

WONCA Europe Future Plan 2014-2016

Networks and WONCA Europe Special Interest Groups are flourishing under the umbrella of WONCA Europe. The activities are based on the core values of the organizations and the New Definition of General Practice/FM. WONCA Europe as such needs a strategy pointing out the way ahead.

Our ambition is to lead the development of GP/FM in Europe

Challenges:

Health Care in Europe faces several challenges:

- communicable diseases (CD)
- noncommunicable disease (NCD)
- mental health problems
- balancing risk intervention towards medicalization
- multimorbidity and integrated care
- health inequity
- people migration

A robust primary health care with the GP/FP in the key role is essential to meet these challenges and achieve our goals.

Our goals:

- Achieve universal coverage and the best kind of family medicine to be implemented in all of Europe, as expressed in the Mission and Core values of WONCA Europe. The way our work is organised, is expressed in our bylaws. The European Definition of GP/FM spells out in greater detail what we want to pursue, teach and develop.
- Advocate integrated care to be implemented, horizontally in primary care and vertically between levels of health care
- Strengthen links between Public Health (population directed) and GP/FM (person and community oriented).
- Support the development of (an) undergraduate curriculum in each Medical School in Europe with focus on GP/ FM concepts and support the specialty(-ist) training in FM in each European country.
- Strengthen the research base of GP/FM.
- Strengthen the development of quality work and patient safety.
- Attract new and future General Practitioners/ Family Physicians in the above mentioned activities.

To be done

Internally in WONCA Europe

- Identify member organisations in need of support
- Review organisational functioning of WONCA Europe
- Recruit trainees and young doctors in our organisations
- Engage young doctors in the organisation
- Strengthen the European Journal of General Practice (EJGP)

- Improve the quality of the WONCA Europe conferences, - content, relevance and accessibility

Externally:

- Develop a plan for wider engagement/to engage more with academic departments of GP/FM
- Agree on minimum criteria for FM concepts in undergraduate curriculum and postgraduate FM specialty training
- Secure the collaboration with other organisations like UEMO, EFPC, WHO, IFIC

Increase visibility:

- Develop statements
- Be present in/on important arenas

All member organisations, networks and WESIGs to be informed about the common goals and the work to be done.

WONCA EUROPE NETWORKS AND SIGS

	Description	Link
Orgs	WONCA World World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of GPs/Family Physicians	www.globalfamilydoctor.com
	WONCA Europe European Branch of WONCA World	www.woncaeurope.org
Networks	EURACT European Academy of Teachers in GP	www.euract.eu
	EGPRN European GP Research Network	www.egprn.org
	EQuIP European Society for Quality and safety in FM/GP	www.equip.ch
	EURIPA European Rural and Isolated Practice Association	www.euripa.org
	Vasco da Gama Movement WONCA Europe Working Group for New and Future GPs	www.vdgm.eu
	EUROPREV European Network for Prevention and Health Promotion in FM/GP	www.europrev.org
	PCDE Primary Care Diabetes Europe	www.pcdeurope.org
	ESPCG European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology	www.espcg.eu
SIGs	IPCRG International Primary Care Respiratory Group	www.theipcr.org
	EPCCS The European Primary Care Cardiovascular Society –	www.epccs.eu
	GRIN General Practice Infections Network	No website
	PCAIG Primary Care Allergy and Immunology Group	No website

APPENDIX- current action plan.

This is the action plan for the coming years. We will identify organisations or persons responsible for each of the activities. We expect a more detailed plan from each of the groups and annual reports on the different activities.

Internally:

I. Identify member organisations in need of support.

Throughout Europe, the implementation of GP/FM as a foundation in health care has been met with varying support and understanding from national authorities. While some countries have health care very much based on primary care, GPs in other countries strive to be acknowledged at all.

WONCA Europe represents more than 80.000 GPs, with important knowledge and competence shown, not least through the works of Barbara Starfield, to be of crucial value both to the health of individuals and the public, and of benefit for the balance of health budgets. This should leave us with some solid arguments when we lobby for our cause in the European arena.

Wonca Europe will identify and support member organisations who need support, and will try to provide that support.

Responsible: Membership committee by Janko Kersnik

Review organisational functioning of WONCA Europe

We want to look at the links between EB, networks, WESIGs not represented in the EB, in order to secure continuous communication, understanding and collaboration.

Responsible: EB by Mehmet Ungan

Recruit new and future General Practitioners/Family Physicians in our organisations.

