Practice

Home Page About Us Activities Publications Resources

Latest news March 2006  
Welcome to the official website of EURACT  
Who or What is EURACT?

Leonardo  
Portugal 2006  
Fully booked!  
See opposite -->>

15th Bled course  
Learning and Teaching about Community Orientation in General/Family Practice  
19-23 September 2006  
Contact EURACT  
Secretariat

News: 27th April 2006  
LEONARDO COURSE  
Euract, training the trainers  
22- 25 May 2007  
Magglingen, Switzerland  
Dr. Bernhard Rindlisbacher  
Traubenweg 67  
CH-3612 Steffisburg Switzerland  
Fax: +41 33 221 50 33  
Bernhard.K.Rindlisbacher@h  
Council Members (update April 2006)  
20 September 2005  
Educational agenda (PDF Format)  
EURACT Checklist for Program Organisers  
13 July 2005  
GP/FM Training Scheme: Europe  
29 June 2005

that can stand at least for some years. Calling this an "agenda" is deliberate. By this it is meant that it is both a dynamic review of where we are now in family medicine teaching and learning in Europe and a marker of where work has still to be done - the other element in "agenda". It is hoped that it will lead to discussions, reflections and amendments, and will stimulate groups of experts to discuss some of the themes, and the production of further papers on the issues raised. After some years, this may lead to revised versions.

## *Why an educational agenda?*

For those involved in delivering general practice education and in developing programmes of teaching general practice, it is designed to provide a framework to teach the core competencies. For those who learn the discipline, it aims to offer an educational framework for setting the learning aims, and monitoring their achievement. For those involved in curriculum building, it should be used to determine priorities in teaching and learning general practice. For healthcare developers, it is meant to contribute to national policy development. For the whole medical profession, it is conceived to define what specific competencies can be expected from the specific discipline called General Practice/Family Medicine as a crucial contribution to healthcare.

## *A background for recommendations to curriculum developers*

For the last 30 years family medicine has led the way in developing education methodology, educational processes and assessment. This has occurred in spite of working in education systems designed for the training of other disciplines and in institutions where family medicine is not practised. With increasing pressure on the medical curriculum it is important that we address these issues. In a number of countries training programmes are being extended and the focus of training is changing towards general practice placements and away from hospital attachments, although the situation is very variable. UEMO (5) has produced a policy statement on specific training suggesting that a minimum of 50% of training should be in general practice, that all doctors should be exposed to training in general practice both in their undergraduate training and as part of the postgraduate training before entering specific training, and, crucially, that the purpose of specific training is to produce a general practitioner who has obtained a level of clinical competence sufficient for independent practice. However politicians have to be convinced that increasing investment in general practice education is required.

## *A background for recommendations to researchers*

The EURACT Educational Agenda is also needed to define the research agenda, related to these competencies. We need to find the evidence to support the widely held view of family doctors that family medicine is best learnt in family practice. We need to review the state-of-the-art of general practice education which will lead to an agenda for further development. We need to know what questions remain to be answered, where evidence needs to be sought, and where education research needs to be focused. It is important that we determine how general practice is learnt as a specialty, and also what place general practice education has in the medical curriculum overall. Specifically the discipline needs to establish:

- How is family medicine best learnt?
- Where should it be taught?
- When should it be taught?
- What should be taught?
- What should family medicine be teaching learners from other disciplines?

## *A guide for basic medical education*

General practice has a contribution to make to the education of all doctors at all stages in their training. Changes in attitudes of medical learners generally occur after learners have an opportunity to grapple with primary care problems themselves and observe their teachers coping successfully with problems presented. Early clinical exposure of medical learners for brief periods from several days to weeks at the beginning of medical school can lay the groundwork for the medical student

# The Euract Educational Agenda

# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-4



European Association for Quality in  
General Practice/Family Medicine

A network organisation within WONCA Region Europe - ESGP/FM



<http://www.equip.ch>

# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-5

## Specific Interest Groups in Europe



The screenshot shows the homepage of the European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology (ESPCG). The header includes the ESPCG logo and navigation links: Organisation, Information, Guidelines, Publications, Research, News, Events, and Links. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a large photograph of a man and a woman in a clinical setting. To the right of the photo, there are sections for 'News' (listing an ESPCG survey and a candidate drug), 'Our mission' (promoting high standards in GI management), and 'Our methods' (research, education, and dissemination). A 'Quick search' section with a map of Europe and a 'Country' dropdown menu is also visible.

