Socially accountable education: meeting priority needs

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On behalf of WONCA

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What is WONCA?

World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians.

WONCA  World Organization of Family Doctors

The Mission of WONCA is to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world through defining and promoting its values, including respect for universal human rights and including gender equity, and by fostering high standards of care in general practice/family medicine

151 Member Organizations

Working parties and Special Interest Groups

Represent over 550,000 general practitioners/family doctors
What is WONCA?

Africa - 9
Asia Pacific - 19
Eastern Mediterranean - 9
Europe - 47
Iberoamericana-CIMF – 17
North America - 38
South Asia - 9
One family
One family doctor!
”Put Doctors where They Count”

”A good relationship with a freely chosen primary doctor, preferably over several years, is associated with better health care, more adapted health care , better health
- - and much lower health care costs.”

Barbara Starfield: Put doctors where they count
Needs of the people

Current challenges:
- Access to health care
- Maldistribution of health care workers rural/urban

Additional challenges
- Ageing population
- Non-communicable diseases
- Antimicrobial resistance new emerging infectious diseases
- Environmental instability
- International conflicts
- Protracted crises
How would we know if needs are being met?

• Care is accessible, affordable, acceptable, good quality

• Care is planned and proactive – detects unmet need

• Care is stable over time

• Care is cost – effective for community and system
How to make sure health sector does this?

- **MACRO** – national health policy must invest in primary health care teams and public health for all communities
  - *Universal Health Coverage with a comprehensive basic package*

- **MESO** – students and health professionals trained, rewarded and respected for working in community settings
  - *Conditions for life, work and ongoing career development link*

- **MICRO** – individuals experience community based healthcare, and develop the values and interests that sustain this practice
  - *Communities themselves value their health and health service*
Clinical tasks
Communication with patients
Management of the practice

Specific problems solving skills
Comprehensive approach
Primary care management
Holistic modelling

Community orientation
Person-centred care
Universal Health Coverage
Primary Health Care team
through family medicine!

Prioritize workforce development primary care functions

must include family medicine workforce and other primary healthcare workers

well trained workforce for rural and urban settings

WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel

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The World Health Assembly WHA 60.12 Resolution (2009) urged member states: “(5) to train and retain adequate numbers of health workers, with appropriate skill mix, including primary health care nurses, midwives, allied health professionals and family physicians, able to work in a multidisciplinary context, in cooperation with non-professional community health workers in order to respond effectively to people’s health needs.
Support the development of an **undergraduate curriculum** with focus on FM

Every medical school a **department of family medicine**

High quality training programmes for **specialty training** in family medicine globally

Ensure **accreditation** of family medicine as a medical specialty

Attract **new and future** General Practitioners/ Family Physicians

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Education is key
more specific

Train health workforce
- Interprofessional
- Team based
- Patient centred model

Train and retain health professionals in rural and remote areas with a fit to purpose that focuses on the patient and their community
socially accountable education

WONCA working Party on Education
- Raise the status of Family Medicine in Undergraduate Curriculum
- Programme accreditation for Post Graduate education
- Share resources
- Partners:
  - WONCA Working Party Rural Practice
  - The Network: Towards Unity for Health

IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students Association)

EURACT (European Academy of Teachers in GP/FM)
Mission: promoting general practice/family medicine as a discipline by learning and teaching

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Transforming the Medical Workforce

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Acknowledging that both undergraduate and postgraduate education is not meeting the needs of the future workforce ........it is crucial to highlight the following gaps in our sector:

No minimum standards exist for the undergraduate family medicine curriculum, and there is scarce or non-existent early clinical exposure to primary health care at medical schools across the member states.

There is little recognition of the interdependence of the health professions and promotion of interdisciplinary education and collaboration.

Specialist training programmes where they exist in the WHO European region, vary considerably in length and content.

The regulation of the quality of the specialist training, as well as the lifelong learning, is deemed insufficient in many contexts.

There is not enough investment in teaching the teachers of family medicine.

Little has been done to support the migration and emigration of family doctors, and the recognition of their professional identity, which also ensures respect to the context of relocation.