We need to stimulate member organisations to support and facilitate the participation of young doctors in WONCA Europe / Vasco da Gama Movement

Responsible: EB by Harris Lygidakis

Engage new and future General Practitioners/Family Physicians in the organisation

It is crucial to secure continuity in the engagement of young doctors in the WONCA Europe activities also after specialization in family medicine and membership in the Vasco da Gama Movement.

Responsible: EB by Roar Maagaard

Strengthen the European Journal of General Practice (EJGP) WONCA Europe owns its own scientific journal, which has grown and is notified with an impact factor due to meticulous work during the last few years.

In the years to come, it is important to secure a sound economical basis for the journal, and promote it among European GPs/FPs. The journal can be a good channel for communicating WONCA Europe policy and statements, and knowledge resulting from work in groups and networks.

Responsible: EB by Anna Stavdal and Job Metsemakers

Improve the quality of the WE conferences, - content, relevance and accessibility

Another important arena is the annual WONCA Europe conference, where we focus on the scientific activities of networks and individuals of the European countries. WONCA Europe should also pay attention to the health care situation in the country hosting the congress in order to debate and influence that situation. WONCA Europe will engage, in close cooperation with the Organising Member Organisation, with the national authorities of the country, stimulating a debate on relevant health care issues.

During the conference a great number of experts are present to share their knowledge with the participants and we should find ways to share some of this knowledge with the regional family doctors and other health professionals who do not attend our conference.

WONCA Europe will stimulate educational experiments in the upcoming conferences.

WONCA Europe conferences will serve as a meeting point for all GP/FM partners, i.e. researchers, educators, colleges, societies, NWS, WESIGs, organisations in collaboration, etc. WONCA Europe Council and other meetings will be held at the time of WONCA Europe conferences to discuss and decide on professional and policy issues of GP/FM in WONCA Europe member organisations.

Responsible: EB by Roar Maagaard

Externally:

Develop a plan for wider engagement/to engage more with academic departments of GP/FM

Education, specialty training, and research is organised or linked to academic departments of GP/FM. These departments are the breeding ground for further development of GP/FM

Responsible: Membership Committee by Janko Kersnik

Agree on minimum criteria for undergraduate curriculum and postgraduate FM specialty training.

Develop minimum criteria on FM concepts in the undergraduate curriculum, on early patient contacts in the GP/FM setting, on clerkships/attachments in GP/FM, on the qualifications of teachers. Furthermore balance the time spend in the GP/FM setting and hospital setting in the postgraduate FM specialty training.

Responsible: EB by Roar Maagaard

Secure the collaboration with other organisations like UEMO, EFPC, WHO, IFIC.

WONA Europe enjoys a strong position in representing GP/FM in Europe. However, - there are other strong parties of importance for development and research in our field.

The collaboration with UEMO and EFPC over the past three years, has proved to be fruitful. The three parties organise partly overlapping activities, with three different points of departure: UEMO mainly in the interest of professional conditions, EFPC from the primary care team perspective, and WONCA mainly from the academic and clinical approach of the doctor in primary care.

In addition to reciprocal inspiration and exchange of ideas and policies, joint forces might result in greater impact on EU and other decision makers in processes concerning development of health care in Europe.

Together UEMO, EFPC and WONCA are the main representatives of primary care in Europe

Responsible: EB by Anna Stavdal

Increase visibility:

Develop statements

In order to lead and influence on local, regional, and national levels, we need to have clear goals and suitable statements at hand, which are endorsed by Council, EB or different groups and Networks.

WONCA Europe will aim to develop, update and create statements accessible for members, policy makers and the general public. The statements must be developed in line with core values and Wonca Europe mission, with focus on the following areas:

- Core values and Wonca Europe Mission
- Basic Medical Education
- Specialty Training
- Professional development
- Research
- Patient involvement and empowerment
- Quality and safety
- IT
- Equity
- Clinical topics

Responsible: EB by Andree Rochfort

Be present in important arenas

In accordance with the above mentioned goals, it is important that WONCA Europe is physically present and visible at relevant meeting places, in order to present our organisations, networks and establish new contacts with individuals and organisations.

- Among the GPs of the region
- At conferences and meeting places where policy makers meet

Responsible: EB by Job Metsemakers

To be handled in COUNCIL Lisbon 2015.

We plan for a group session at the Council meeting in July 2014. The three topics chosen are mentioned underneath. We want the persons designated to the topics to prepare the group work. There has been done a lot of work in “Conferencies” and “ Statements” in the former group work, which partly is the basis for this future plan.

We assess the three following topics to be of special importance this year.

	Internally	Externally	Visibility
2014/2015	Conferences Roar Maagard	Engage academic Dpts. Janko Kersnik	Statements Andree Rochfort