The European Society for  
Primary Care Gastroenterology

<http://www.espcg.org>



The screenshot shows the homepage of Primary Care Diabetes EUROPE (PCD Europe). The header includes the PCD Europe logo and the text 'St. Vincent Declaration in practice'. The main content area features a large heading: 'Welcome to the Web Site of the Primary Care Diabetes EUROPE (PCD Europe)'. Below this, there is a date announcement: '16 & 17 September 2007, AMSTERDAM'. The page also mentions 'T2-DIABETES IN EVIDENCE BASED SHARED CARE 9th International Conference September 16 & 17, 2007 AMSTERDAM (prior to EASD)' and provides a link to the 'Events page'. A 'Mailing List' section on the right allows users to enter their email address and subscribe or remove themselves. A sidebar on the left contains a 'Home' section and a 'Links' section with various navigation options.

Primary Care Diabetes Europe

<http://pcdeurope.org>

The European Primary Care Cardiology



# The European Journal of General Practice

The journal of the European Society of General Practice/Family Medicine

**Wonca**  
World family doctors. Caring for people.  
EUROPE

About the Journal

Current Issue

Browse Issues

Search Issues

For Subscribers

For Authors

For Advertisers

Contact

Links

## About the Journal

Created in 1995, the European Journal of General Practice is the official journal of WONCA Europe (the European Society of General Practice/Family Medicine) and supports its aims and objectives.



Please note that the European Journal of General Practice has terminated its relationship with its former publisher Medisearch bv. The journal will continue to be published by the combined efforts of the Chief Editor, the Dutch College of General Practitioners and WONCA Europe while we identify and select a new publisher.

In the meantime **submissions should be made to our new office** which is based in the Department of General Practice, Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, University College Cork, Ireland. Submission of manuscripts should be via e-mail to [ejgp@ucc.ie](mailto:ejgp@ucc.ie). Please refer to the [instructions for authors](#) before submitting.

Any queries should also be addressed to the new editorial office at [ejgp@ucc.ie](mailto:ejgp@ucc.ie).

<http://www.ejgp.com>

# Rural Capacity in Europe: Journals

## Rural and Remote Health Europe



ISSN 1445-6354

The International Electronic Journal of Rural and Remote Health Research, Education, Practice and Policy

You are not currently logged in

[FREE REGISTRATION](#)

[International site](#)

[Login/ Register](#)

[Contents](#)

[Contribute](#)

[Information for Authors](#)

[Status Page/ User Profile](#)

[Links and Forums](#)

[Indexed/ Abstracted](#)

[About Us](#)

### Current Articles

**Project Report**  
[Public health challenges in Kyrgyzstan: developing a new curriculum](#)

**Original Research**  
[Knowledge and behaviour of tourists towards the sun, as studied in a region of northern Greece](#)

**Original Research**  
[Rabies surveillance in the rural population of Cluj County, Romania](#)

**Original Research**  
[Inequalities in the distribution of rural primary care physicians in two remote neighboring prefectures of Greece and Albania](#)

**Original Research**  
[Measuring the frequency of functional gastrointestinal disorders in rural Crete: a need for improving primary care physicians' diagnostic skills](#)

