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Gute Gründe, Mitglied des European Forum for Primary Care zu werden

Förderung der Grundversorgung

Das European Forum for Primary Care (EFPC) wurde 2005 mit einer Public-Health-Zielsetzung gegründet: die Gesundheit der Bevölkerung durch Förderung der Grundversorgung zu fördern. Diese Zielsetzung wird, begründet auf soliden wissenschaftlichen Tatsachen, von seinen aus verschiedensten Bereichen – Politik, Medizin, Pflege, Pharmazie, Sozialarbeit, Public Health, Versicherung, Forschung – stammenden Mitgliedern geteilt.

Informiert sein und Kontakte knüpfen

Als Mitglied des EFPC erhält man regelmässige, vor allem wissenschaftliche, aber auch politische Informationen (aus den USA, EU, WHO und weiteren Organisationen) über Primary Care. Und es eröffnet Kontaktmöglichkeiten mit weiteren in diesem Bereich aktiven Persönlichkeiten, sei es über die Website oder via Sekretariat (thematische Diskussionsgruppen).

Positionspapiere

Das EFPC publiziert, basierend auf den Beiträgen der Mitglieder, seine Position zu verschiedenen Themen, wie chronische Krankheiten, psychische Gesundheit, Zusammenarbeit verschiedener Berufsgruppen usw.

Europa und internationale Organisationen

Das EFPC beschäftigt sich nicht nur mit Mitgliedsländern der EU, sondern berichtet über alle Länder in Europa. Es arbeitet auch mit internationalen Organisationen wie WHO, WONCA usw. zusammen.

Die EFPC Konferenz, Ort der Begegnung und Diskussion

Alle zwei Jahre organisiert das Forum eine Konferenz über die Zukunftsentwicklung der Grundversorgung. Dieses Jahr fand die Konferenz in Göteborg in Schweden statt. Die nächste Konferenz zum Thema «Balancing the Primary Care and Secondary Care provision for more integration and better health outcomes» wird am 9. und 10. September 2013 in Istanbul in der Türkei stattfinden.

Studienreisen

Auf Wunsch der Mitglieder organisiert das Forum Studienreisen in verschiedene Länder, um sich über praktische Erfahrungen zu orientieren.

Schliessen Sie sich an ...

Das EFPC ist also ein Forum zur Ideengenerierung. Aus der Schweiz ist derzeit lediglich das Institut Universitaire de médecine générale de Lausanne Mitglied. Ich möchte jeden Interessierten, Einzelperson oder Institution, ermutigen, sich uns anzuschliessen. Das EFPC beweist, dass Fachleute aus verschiedensten Bereichen gemeinsame Werte teilen können.

Konsultieren Sie auch die Website: www.euprimarycare.org

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EFPC at a glance



The European Forum for Primary Care was initiated in 2005.

Its aim is to improve the health of the population by promoting strong Primary Care. This is done by advocating for Primary Care, by generating evidence on Primary Care and by exchanging information between its members. The Forum seeks to expand its current membership of more than 100 institutions and 50 individuals and to become a leading force for Primary Care in Europe.

Introduction

Strong primary care (PC) produces better health outcomes against lower costs. That is the briefest summary of available scientific evidence. By promoting strong PC the population's health can be improved. Strong PC does not emerge spontaneously. It requires appropriate conditions at the health care system level and in actual practice to make PC providers able and willing to take responsibility

for the health of the population under their care. The challenges that European health care systems face, require a process of strengthening of PC everywhere. There is a strong need to collect and share information about what structures and strategies matter and to communicate these with key-decision makers at national and international level.

Our vision on primary care

The majority of health complaints of the people are dealt with through self-care and primary care, delivered in the local community. Addressing the needs of individuals in the context of their families and communities is one of the key features of primary care. In home care for the ageing population, in intercultural care and in underserved areas, primary care contributes to social coherence. General practitioners, who are the core discipline of primary care, operate in the local primary health care team, adopting a multi-disciplinary approach. A patient-centred approach, with special attention to the most vulnerable groups in society is another key feature of primary care. It requires unrestricted access of patients to primary care services. A third key feature is the navigation func-

tion: related to the wide variety of complaints that are presented at the primary care level and to the fragmentation that follows from specialist and disease-oriented care, primary care professionals help patients to navigate through the health care system. In a number of European countries the gate keeping role of general practitioners makes them responsible for adequate referral and guidance of patients, under the right and safe conditions. primary care has shown to be well positioned and able to offer preventive care, thereby establishing a natural link between curative and public health.

