



7th Newsletter

November 2015

Dear EQuiP network,

EQuiP successfully participated as a WONCA Network in the European conference in Istanbul. Now, it is time to reflect on the things we did in the last year and plan the future of EQuiP. It is time to prepare for winter.

It is time for the renewal of your membership, or to become a member for 2016. As a member of the EQuiP network, you have the opportunity to share knowledge, learn from each other, participate at reduced price in our next conference in Prague and share your experience in a EQuiP project or a working group.

Thanks to our newsletter and our website you are kept up to date with what is happening about Quality Improvement and Patient Safety in Family Medicine.

It is time to think already of the two big conferences of the next year. Send in an abstract or just come to our **open conference on Patient Safety in Prague** and the **Wonca Europe conference in Copenhagen**.

More information about all of this in this newsletter and on our website.

Kind regards,
Piet Vanden Bussche
EQuiP President



EQUIP Contributions to the World Book of Family Medicine (Europe 2015)

Conceiving of a World Book of Family Medicine is easy. Actually making one is a lot harder. We started in 1995 and 20 years later, we present you this present in the present.

It contains a lot of history and the roots for a lot of future plans. We leafed through 20 years of abstracts, including those presented at World Conferences, made a long list, selected a jury who then made a short list of 100 titles that best represented our job. During this process, it became obvious that we had selected mostly European titles, hence, this is the European Edition of the World Book. We do hope that other regions will follow, and also hope that a following generation will create The World Book of Family Medicine. Time will tell.

While editing this World Book, it became also obvious that there is no such thing as one kind of General Practice or Family Medicine. There is only a local answer to local needs. And though General Practice/Family medicine is mostly a clinical specialty, you will find none of this in this book. For then we should have taken 1000 titles. The chosen titles should be regarded as "generic", applicable in every country – or at least most of them. This book is a starting point.

It is in that great tradition of creating fora for exchanging ideas that we found the inspiration for this World Book. One author referred to the famous words of Margaret Mead: Never underestimate the power of a few committed people to change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.

Prof Mehmet Ungan, MD
Professor of Family Medicine
Editor

Carl Steylaerts, MD
Hon Treasurer WONCA Europe
Co-Editor

Istanbul, October 2015

- [Patient Empowerment for Patient Self-Management](#)
(Wonca Europe 20th Anniversary Project 2015)
- [Quality Circles](#)
- [How to Build an Ideal Healthcare Information System?](#)
- [European Practice Assessment \(EPA\)](#)
- [Drafting A Practice Professional Development Plan](#)
- [Talking about Medical Errors: the Bigger Picture](#)
- [The Health Needs of Hard to Reach Groups: Do We Know Enough?](#)





The Vasco da Gama Movement Compass: Navigating the Sea of Soci@l Media

The Interactive eGuidebook to Social Media in Family Medicine

Social media is here to stay. It will almost certainly become increasingly ubiquitous including amongst our patients, and like it or loathe it, we cannot afford to ignore it!

In delivering social media workshops over the last few years, it became patently obvious to VdGM and EQuiP that there are very few robust resources for family doctors that provide an overview of social media, how it should and can be used, the etiquette, the pros and cons, and the dos and don'ts.

Whilst various national associations including a number of European medical organisations have published social media guidelines for healthcare professionals, we are aware of few comprehensive family medicine resources that empower users with the necessary tools and understanding to become proficient and effective professional users of social media.

The aims of the joint VdGM-EQuiP venture is to create an ePDF, through using actual case studies in peer-to-peer social media usage, which can empower family doctors, GP trainees and medical students, enabling them to make good use of social media, and to develop professional social media strategies that support the maintenance of a healthy work / life balance.

Areas which are covered in the guide include social media myths, professional use of social media, social media trends and codes of conduct.

During the process of putting together what we believe to be a comprehensive resource, we had wonderful contributions from many individuals, both from inside and outside of VdGM. These strategic and experienced users of social media told us their stories; stories which we hope will inspire and motivate readers to experience social media for themselves, whilst in a very practical and tangible sense, highlight the nature and functionality of social media.

Around these stories we have built information and knowledge that will empower the reader with the necessary tools to enable skilful, proficient and effective usage of social media.

Finally, huge thanks are due to all authors of the chapters and all those who contributed their stories, to the multi-media designer Peter Lübben (visual & layout artist), who generously provided his expertise and time to craft the graphic content and layout, to Harris Lygidakis, Raluca Zoitanu, and Raquel Gomez-Bravo, and particularly to the main protagonists in this endeavour, Ulrik Bak Kirk (editor & vision/concept) and Luís Pinho-Costa.

Peter A. Sloane
President VdGM

[- Link to ePDF](#)

48th EQuiP Assembly Meeting Report: My First EQuiP Meeting

In the last 48th EQuiP Assembly Meeting, which was held on Zagreb, November 12-14, I had the honor to participate as Greek delegate for the first time. Representatives and participants from 15 countries were gathered to discuss quality improvement and patient safety in Europe.

On the first day, after a very warm welcome from the Croatian hostess (Dijana Ramic Severinac and Zlata Ozvacic Adzic) and representatives from the host institution "A.Stampar School of Public Health", the new EQuiP president (Piet Vanden Bussche) opened the meeting. After that, approval of the minutes of the previous Assembly Meeting in Fischingen followed and we were updated on EQuiP organisational matters.

On the second day, we discussed in small working groups about projects of Equity, Patient Safety, E-health, PECC-WE, Social Media, Teaching Quality, Tools & Methods and Quality Circles and the progression in every field. I want to highlight the Equity group in particular, where Hector Falcoff and Dorothee Rambaud presented the final results of the EQuiP Equity Survey, which has been conducted among national delegates. Also, an EQuiP statements on Equity in Primary Care was qualified, which will be published as a position paper in the near future. I never realised that consensus on this topic is absent, despite the fact that Equity is one of the six dimensions of quality of care.

In the Patient Safety group Isabelle Dupie proposed the implementation of a new survey about patient safety culture among the countries and colleagues in Primary Health Care, including doctors, nurses and other health professionals.

And of course was discussed the strategic plan for the 49th Assembly in Prague in April 2016, which will be an open invitational conference on Patient Safety in General Practice.

In all the working groups a lot of ideas about further development and implementation in each field has been produced.

On the third and final day, we discussed organizational issues like membership, communication, promotion, recruitment and collaboration. At the end - as a conclusion - we shared our thoughts about this Assembly Meeting and further steps in the future.

We had very nice weather, the hospitality of our hostesses were excellent - the dinner on Saturday evening, too, with lots of fun - and it was a very interesting and productive meeting, with strict compliance to the program, but without tiring of the participants.

As a new member, I felt the companionship of my colleagues and I was truly impressed by their work.

Sofia Dimapoulou
EQuiP Delegate, Greece

My best personal experience:

The active working in small groups

Zalika Klemenc Ketiš
(Slovenia)

The working groups are reborn!

Jan Kovář
(Czech Republic)

Inspirational and productive team work

David Rodrigues
(Portugal)