### News

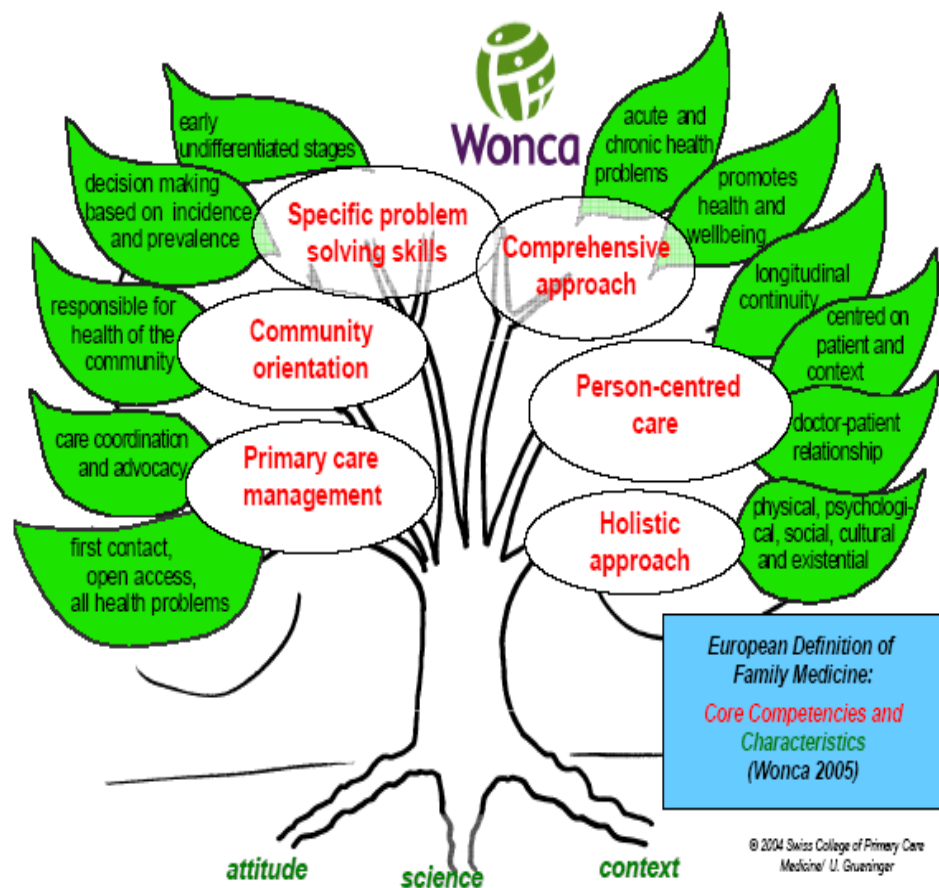
There is no current news in the European section of the journal.

<http://rrh.deakin.edu.au>



# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-7

- A new European definition



THE EUROPEAN DEFINITIONS of  
 The Key Features of the Discipline of General Practice  
 The Role of the General Practitioner  
 and

A description of the Core Competencies of the General Practitioner / Family Physician.

Prepared for WONCA EUROPE (The European Society of General Practice/ Family Medicine), 2002.

Dr Justin Allen  
 Director of Postgraduate General Practice Education  
 Centre for Postgraduate Medical Education, University of Leicester, United Kingdom  
 President of EURACT

Professor Bernard Gay  
 President, CNGE, Paris, France  
 University of Bordeaux, France

Professor Harry Crebolder  
 Maastricht University  
 The Netherlands

Professor Jan Heyrman  
 Catholic University of Leuven,  
 Belgium

Professor Igor Svab,  
 University of Ljubljana,  
 Slovenia

Dr Paul Ram  
 Maastricht University  
 The Netherlands

Edited by:  
 Dr Philip Evans  
 President WONCA Europe

This statement was published with the support and co-operation of the WHO Europe Office, Barcelona, Spain.



