

## Member Organization reports<sup>1</sup>

### Hong Kong SAR, China

#### Hong Kong College of Family Physicians (HKCFP)

In support of World Family Doctor, the HKCFP and the Department of Health of Hong Kong (DH) jointly held a symposium on 11 May 2019.

*Photo 1: VIPs, Speakers, and all participants celebrating FDD 2019*



Dr Constance Chan, the Director of Health, HKSAR, said in her opening remarks, “Family doctors are the key to well-delivered primary care, which is the foundation of a sustainable healthcare system. This is particularly true and important when our society is facing the challenges brought about by our ageing population and the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).”

The President of HKCFP, Dr David Chao, also highlighted in his opening remarks that family doctors have a key role in the management and care of patients in various stages in life, as well as a central role in the delivery of personal, comprehensive and continuing healthcare. Dr Chao also mentioned that the College had recently organised a certificate course on “End-of-life Care for Primary Care Doctors” and enthusiastic responses were received from members and colleagues. It serves as one of the many examples that we as family doctors are caring for our patients for the whole of their lives.



*Photo 2: Dr Donald Li (centre), Dr Constance Chan (Department of Health, HKSAR) (third from left), Dr David Chao (President, HKCFP) (third from right), and VIPs*

The symposium was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the central role of our specialty in the delivery of personal, comprehensive and continuing health care for all of our patients. It also provided an opportunity to celebrate the progress being made in Family Medicine and the special contributions of family doctors globally.

We are most privileged to have had three distinguished speakers in the symposium, to share with us the role of family doctors in providing life-long primary care in the community. Dr Donald Li, President of WONCA, a past president of HKCFP, was one of the speakers. Dr Li encouraged us in his keynote speech that ‘we can make, and it is our duty to make, a huge humanitarian contribution and difference to the local and global community, because we are uniquely at the frontline of providing continuous and lifelong healthcare services.’

The Public Education Committee of the HKCFP also compiled a short video of the “thank you” messages received from our patients for celebrating Family Doctor Day. The video clip is available from the HKCFP Facebook Fan page [here](#).

The HKCFP representative attended the live Radio Programme ‘Healthpedia’ of Radio Television Hong Kong on 13 May 2019, to promote Family Doctor Day. The programme can be reviewed [here](#).

<sup>1</sup> In order of receipt to 31 May 2019

## Nigeria

Association of General and Private Medical Practitioners of Nigeria  
Society of Family Physicians of Nigeria  
National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria

*Photo 1: Members of Society of Family Physicians of Nigeria Ibadan zone lectures / press interview*



World Family Doctor Day was well celebrated in Nigeria. Activities from 17-20 May in nearly all the states, most were jointly sponsored by our WONCA Member Organizations in Nigeria. Activities included : Public enlightenment campaigns through press releases and interviews in print and electronic media; advocacy visit to Minister of Health; road shows, free medical outreaches, lectures, rallies.



*Photo 2: Some leaders of Family Doctors in Nigeria with the Health Minister of State in Abuja*



*Photo 3: Association of General and Private Medical Practitioners of Nigeria Lagos Chapter members addressing press conference.*

## Australia

**The Royal Australian College of GPs. (RACGP)**

The RACGP Practice Owners Conference provided an ideal setting for GPs to reflect on what it means to be a family doctor. With hundreds of Australia's best family doctors convened in the one location, the RACGP took the opportunity to find out what motivated them to become general practitioners.

The theme for this year's World Family Doctor Day (WFDD), 'Family doctors – caring for you for the whole of your life', emphasised the lifelong care many GPs provide to patients, from the management of children to palliative and end-of-life care.

According to RACGP President Dr Harry Nespolon, this aspect of primary care is one of the main features that attracted him to becoming a GP. 'I love seeing my patients and I love the respect patients give me by coming to see me,' he said. 'I've lived through the whole of their lives, from having babies to unfortunately dying, but it's all that care. 'And one of the greatest things about general practice is you get to see people in all their states.'

This was a common sentiment among attendees at the conference, as was the variety and excitement that the profession affords. Other commonly listed benefits of being a family doctor included the ability to build relationships with patients, job flexibility, and the chance to have a direct, positive impact on the community. [More here.](#)

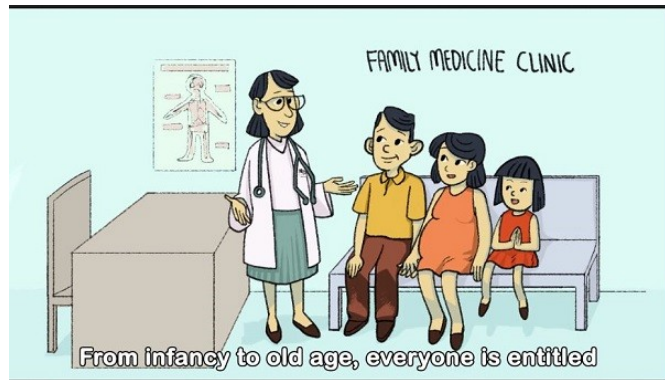


## Philippines

### Philippine Academy of Family Physicians

Infomercial on Family Physicians as Primary Care Providers in UHC

[Watch infomercial here.](#)



## Portugal

### APMGF - Portuguese Association of General and Family Medicine

The World Family Doctor Day 2019 (WFDD) celebration in Portugal included more than 500 family doctors and Family Medicine residents and thousands of their patients, across all regions of the country. The motto chosen for this year was “Family Doctor, the closest one to you” and in many places the organized groups set up interactive activities such as community walks, health fairs, awareness sessions or public dance/gymnastic classes. All these activities were developed with the help of local authorities and community services and the logistics support of the Portuguese Association of General and Family Medicine (APMGF), which provided health information flyers and leaflets to the teams, as well as WFDD merchandising materials, such as balloons, stickers, caps and t-shirts.



*Photo 1 Doctors and patients get together to celebrate WFDD in Chaves*

*(Portugal)*

Prior to the WFDD 2019, APMGF also launched a campaign called “Family Doctor, the closest one to you”, to find and reveal the most valuable local projects carried out by family doctors that



increase the strong bond between primary healthcare teams and their communities. Three particular projects (one in the Lisbon area, one in the northern part of the country and another one in the Azores Islands) were singled out by APMGF as the most relevant, tackling areas such as healthy lifestyle choices, informal caregivers training and integrated home support services.

*Photo 2: Portuguese family doctors visit a market*

