

YOUNG DOCTORS' MOVEMENT NEWS

VASCO DA GAMA MOVEMENT EUROPE

Berlin Conference and Pre-Conference with our first virtual exchange

In December we held our first-ever virtual exchange and VdGM Pre-Conference in the run up to the WONCA Europe Virtual Conference! Both were a great success, with a lot of learning by all the participants, and also by the organisers. The success of the virtual exchange has led to other online exchange events, and we hope that in this way our members can still participate in VdGM in spite of the pandemic.

Edinburgh Online Event

The VdGM Edinburgh Forum has been postponed to January 2022. In the meantime, however, the fantastic HOC led by Sonia Tsukagoshi, gave us a little taste of what they have in store with a fun-packed 2-hour online event. This included inspiring words from Amanda Howe, Anna Stavdal, Mehmet Ungan and Roger Neighbour. We also had a 'Pub Quiz' and Ceilidh dancing!

Council meeting - new bylaws, great discussions

Our Council meeting was held a little later than planned - taking place in February rather than during the Pre-Conference. Among other matters, we discussed and voted on our new Bylaws, replacing the previous Constitution after some hard work by our Good Governance Committee. We also voted on and accepted a proposal to extend VdGM membership by a year to try and mitigate the effects of the pandemic. We had some great small group discussions talking about our strategy and vision for the future of VdGM.



Vasco da Gama Movement

VdGM Special Interest Group Equally Different

TIME TO CELEBRATE WOMEN



Since the XIX century, women have struggled for their rights and inequalities faced. Today we highlighted the importance of fighting for more to conquer more rights and to protect those who depend on women.

1



Effects of Covid-19 pandemic

In 2020 the health of women was adversely impacted through the reallocation of resources and priorities

- Increased maternal mortality and morbidity,
- Increased adolescent pregnancies
- The increased prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases.
- Many women lost access to modern contraceptives.

2



Economic impact

8/10 of the unemployed during the COVID19 pandemic are women. Before the pandemic women were doing three times as much unpaid care and domestic work as men. Globally, women represent 57% of those aged 70 years and 62% of those above 80. With less live income and lower pensions they have fewer possibilities to access care for themselves.

3



Health impact

Up 70% of the health workforce are women -> front-line health workers as nurses, midwives, and community health workers. 1 in 3 women experience violence during their lifetime but the gender-based violence increased exponentially during 2020 as many women were forced to lockdown with their abusers at the same time that support services access was disrupted.

4



Framework for equality

ONU Policy Brief - 3 principles

- To include women and women's organizations at the heart of the covid-19 response;
- To transform the inequities of unpaid care work into a new, inclusive care economy that works for everyone
- To design socio-economic plans with an intentional focus on the lives and future of women and girls.



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VdGM-Waynakay exchange!

On the 14th of March we held a joint virtual exchange with Waynakay. This was a very fruitful day, exploring the health systems in different parts of the world. We would like to thank WONCA for supporting this endeavour, especially Harris Lygidakis. We plan to have exchanges with other YDMs in the near future too!

International Womens' Day

In conjunction with the Family Violence (FV) and Equally Different (ED) SIGs, we marked International Womens' Day.