# Strengthening family medicine in Europe-8

A new targets project

## Setting and method

- A questionnaire developed by C. Lionis, J. Allen and I. Svab
- Three parts and 29 items
- The 1<sup>st</sup> part seeks for the achievements on the 10 European Targets
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> part looks for information about the new content of the new strategy (2 items, qualitative data)
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> part attempts to collect data on the relevance of the 11 characteristics of the new definition with the GP/FM delivery and medical education in each country
- The last part explores to what extent the 6 core characteristics of the new definition are part of the specialist training programme for GP/FM in each country
- All European colleges invited
- 23 questionnaires have been received representing 13 European countries



# Strengthening family medicine in Europe -11

WONCA World

9 Recommendations  
to Build Research  
Capacity

## Improving Health Care Globally: A Critical Review of the Necessity of Family Medicine Research and Recommendations to Build Research Capacity

Chris van Weel, MD, PhD, FRCGP\*

Walter W. Rosser, MD, CCFP, FCFP,  
FRCGP(GB)<sup>†</sup>

\* Department of Family Medicine, University  
Medical Centre Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The  
Netherlands

<sup>†</sup> Department of Family Medicine, Queen's  
University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

### ABSTRACT

An invitational conference led by the World Organization of Family Doctors (Wonca) involving selected delegates from 34 countries was held in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, March 8 to 12, 2003. The conference theme was "Improving Health Globally: The Necessity of Family Medicine Research." Guiding conference discussions was the value that to improve health care worldwide, strong, evidence-based primary care is indispensable. Eight papers reviewed before the meeting formed the basic material from which the conference developed 9 recommendations. Wonca, as an international body of family medicine, was regarded as particularly suited to pursue these conference recommendations:

1. Research achievements in family medicine should be displayed to policy makers, health (insurance) authorities, and academic leaders in a systematic way.
2. In all countries, sentinel practice systems should be developed to provide surveillance reports on illness and diseases that have the greatest impact on the population's health and wellness in the community.
3. A clearinghouse should be organized to provide a central repository of knowledge about family medicine research expertise, training, and mentoring.
4. National research institutes and university departments of family medicine with a research mission should be developed.
5. Practice-based research networks should be developed around the world.
6. Family medicine research journals, conferences, and Web sites should be strengthened to disseminate research findings internationally, and their use coordinated. Improved representation of family medicine research journals in databases, such as Index Medicus, should be pursued.
7. Funding of international collaborative research in family medicine should be facilitated.
8. International ethical guidelines, with an international ethical review process, should be developed in particular for participatory (action) research, where researchers work in partnership with communities.
9. When implementing these recommendations, the specific needs and implications for developing countries should be addressed.

The Wonca executive committee has reviewed these recommendations and the supporting rationale for each. They plan to follow the recommendations, but to do so will require the support and cooperation of many individuals, organizations, and national governments around the world.

Ann Fam Med 2004;2(suppl 2):S5-S16. DOI: 10.1377/afm.2004

Conflict of interest none reported

### CORRESPONDING AUTHOR

Chris van Weel, MD, PhD, FRCGP  
Department of Family Medicine  
University Medical Centre Nijmegen  
3509-AA G, PO Box 9101  
6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands  
C.vanWeel@444.G.umcn.nl

### INTRODUCTION

The aim of medicine everywhere is to provide safe, effective, efficient, timely, patient-centered, and equitable care.<sup>1</sup> To pursue this aim, strengthening primary care—the point of first contact with the

