

WONCA Research Working Party Multi-national Plenary Panel Project

Introduction

This project is designed to address a knowledge gap in terms of how primary care is organised around the world, and to create dialogue between colleagues and colleges about how the fundamental values of primary care can be addressed and preserved within the constraints of different healthcare systems, sometimes operating within the same country. This is a low-cost project to be undertaken in different WONCA regions by capitalising on the existing opportunity that WONCA regional meetings represent for dialogue and scientific communication by leading primary care clinicians and researcher.

There are seven regions: Europe, Asia/Pacific, Africa, America, Iberoamericana- CIMF, South Asia and Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) and many of these hold a regional meeting annually so we may rapidly build up a repository from many nations. Designated members of the Working Party (WP) Executive take responsibility for organising the panels for their region.

The project is supported and endorsed by WONCA and by the International Committee of the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG).

WP Regional Coordinators for the project

Prof Chris van Weel (Chris.vanWeel@radboudumc.nl) will assist in the overall co-ordination of the project. The following are the regional coordinators:

Region	Coordinator	Country	email
Europe	Mehmed Akman	Turkey	makman4@gmail.com ;
Asia/Pacific	Ryuki Kassai	Japan	ryukikas@fmu.ac.jp
Iberoamerican a- CIMF	Lidia Caballero	Argentina	lidia.gladis@gmail.com
North America	John Beasley	USA	john.beasley@fammed.wisc.edu
South Asia	Raman Kumar	India	dr_raman@hotmail.com
Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)	Faisal Al Nasir	Bahrain	faisal@agu.edu.bh
Africa	Bob Mash	South	rm@sun.ac.za

Format

At each regional meeting, one of the plenary sessions will be a panel discussion where representatives from up to six countries discuss the facilitators and barriers that the organisation of the healthcare system in their nation impacts on providing effective primary care.

The suggested format is a 90-minute panel with a 10-minute presentation from each country and a 30-minute facilitated discussion.

The panel material will be summarised for a preparation of a monograph or paper for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. The monograph will be posted on the WONCA and regional web sites following the meeting, and papers prepared for publication in academic journals.

At each WONCA World meeting Regional leaders or their delegates will run a similar plenary panel summarising the findings from their region. This will enable regional meeting findings to receive a global audience and improve knowledge-sharing across regions.

This will provide a useful resource, allowing us to compare PHC systems throughout the world and to further our understanding when one of our colleagues from another nation talks about PHC, family medicine or general practice. It can help build up a picture of what works well and what does not.

From 2017 the panels will focus on the role of primary health care teams.

Role of WP regional coordinators

- Identify and liaise with convenor of regional conference.
- Ensure the panel is included in the programme, preferably as a plenary session
- Find out who is already presenting from countries in that region
- Select and contact suitable panellists, invite them to participate. We strongly suggest that panellist from each country have some familiarity with research and information management, and be willing to commit to following the presentation guidelines and contribute to the monograph.
- Provide panellists with templates for collating information, preparing powerpoint slides, writing monographs and papers for publication
- Review the prepared monographs and powerpoint slides prior to the event for each panellist and provide feedback if necessary
- Act as Chair or arrange for a delegate Chair for the panel. The Chair must ensure that each member keeps to the brief and does not go over time.

Project co-ordination

Overall co-ordination will be undertaken by Chris van Weel and Felicity Goodyear-Smith, who will assist with the provision of templates, provide overall guidance and support to the WP Regional Coordinators, undertake the dissemination of prepared monographs onto the WONCA website, and co-ordinate the report back to the WP on Research annually.

Summary of completed panels 2010 to 2016

Meeting	Number countries in panel
1. NAPCRG 2010 US, Canada, UK, Australia, Netherlands, NZ ¹	5
2. WONCA Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2011 Cebu, Philippines, Feb. New Zealand, Philippines, Taiwan, South Korea.	4
3. International Learning on Increasing the Value and Effectiveness of Primary Care (I LIVE PC) 2011 Washington DC, USA April. Australia, Canada, Denmark, The Netherlands, NZ, UK, US ²	7
4. WONCA South Asia Regional Family Medicine Conference 2014 Chennai in August 2014. Led by Dr Raman Kumar. Sri Lanka, South Africa, India, Nepal, Bangladesh	5
5. WONCA Europe Conference, Lisbon 2014 Collaboration with WONCA Europe and its research network EGPRN. Led by Prof. Mehmet Ungan and Prof. Christos Lionis and held in July, 2014. Spain, United Kingdom, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Netherlands, Turkey, Denmark.	6
6. NAPCRG 2014 <i>Chris van Weel International Implementation Research Network in Primary Care (IIRNPC) Workshop</i> Mexico, Hong Kong ³	2
7. WONCA – CIMF-IV CONGRESO IBEROAMERICANO DE MEDICINA FAMILIAR 2015 Montevideo, Uruguay in March Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Cuba, Peru	5
8. WONCA Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2015 Taipei, Taiwan and convened by Chris van Weel and Gene Tsoi Hong Kong, Japan, China (Shanghai region), Republic of South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan. ⁴	6
9. WONCA Africa Regional Conference 2015 Accra, Ghana in May. Convened by Dr Ayke Essuman & Dr Henry Lawson South Africa, Uganda, Sudan, Mali, Botswana	5
10. WONCA Europe Regional Conference 2015 Istanbul, Turkey in October. Convened by Prof Mehmet Ungan Bulgaria, France, Norway, Italy, Sweden, Ireland, Hungary.	7
11. NAPCRG 2015 Supporting health reform in Mexico Cancun, Mexico. ⁵ Development of the Cancun Manifesto.	5
12. WONCA South Asia Regional Conference 2016 Led by Prof Chris van Weel at WONCA Regional conference held at Colombo, Sri Lanka in February. Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan	5

Peer-reviewed publications

1. Miedema B, Goodyear-Smith F, Gunn J, et al. Primary care: a comparison across five nations. *Can Med Assoc J Blog* 2015;**2 Mar**(Parts 1-6).
2. Phillips RL, Jr. International learning on increasing the value and effectiveness of primary care (I LIVE PC). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine* 2012;**25 Suppl 1**:S2-5.
3. van Weel C, Turnbull D, Whitehead E, et al. International collaboration in innovating health systems. *Ann Fam Med* 2015;**13**(1):86-7.
4. van Weel C, Kassai R, Tsoi GW, et al. Evolving health policy for primary care in the Asia Pacific region. *British Journal of General Practice* 2016;**66**(647):e451-3.
5. van Weel C, Turnbull D, Ramirez J, et al. Supporting Health Reform in Mexico: Experiences and Suggestions from an International Primary Health Care Conference. *Ann Fam Med* 2016;**14**(3):279-80.