International Family Doctors Day-
Minister of Health, Nicolae Banicioiu:
Family doctor, a trustworthy friend

Minister of Health, Nicolae Banicioiu, considers the family doctor a professional and a trustworthy friend for our families. “The role of the family doctor is very important for the society, as he helps in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, keeping you updated regarding the latest medical investigations that can save your life, and gives you support for your medical plans.

The family doctor knows our whole family and teaches us to prevent diseases and to be healthy. On the International Day of Family Doctors I wish success to all family doctors in Romania!” -this is the message transmitted by the Minister of Health before the International Family Doctors Day.

Dr. Sandra Adalgiza Alexiu, Vice-President of the National Society of Family Medicine states that along her career she had both ups and downs, but she would start again her family doctor career anytime, without hesitation. “Doing this job without loving it is pure soul suicide. I love family medicine because it forced me to be analytical and synthetic at the same time, forced me to change my way of thinking, stimulated me to learn continuously and gave me wings to dream. It gave me hundreds of friends, made me see good, beautiful, grateful and committed people. It gave me strength to think soberly and with constructive nostalgia about people who are not here anymore and that have marked my way by passing through my office. They showed me suffering and sorrow, poverty and dignity, despair and desolation, honesty and cleanliness. It taught me to respect people and to learn from them. It taught me to play with children and to deepen the state of being a mother. I learned that respect is earned through hard work and professionalism and that any restrictions you meet on your way, placed there by people who even if do not understand anything from this, still try to put barriers, you survive and keep your head up if you stick to your beliefs. On the International Family Doctors Day, I wish to all those that are taking the first steps now on this road to soar without fear. I am ready to show them the most beautiful secrets and the greatest small words that a family doctor can receive from his patients” said Dr. Sandra Adalgiza Alexiu.

These messages are sent on the eve of International Day of Family of Family Physicians that shall be celebrated on 19th of May, the President of WONCA (World Organization of Family Doctors), Michael Kidd, already addressing a message: “On behalf of the two billion people
around the world that benefited of care and support over the past year, I say “Thank you!”.
Thank you for all the commitment you have shown in being a wonderful family doctor! Thank
you for all the important work you are doing every day, providing excellent medical services to
all the people who trust you and your advice” said Michael Kidd, President of WONCA.

These messages are transmitted with the special occasion of the International Family Doctors
Day, which will be celebrated on the 19th of May. WONCA (World Organization of Family
Doctors) President, Michael Kidd, has already addressed a message. “On behalf of the 2 billion
people around the world who benefited from your care and support over the past year I say
thank you. Thank you for your commitment to being a great family doctor. And thank you all for
the important work that you do every day providing excellent health care to the people who
trust you for their medical care and advice.”, said Michael Kidd, WONCA President.

WONCA (World Organization of Family Doctors) is the international professional organization of
family doctors, which declared, in 2010, during the International Conference in Cancun, 19th
May as being the International Family Doctors Day. The decision to adopt such a day was
considered an opportunity to create a global solidarity relationship between family doctors and
to promote family medicine as a specialization. Moreover, even if in many countries
governments realize the value of family medicine, in others there is still needed more effort to
persuade the authorities to grant this field its importance.

Michael Kidd added: “As family doctors we all work hard. I know that many of you work under
very difficult conditions, that the resources that you need to do your job are often not available,
that the hours you work and the demands on your time can be arduous, that your resilience is
tested regularly. And I know that many of you often feel unappreciated. And don’t often hear
the words thank you. This is why WONCA has established World Family Doctor Day, held on
May 19 each year, to acknowledge the important work that you do.”

Doctor Rodica Tanasescu, President of the National Society of Family Medicine, appreciates
the message transmitted by WONCA President: “On behalf of all Romanian family doctors I
would like to thank Mr. Michael Kidd for his appreciation message. I am glad that he sees our
work as being truly important, the work of more than 500,000 family doctors, from all world
regions that have, in total, over 2 billion examinations each year. We are a big family, which
contributes thoroughly to the endeavor to have a healthy society.

Anyone can talk about the family doctor, because he is the one person in the medical system
that is closest to everyone of us. The singer Elena Gheorghe declared: “I know from my father,
who is a priest that, in addition to the attention that we pay to the body, the one we pay to the
soul is equally important. I find it very nice that the family doctor can do both. Besides
prescriptions and the medical advice he offers us, the family doctor is the person who hears us,
who encourages us, who always has “pills” for our soul. I respect them because they take care
of me and my family and I thank them for this!”
Lucian Mindruta: “I am married to a doctor, but I have a family doctor. Not because my wife is very busy, but because I understand that is important to respect the rules and to value people’s skills. The family doctor is, in my opinion, the backbone of the health system: he receives sorts, fixes or directs cases to specialists. Without him, we would be like we have run out of bread. Without him, hospitals would block and specialists could not help those who really need complicated interventions. For me, the family doctor is the person to whom I truly trust to go to with my children. He deserves more respect and more listening!”

In Romania, on the International Family Doctors Day, a press conference will be held on Monday, the 19th of May, part of the Mediafax Talks series, at Crystal Ballrooms, starting at 10:00, conference that will be attended by family doctors, Ministry of Health officials and public institutions decision makers in the sanitary field, altogether with other specialists.

Among the conference speakers there will be: Dr. Rodica TANASESCU – President of the National Society of Family Medicine; Dr. Sandra Adalgiza ALEXIU - Vice-President of the National Society of Family Medicine; representatives of the Doctors College in Romania; representatives of the Ministry of Health and CNAS.

On Tuesday, the 20th of May, there will be held a special conference, dedicated to family doctors and other sanitary field practitioners, where they can find out the latest news, they will receive advice and will be effectively trained to provide the best medical services. The conference is divided in two panel, those interested being able to register at: http://www.mediafaxtalks.ro/ziua-internationala-a-medicului-de-familie/inregistrare-participanti-27-2034.

The event is organized by Mediafax press agency, in partnership with the National Society of Family Medicine, supported by Pfizer and Catena. More details on the event agenda at: http://www.mediafaxtalks.ro/category/ziua-internationala-a-medicului-de-familie
International Family Doctors Day

19-20th May 2014

Event that offers 5 CME credits

Context:

Family Doctor’s role in the healthy maintenance of the Romanian society is already very well-known and recognized. The assessments made by family doctors in the early detection of risk disease altogether with his references to specialists represent the basis of patients’ connection with the health system and are also the first step of the increase in its efficiency.

In Romania, there are about 11,000 family doctors. Unfortunately, this number is decreasing, from 2008 until 2013 being in a constant decline. Family doctors are among those who choose to work in foreign countries, due to the fact that they don’t have enough trust in the Romanian health system and also because the degradation of respect for the medical profession.

Therefore, a greater awareness if the importance of the family doctor in the contemporary society is desirable, mostly from the authorities, through measures conceived to facilitate their activity and to stimulate them to remain in Romania. A better use of the professional resource represented by the family doctor is an efficient solution to increase the quality of life and the healthy state of the population.

This is the reason why the World Family Doctors Day is a good opportunity to introduce to the family doctors some of the solutions the authorities have in mind in for their professional development and to present the latest news in the family medicine field.