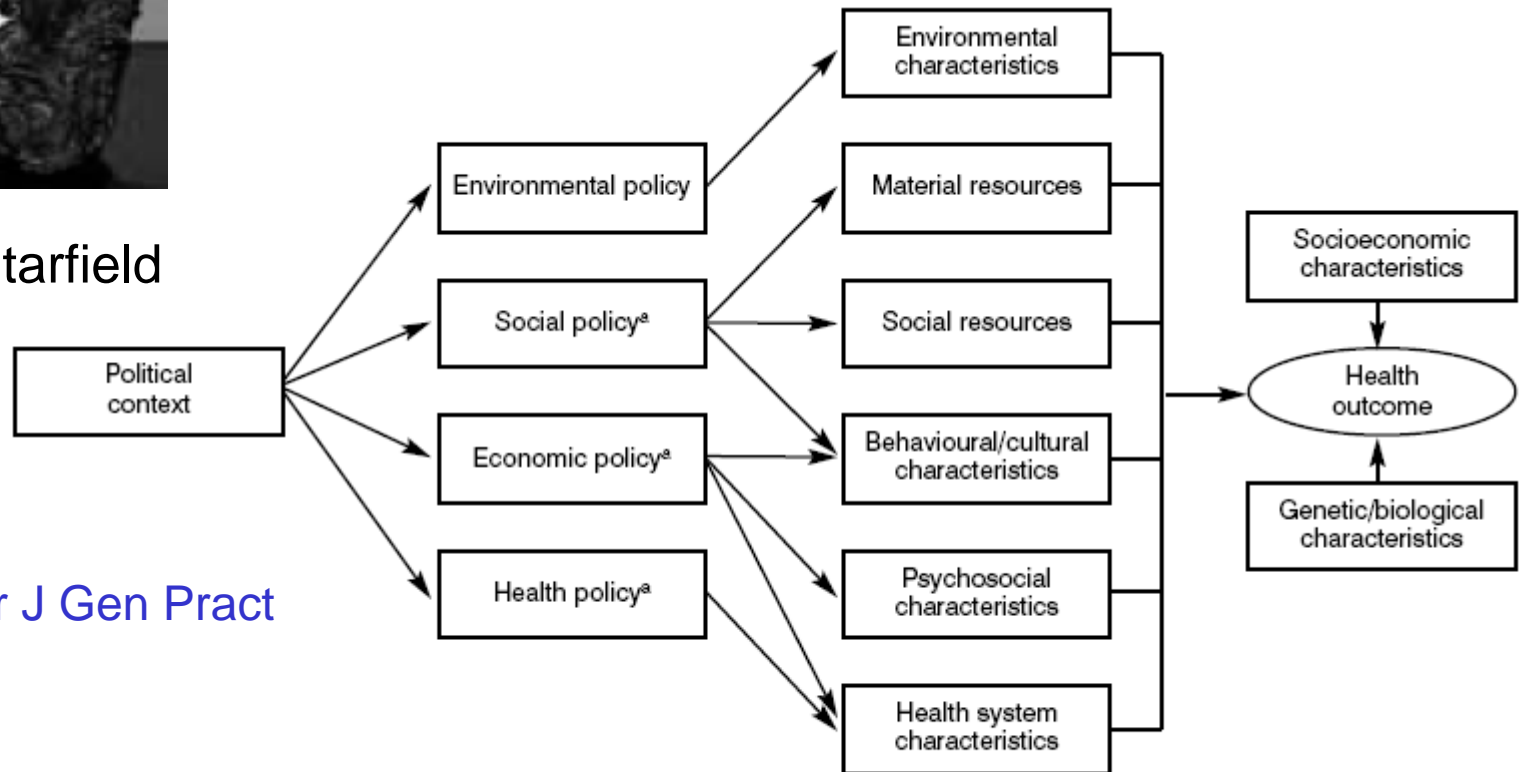


# The arrival of family medicine and primary health care



Barbara Starfield

- *Broadening the concept of health*



B. Starfield, Br J Gen Pract  
2001

Figure 1. A conceptual framework of health determinants: individual model. <sup>a</sup>Reflects a country's approach to the distribution of power (political jurisdiction).



# The arrival of family medicine and primary care



- A focus on Interprofessional collaboration

## EDITORIAL

### Interprofessional education - to break boundaries and build bridges

---

T Faresjo

*Unit for Interprofessional Education, Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University, Sweden*

*Submitted: 8 June 2006; Published: 7 July 2006*

Faresjo T

**Interprofessional education - to break boundaries and build bridges**  
*Rural and Remote Health 6: 602. (Online), 2006*

Available from: <http://rrh.deakin.edu.au>