There is ample evidence to support the claim that Primary Care offers better care and health outcomes against lower costs.

In a changing environment

Ageing of our European societies, a concern about rising costs and about quality of health care and a strong wish to safeguard access to health care, are common issues in all European countries. Most countries in Europe are in the process of adjusting and reshaping their health system. While many Primary Care initiatives blossom at local level, mainstream health care and health policy often are not oriented towards supporting and developing Primary Care. This presents a formidable challenge for those who are involved in practice and in policy.

Increasingly, policies in the European Union impact on health and health services. Through guidelines and ordinances, but also through the Open Method of Coordination and the allocation of subsidies, opportunities are created to develop international exchange and to improve health systems through a shared vision. On the other hand, it creates the challenge to balance the market and competition oriented approach with the collaborative character of community-oriented primary care.

What are the aspirations of the European Forum for Primary Care?

The basic aim of the Forum is to improve the European population's health by promoting strong Primary Care. This will be done by monitoring the state of Primary Care in the European countries, by collecting information on conditions that matter for strong Primary Care, and by exchanging experiences. The Forum, partly through its Working Groups, supports PHC services at local or regional level, influences (health) policies at national and international level (EU, WHO) and www.euprimarycare.org supports research.

Das «European Forum for Primary Care» (EFPC) ist eine multidisziplinäre Austauschplattform mit allen in die medizinische Grundversorgung involvierten Berufsgruppen; Hausärzten, Pharmazeuten, Pflegenden, Gesundheitspolitikern, Qualitätsgruppen usw. Sein Interesse ist die Förderung der multidisziplinären Betreuung der akut und chronisch Kranken. Das Forum steht nicht in Konkurrenz zu WONCA (World Family Doctors – weltweiter wissenschaftlicher Zusammenschluss der Hausärzte) und UEMO (European Union of General Practitioners – politischer Zusammenschluss der Hausarztgesellschaften Europas).

Bruno Kissling

The Forum connects three different groups: the health care field, health policy makers, and the producers and evaluators of health care information. Each of them addresses three levels: the local or district level, the national level, and the supra-national level.

By linking policy, practice and research the Forum stimulates policy making based on vision and evidence as much as it intends to support PC practice oriented towards quality and equity.

Multilevel forum on European primary care development

	Health care field	Health policy	Information and monitoring
Local/district level	Local initiatives and health centres	Local/district government	Evaluators of local initiatives
National level	National colleges, professional associations	Ministries of Health	National research institutes, university groups
Supranational level	WONCA Europe, EFAD (Dieticians, ENOTHE (Occupational Therapists), EuroPharm Forum (Pharmacists), EUPHA, Active Citizenship Network, European Patients Forum	European Union, WHO (European & Global Office)	EUPHA section Health Services Research, European Observatory on Health Care Systems and Policies

Based on its view on multidisciplinary primary care, in addition to general practice the participation of other disciplines and professions in PC is indispensable.

It goes without saying that the patient and citizen perspective is underlying the aims and activities of the Forum. Involvement of patient and citizen organisations in the Forum is a natural evolution, since Primary Care is about putting the patient in the centre. The Forum has a message to spread and helps to learn lessons. In this it has strong ambitions in particularly towards the Central and Eastern part of Europe and it intends to be well heard and listened to. It is independent from any established interests and has developed policies to safeguard its independence.

What the European Forum for Primary Care needs

In order to realise its ambitions, the EFPC seeks expansion of its membership and additional funding. All members pay a limited membership fee, adapted to their size and possibility to contribute. However, currently, in particularly members from the Central and Eastern European countries have difficulties to pay their financial contribution and sustain their membership.

Times of austerity also give the opportunity for change. The pressure on health care systems to contain their costs may lead to reinforcing their PC orientation, to making better use of resources and to introducing adequate changes that may reduce inequities and be long-lasting.

The Forum welcomes sponsors that support its mission and work. Also, assistance to members in maintaining membership everywhere in Europe will enable them to take part in the Forum's agenda and activities, convincing their policy makers to invest in accessible, equitable and cost-effective health care systems.

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